



Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada

July 10, 2023

The Honourable Brian Jean
Minister of Energy and Minerals

Dear Minister:

I want to thank you for your service to this government, and congratulate you on your new role as Minister of Energy and Minerals.

Our Cabinet is made up of talented, diverse, and experienced leaders and I am proud to share with you our responsibility to fulfill the mandate given to us by Albertans. We all love this beautiful province and want the best for our families and our future. Over the next four years, we will take clear and decisive action to grow and diversify our economy while ensuring our health, education and other core social programs are world class.

I have full confidence that our team will build on our solid foundation of stability, informed decision-making, and good governance to improve the lives of Albertans and help our province realize its potential.

Alberta owns the largest oil and gas deposits in the free world and our energy sector is by far the most environmentally responsible and innovative. How we develop our energy resources, including the pioneering and commercialization of emerging green technologies, will have a significant impact on the direction the global community takes in achieving both meaningful emissions reductions and global energy security.

Under your leadership as Minister of Energy and Minerals, I expect you to work closely with your Cabinet and Caucus colleagues and the public service through the committee, Cabinet and legislative processes to deliver on our platform commitment to support Albertans by developing and implementing an investment incentive program similar to the Alberta Petrochemical Incentive Program for additional capital-intensive technologies related to the reduction of emissions. This includes carbon capture, utilization and storage, ammonia, helium, lithium, liquefied natural gas, geothermal and mineral development.

In addition, I expect you to work on several initiatives to promote and grow our energy sector, including:

- In cooperation with the Minister of Intergovernmental Relations, defending Alberta's energy interests against federal overreach and developing strategic alliances with other provinces to deal with energy-related issues.
- Reviewing the findings of the Premier's panel on Alberta Energy Futures and recommending which recommendations of the panel should be implemented to strengthen Alberta's global competitiveness in the conventional, non-conventional and emerging energy sectors.



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- Continuing to facilitate and promote industry and provincial partnerships with Indigenous communities in the development and transport of Alberta's energy resources.
- Reviewing the policies, operations and mission of the Alberta Energy Regulator and making recommendations to streamline approvals and align policies with the government's goals of increased natural resource production, carbon neutrality by 2050, investment in emissions-reduction technologies and increased energy export.
- Developing and improving regulatory regimes to incentivize investment in hydrogen, ammonia, helium, lithium, liquefied natural gas, small modular reactor, geothermal and mineral development in our province.
- Coordinating with other provinces and the federal government to further explore and promote small and micro modular reactor technologies and pave the way for their use in oil sands operations and petrochemical production.
- Working with the Alberta Energy Regulator to improve and modernize processes around the new Liability Management Framework, project approvals and transfer of well sites in a timely fashion.
- Developing a strategy to effectively incentivize reclamation of inactive legacy oil and natural gas sites, and to enable future drilling while respecting the principle of polluter pay.
- Coordinating with Environment and Protected Areas to implement the Emissions Reduction and Energy Development Plan.
- Working with industry and relevant ministries to develop a pathway for implementing carbon-reducing technologies and liquefied natural gas export and credits to achieve carbon neutrality in Alberta's energy sector by 2050.
- As lead, and working with the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, to develop and implement a regulatory framework for small modular reactor technology use in Alberta.
- As lead, and working with the Ministers of Justice and Environment and Protected Areas, to review the mission, policies and operations of the Canadian Energy Centre and make recommendations to align its work with the government's goals of 1) informing Canadians about the importance of the energy industry and its efforts to protect both Canadian prosperity and Canada's environment; and 2) informing the world about the Alberta energy sector's world-class environmental standards.
- Working with the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, who is the lead, to develop a plan to improve reclamation certificate issuance.



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- Working with the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade, assist in designing a ministry-specific job-attraction strategy to raise the awareness of young Albertans (aged 16 to 24), and adults changing careers, of the skilled trades and professions available in each economic sector, including pathways for education, apprenticeship, and training.

I direct you to work closely with the public service, including your Deputy Minister and other senior officials in your ministry, to support the priorities outlined in this letter with the highest standard of professionalism, integrity, and creativity.

I also expect you to regularly and proactively reach out to all ministry-related stakeholders in order to take feedback and identify potential solutions on issues of importance to them, including finding ways our government can reduce burdensome and unnecessary red tape and barriers that are hurting their members' ability to grow the economy and improve quality of life for the Albertans they serve.

Together with you and our Caucus and Cabinet colleagues, I look forward to serving all Albertans to ensure our province remains one of the best places on earth to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta