



# REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: ADM-BRD-596

From: Corporate Administration

Date: May 1, 2025

**Subject: NCLGA Resolutions – Letters of Support Summary**

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## **RECOMMENDATION: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board receive the report titled “NCLGA Resolutions - Letters of Support Summary, ADM-BRD-596” which informs the Board of support received from member municipalities for the four resolutions from the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers endorsed by the Regional Board on March 6, 2025, specifically, resolutions re: Natural Gas and LNG Strategy; Efficient Resource Permitting; Industrial Electrification Expansion; and Balanced Emissions Policies, for information.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

On March 6, 2025, the Regional Board passed the following resolution:

*MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,*

*That the Regional District endorse all four resolutions from the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and submit them to the North Central Local Government Association; further, that notice be sent to all Regional District member municipalities requesting that they send letters of support for these resolutions to the North Central Local Government Association.*

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) submitted the four resolutions for consideration at the 2025 NCLGA Convention to be held from May 12-15 in Prince Rupert. The four resolutions were as follows:

### Natural Gas and LNG Strategy

WHEREAS the global energy landscape is rapidly evolving due to geopolitical shifts that are redefining energy security, trade, and competitiveness for decades to come; and

WHEREAS British Columbia must position itself as a leader in responsible natural gas development to attract investment, create jobs, and strengthen its role as a secure supplier of low emission LNG; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to develop an integrated natural gas value-chain and export strategy to strengthen infrastructure and policies that support the entire value chain—from upstream production to processing and export.

Efficient Resource Permitting

WHEREAS land-use uncertainty, cumulative effects policies, and lengthy permitting timelines delay resource projects, discourage investment, and limit economic opportunities for communities across British Columbia; and

WHEREAS an efficient and predictable permitting process is necessary to support responsible resource development while ensuring certainty for communities and industry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to streamline land use and permitting processes by ensuring timely decision-making, aligning cumulative effects policies with economic priorities, and providing long-term regulatory certainty.

Industrial Electrification Expansion

WHEREAS electrification of industrial operations presents an opportunity to help meet B.C.'s climate objectives and grow British Columbia's resource sectors; and

WHEREAS inadequate grid capacity, slow interconnection processes, and high industrial power rates are major barriers to electrification, delaying projects and increasing costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to expand grid capacity, streamline interconnection processes, and ensure competitive industrial power rates to support industrial electrification.

Balanced Emissions Policies

WHEREAS British Columbia's natural gas sector has taken significant actions to address emissions, including a 47% reduction in methane emissions from 2014 to 2021, while continuing to grow production and economic contributions; and

WHEREAS a sectoral emissions cap would restrict upstream natural gas production, discourage investment, and shift development to jurisdictions with weaker environmental regulations, resulting in job losses and no meaningful net reduction in global emissions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to not implement a sectoral emissions cap and instead collaborate with industry to develop balanced, competitive emissions policies that support investment while maintaining environmental progress.

Table 1 below provides a summary of the responses received from member municipalities to the PRRD request that the municipalities support the resolutions.

**Table 1**

	*District of Chetwynd	City of Dawson Creek	City of Fort St. John <sup>1</sup>	District of Hudson's Hope	*Village of Pouce Coupe	District of Taylor	District of Tumbler Ridge
Natural Gas and LNG Strategy	No response	✓	✓	✓	No response	✓	✓
Efficient Resource Permitting	No response	✓	✓	✓	No response	✓	✓
Industrial Electrification Expansion	No response	✓	✓	✓	No response	✓	✓
Balanced Emissions Policies	No response	✓	✓	✗	No response	✓	✓

\*Reminder/update request sent April 15, 2025)

<sup>1</sup> NCLGA has advised that as the City of Fort St. John and the PRRD submitted two (identical) resolutions, that the City of Fort St. John and the PRRD would be deemed co-sponsors of the resolutions. 'Efficient Resource Permitting' will be attributed to the Peace River Regional District, with the City of Fort St. John as a co-sponsor, and 'Natural Gas and LNG Strategy' will be attributed to the City of Fort St. John, with the PRRD as co-sponsor.

The PRRD Chair/ NCLGA representative will be expected to speak to the 'Efficient Resource Permitting' resolution, and the City of Fort St. John representatives (Mayor Hansen and Councillor Zabinsky) will be expected to speak to the 'Natural Gas and LNG Strategy' resolution.

### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

### STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not applicable to Strategic Plan

### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time

### COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time

### OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time