

Ministre
de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources



Minister
of Energy, Mines and Resources

L'honorable The Honourable

Marcel Masse

JUN 23 1987

A.D. Levy
219 Lippincott Street
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2P4

Dear A.D. Levy:

I would like to thank you for making known your views on Canadian energy policy, notably on the importance of conservation and alternative energy. I fully agree that conservation and renewable energy resources have a significant role to play in Canada's energy future, and I support your view that the encouragement of conservation should be an important part of Canadian energy policy. At the same time, I feel that Canada's energy policy should encourage a diversity of options for dealing with the energy challenges the future may hold.

The present challenge is to ensure that the energy sector continues to contribute to the balanced growth of the Canadian economy, and that Canadian energy consumers continue to enjoy secure, competitively priced sources of supply. In the future, the challenge increasingly may be to facilitate a transition in the Canadian energy system to one which is well suited to the economic and environmental conditions of the next century. In addressing these challenges, I believe that we must follow a balanced approach, making full and prudent use of the resources which Canada has in abundance, while developing new renewable resources to serve us in the future.

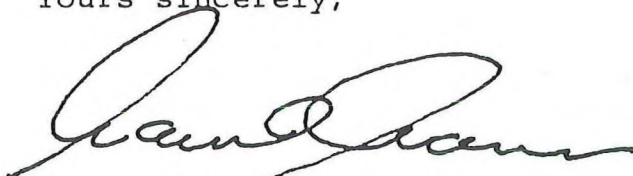
This requirement for a diversified energy strategy does not reduce the importance of encouraging conservation. Largely in response to higher energy prices, Canadians consumed some 15 per cent less energy per dollar of output and 34 per cent less oil in 1984 than they did in 1973.

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The elimination by this government of regulated oil prices removed one barrier to ensuring continued economic investment in these areas. Under the ongoing National Conservation and Alternative Energy Initiative, the Government of Canada is spending over \$300 million to help overcome market barriers to conservation and renewable energy, such as a lack of information, lack of confidence in new technologies, and the lack of professional resources in industry to encourage the adoption of new, more efficient technologies.

Another particular concern of this government is the Canadian environment. I acknowledge that the federal and provincial governments owe to the citizens of this country, as well as to future generations, a commitment to achieve our energy objectives in a way which minimizes the adverse impact on the environment. As Energy Minister, I am encouraging a better balance between energy development and environmental concerns. The means used to do this will include continued efforts in energy research and development and the encouragement of conservation and renewable energy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Marcel Masse', with a large, sweeping initial 'M'.

Marcel Masse