



September 14, 2016

The Honourable Christy Clark,  
Premier, Province of British Columbia,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Victoria, B.C. Via Email [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Premier Clark,

BC Nature (the Federation of British Columbia Naturalists), which represents more than 50 naturalists' clubs and over 6000 members, is deeply disturbed by your government's lackluster approach to implementing the recommendations of BC's Climate Leadership Team released in October, 2015. BC had led the continent on climate change issues, but now your recently announced Climate Action Plan has relinquished this important role. We fail to comprehend the rationale behind the government's decision to establish an expert advisory team only to essentially ignore its recommendations.

The Leadership Team's plan calls for ten times the Greenhouse Gas reductions that you now propose. You continue to support LNG initiatives that would use up most of BC's carbon target. Overall it appears that, under this plan, carbon reductions will not occur for a decade and a half.

We must not push our carbon reduction targets further into the future; this kind of tampering with our goals could easily escalate, taking us ever further from where we need to go. We strongly disagree with your decision to continue to freeze our carbon tax rather than increasing it. In our view our province is unlikely to reach its 2050 target while following the Climate Action Plan, as this will require the more difficult task of sharply increasing our rate of carbon reduction after 2030.

BC Nature favours policies that promote energy conservation and clean technologies to reduce our carbon footprint. We should more actively support a growth industry in environmentally-responsible renewable energy sources, already shown to be successful in BC. With the announced plan, and as a signatory to the Vancouver Declaration, BC will fall short of its climate commitment to the rest of Canada.

In conclusion, we request a revision of the Climate Action Plan to correspond more closely to the recommendations of the Climate Leadership Team, so that BC can once again lead in carbon reductions and further our economic future with the development of clean technologies. The urgency of addressing climate change aggressively is indisputable and we require decisive leadership now if we are to have a chance of avoiding its most catastrophic effects.

We look forward to your response to this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Burger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Alan Burger  
President, BC Nature

cc Mary Polak B.C. Minister of Environment - ENV.minister@gov.bc.ca  
John Horgan, Leader of the BC NDP - ndp@leg.bc.ca  
Andrew Weaver, Leader of the BC Green Party - Andrew.Weaver.MLA@leg.bc.ca