November 27, 2026

The Honourable Á'a:líya Warbus
Minister of Environment
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Email: ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Re: Measured Results for Homes and the Environment: An Offer from BC's Energy Advisors

Dear Minister Warbus,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Consulting Energy Advisors (CACEA), our BC membership and the Energy Advisors working throughout the province, congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Environment. Founded in 2017, CACEA is the national voice for Energy Advisors, who improve the energy efficiency, resilience and comfort of new and existing homes, and serves as a trusted resource for homeowners, industry partners and policymakers. We look forward to supporting your government's commitment to protect freedoms and our environment.

Your mandate directs you to establish one set of outcome-based environmental rules and to count emissions where they occur. Energy Advisors already work this way in housing, measuring how homes actually perform and helping builders and homeowners reduce wasted energy without restricting their choices. **We respectfully ask that your government:** (1) maintain EL-1 as the provincial minimum for the Zero Carbon Step Code, which measures and reports a home's emissions without restricting fuel choice; (2) use the measured data Energy Advisors produce to report residential emissions accurately; and (3) consult Energy Advisors as building-related regulations change, so that measurement and efficiency are retained.

Energy Advisors are impartial, federally registered Part 9 residential building professionals, trained in building science and in assessing the house as a system. They model, test and evaluate new and existing homes to help builders, renovators and homeowners make informed decisions. Their work is fuel-neutral: they do not favour one energy source over another. Through this work, Energy Advisors contribute to addressing climate change and protecting the environment: homes that waste less energy produce fewer emissions and cost less to operate, whatever fuel they use.

Energy Advisors support your mandate in three ways:

1. **Outcome-based rules, not prescriptive ones.** The Energy Step Code's performance path sets the result a home must achieve and leaves builders, working with Energy Advisors, free to choose how to meet it. This reflects the outcome-based approach your

mandate describes, and it regularly delivers lower-cost solutions than prescriptive requirements.

2. **Counting emissions where they occur.** EL-1 requires only that a home's emissions be measured and reported. Combined with Energy Advisors' EnerGuide evaluations, this provides government with standardized, measured data on the energy use and emissions of BC homes, rather than estimates.
3. **Efficiency protects the environment and household budgets.** Energy Advisors identify where homes waste energy and guide improvements in airtightness, insulation and equipment sizing, lowering emissions and energy bills at the same time. Right-sized equipment also lasts longer, reducing waste.

The result is a practical, choice-based approach that protects the environment, lowers costs for families and builders, and gives government reliable data to measure results.

CACEA members have modelled, tested and reported on tens of thousands of BC homes. Specifically, CACEA offers:

- a briefing for your staff on how residential energy use and emissions are measured;
- BC field data and case examples from member projects; and
- experienced Energy Advisors to advise on building-related regulatory reviews.

We respectfully request the opportunity to meet with you and your team in the coming months. CACEA will follow up with your office in the coming weeks to arrange a meeting. In the meantime, please contact Cindy Gareau at manager@cacea.ca or 888-315-2774 with any questions.

Respectfully,



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cc: The Honourable Cathie Ounsted, Minister of Local Government, Housing, Sport and Culture; The Honourable Zeeshan Wahla, Minister of State for Housing; The Honourable Larry Neufeld, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; The Honourable Gavin Dew, MLA for Kelowna-Mission; CACEA Board of Directors