

February 19, 2020

**The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.**  
**Minister of Environment and Climate Change**  
Jonathan.Wilkinson@parl.gc.ca

House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
Canada  
K1A 0A6

## Re: Open letter from 18 Alberta environmental and community groups on the Teck Frontier Oil Sands Mine

Dear Minister,

The undersigned are environmental and community groups from Alberta that are urging you to not approve the proposal for Teck Resources' Frontier Oil Sands Mine.

We are Albertans who are deeply concerned that the Frontier Mine's significant adverse impacts on the environment in northern Alberta and contributions to greenhouse gas emissions cannot be justified. This mega project is incompatible with a future for our province that is sustainable and respects Indigenous and local communities.

The environmental degradation and emissions from this project will be a burden to future generations. It is not in the public interest to move forward with the Frontier Mine.

In a project of this magnitude, the adverse effects are far from isolated to the project area. Frontier Mine will directly contribute to the:

- Irreversible loss of 14,000 hectares of wetlands.
- Destruction of 3,000 hectares of old-growth forest.
- Loss of vital habitat for species at risk and migratory birds.
- Damage to the ecological integrity of the Wood Buffalo National Park and Peace-Athabasca Delta.
- Failure to meet our Canada's climate target of net zero by 2050.

The Joint Review Panel's report summarizes our concerns about the project's impacts on the environment and Indigenous rights. The panel found that the Frontier mine will "result in significant adverse environmental effects on the asserted rights, use of land and resources, and culture of Indigenous groups who use the Project area."

To remain profitable (and ensure Teck covers the \$2.9 billion expense to clean up the project when operations are complete), the Frontier Mine will depend on high oil prices throughout its 41-year lifespan. We are concerned that the economic viability of this project could result in the public covering the costs for clean up or the deferment of sufficient remediation.

Approving this project moves our province in the wrong direction. We urge you to not approve the Teck Frontier Oil Sands Mine.

Yours sincerely,

**Calgary Citizens on Climate Change (4C)**

**Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment – Alberta Committee**

**Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Northern Alberta**

**Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Southern Alberta**

**Canmore Collegiate Green Club**

**Climate Justice Edmonton**

**The Council of Canadians Edmonton Chapter**

**Crooked Creek Conservancy Society of Athabasca**

**Edmonton River Valley Conservation Coalition**

**Extinction Rebellion Calgary**

**Healthy Edmonton**

**Keepers of the Athabasca**

**Keepers of the Water**

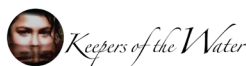
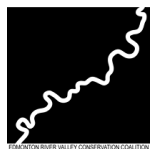
**Mewassin Community Council**

**Peace River Environmental Society**

**Sierra Club Canada Foundation – Prairie Chapter**

**Southern Alberta Group for the Environment**

**Alberta Wilderness Association**



CC:

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada  
The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs  
The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence  
The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations  
The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada  
The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry  
The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, President of the Treasury Board  
The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport  
The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages  
The Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of National Revenue  
The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities  
The Honourable Harjit Sajjan, Minister of National Defence  
The Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development  
The Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion  
The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health  
The Honourable Bardish Chagger, Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth  
The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Foreign Affairs  
The Honourable Karina Gould, Minister of International Development  
The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development  
The Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources  
The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Leader of the Government in the House of Commons  
The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness  
The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade  
The Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister of Labour  
The Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada  
The Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard  
The Honourable Joyce Murray, Minister of Digital Government  
The Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement  
The Honourable Mona Fortier, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Canadian Heritage  
The Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship  
The Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Indigenous Services  
The Honourable Deb Schulte, Minister of Seniors  
The Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs