



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saskatchewan Mining Association Responds to Federal Carbon Pricing Announcement

Regina: The Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) is disappointed with the Government of Canada's announcement earlier today that Saskatchewan will be subject to the federal carbon pricing system, however, we are pleased that they have recognized the Government of Saskatchewan's *Prairie Resilience Climate Change Strategy*. The SMA had previously expressed its support for the made-in-Saskatchewan *Prairie Resilience* strategy for its multi-faceted approach to effective and meaningful greenhouse gas emission reductions while ensuring the sustainability of Saskatchewan's mining industry and business community.

Saskatchewan's mining sector will remain subject to the federal *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (GGPPA) in terms of additional costs related to power production, natural gas transmission rates and transportation. At this point it remains unclear how these indirect costs related to the federal backstop, which we do not have the ability to pass on, will impact the global competitiveness of our industry.

The SMA urges the Government of Canada to ensure that the competitiveness of our energy intensive and trade exposed (EITE) sector is protected.

"Saskatchewan's mining sector, which employs 30,500 people in all corners of the province, cannot afford bearing additional costs that competitors in countries such as Russia, Kazakhstan, Niger, China and Brazil aren't subject to, particularly against a backdrop of sustained low commodity prices," said Pam Schwann, President of the SMA.

"Mining companies operating in Saskatchewan have been proactive in reducing their environmental footprint over the past decade, including decreasing GHG emissions intensity. For example, Saskatchewan's full lifecycle GHG emissions intensity for potash is only 29% of the global average; Saskatchewan uranium is used to power clean baseload energy in the United States, Europe, Asia and closer to home in Ontario and New Brunswick, and innovative CCS technology captures CO₂ emissions from Saskatchewan's coal-fired power plants. Our companies are global leaders in sustainable mineral production," added Schwann.

"The world needs what Saskatchewan produces – we are fortunate to have world-class deposits of potash and uranium that help feed and fuel the global community. If we aren't producing these minerals, other countries with lower environmental, safety and social standards will. We are part of the solution to addressing climate change against a backdrop of growing global population with an emergent middle class. The federal government's acceptance of the province's *Prairie Resilience Climate Change Strategy* recognizes the role of Saskatchewan's mining sector in providing sustainable mineral production for the world," stated Schwann.

"Our members have worked diligently with the federal and provincial governments in developing a pragmatic system to address global climate change while ensuring the sustainability of Saskatchewan's mining industry.

We will continue to reduce GHG emissions intensity, so that the province, Canada and world continue to benefit from a vibrant Saskatchewan mineral resource sector,” said Schwann.

About SMA

Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) is an industry-driven organization representing the mining and mineral exploration industry within Saskatchewan. SMA advocates on behalf of members on issues related to provincial and federal regulatory changes, develops and supports educational outreach programs, organizes and hosts public outreach and membership events. Please visit <http://saskmining.ca/>

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