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via email: ec.cfsnecp.ec@canada.ca

Re: Clean Fuel Standard Sustainability Criteria

The Canadian Canola Growers Association (CCGA) and the Canola Council of Canada (CCC) have been actively participating in the development of the Clean Fuel Standard (CFS). In recent weeks, the Task Group on ILUC Sustainability has provided detailed input to ECCC regarding aspects of the “Clean Fuel Standard Sustainability Criteria” (or ILUC Proxy Criteria), a policy approach that was signalled, at a high-level, in the Regulatory Design Paper released in late December 2018.

As the CFS Team is finalizing the proposed regulation for publication in *Canada Gazette 1 (CG 1)* in the coming weeks, we reiterate the need for ECCC Staff to engage with colleagues at AAFC prior to the publication in CG 1, regarding ILUC proxy factors to fully understand industry considerations and the potential for detrimental affects on Canadian agricultural feedstock.

As raised in our letter of January 31, 2019 on this matter, we suggest that ECCC should carefully consider the impacts of the CFS design and the proposed ILUC Sustainability Criteria on Canadian agriculture and ensure that any inclusion of indirect effects, or feedstock inclusion parameters are based on sound science and evidence, and uniformly and fairly applied across all fuel supply systems.

Sustainability performance is an area of competitive advantage for Canadian canola. The sector has engaged extensively with sustainability issues via multiple projects that monitor and enhance the environmental performance of canola cultivation. Specific focus is placed on ensuring that canola meets and exceeds sustainability criteria in established renewable fuel policies like the European Union’s *Renewable Energy Directive*, as well as being designated as an approved feedstock in the United States’ *Renewable Fuel Standard 2*.

The Canadian canola sector continues to be responsive to the sustainability requirements of export jurisdictions and the forthcoming domestic regulatory framework should not place additional regulatory burden upon the sector. Canola remains a preferred biofuel feedstock under renewable fuel policies that incorporate sustainability criteria. **Canadian canola is recognized as sustainable and should not be subject to additional sustainability requirements for use as a feedstock in domestic biofuels under the CFS, including any need for certification.**

CCGA and CCC have concerns with how ECCC may approach the compliance of feedstocks under the sustainability criteria. As our constituents span the canola value chain (from farmers to oil processors) we would be very interested to see the details of:

- How compliance with the criteria will be met;
- How the origin of the fuel and feedstock will impact the requirements; and
- How existing Canadian government data and information on agricultural performance will support the acceptance of domestic feedstock and fuels.

Canadian canola is recognized internationally for sustainable production practices and the design of new domestic regulations should avoid placing any new significant administrative burden on the sector. We encourage ECCC to further liaise with AAFC to ensure the CFS Team designs a final CFS Sustainability Criteria that reflects modern agricultural practices and its effects on land use, while striking an optimal balance between the policy goals of regulation and the ability for compliance.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Rick White
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Canola Growers Association

Original signed by

Jim Everson
President
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