

August 19, 2024

The Honourable Steven MacKinnon
Minister of Labour and Seniors
Place du Portage Phase II
165 de l'Hôtel-de-Ville Street
Gatineau, Québec J8X 3X2
MinistrePT-LPMinister@labour-travail.gc.ca

The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez
Minister of Transport and Quebec Lieutenant
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N5
TC.MinisterofTransport-MinistredesTransports.TC@tc.gc.ca

Re: Potential Rail Strike and Implications to the Energy Services Sector

Dear Ministers MacKinnon and Rodriguez:

On behalf of Enserva's over 200 member companies within the energy services, supply, and manufacturing sector, I am writing to express our grave concern over the potential rail strike. A strike would have significant consequences for the energy sector at large, as well as the many industries that are directly and indirectly supported through our operations.

The rail network is a vital piece of the energy supply chain, transporting the materials and goods needed for all stages of energy production. Any disruption in this supply chain would not only increase operational costs but also threaten project timelines and contracts, leading to significant economic losses for the service, supply, and manufacturing sectors across Canada, and the industries they support.

Moreover, the ability to transport crude oil, natural gas, and refined products from production sites to refineries, storage facilities, and end users would be compromised. Production slowdowns, increased storage costs, and distribution bottlenecks would balloon, ultimately impacting affordability and energy security for Canadian households and jeopardizing our international commitments.

The potential for widespread economic harm extends beyond our sector, as the energy services industry supports a wide range of related industries, including manufacturing and construction. The ripple effects of a rail strike would be felt across the economy, exacerbating the affordability challenges already faced by many sectors.

We urge the federal government to intervene and facilitate a resolution as quickly as possible to avoid any disruption to Canada's railways and our energy supply chain. The potential consequences of inaction are severe, wide-reaching, and long lasting.

Enserva is prepared to assist in any way possible to support a solution that will avoid any stoppage of the rail network. We trust that the federal government recognizes the gravity of this threat to our supply chains and will act swiftly to prevent disruption.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gurpreet Lail". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gurpreet Lail
President and CEO, Enserva

CC:

The Right Honorable Justin Trudeau
The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson