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Hon. J. Michael Miltenberger
Environmental & Natural Resources
Government of the North West Territories
PO BOX 1320
Yellow Knife
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Greetings: Mr. Miltenberger

Please find enclosed the completed paper that I have written regarding the issue of Kyoto and Alberta's oil sands. My paper advocates the use of nuclear power to help Canada pursue the reduction of green house gasses without hurting the Alberta economy.

I felt that my paper would be of relevance to the NWT. In my paper I have recommended the tremendous value added features that natural gas can have on an economy and not just be a supplier of energy to the south, Alberta in particular. In my paper I had stated the problem of a methanol plant in BC owned by MethonX that had to close its doors because of too high natural gas prices.

I have suggested in my paper it maybe possible to make a deal with a company like MethonX to supply it with large long term low price of natural gas on condition that MethonX or another methanol company would build a methanol plant in the N.W.T. This plant could produce ammonia for fertilizer and could even be used in the production of hydrogen by the Rudger's (Rudger's University.) nano technology method.

If by design or chance the Mackenzie valley pipe line is not built a methanol plant could produce many jobs in the area for many generations to come with a large reserve of natural gas to rely on. The pipeline would supply short term construction jobs only. The oil sands would not need the natural gas because it would go to nuclear power.

I fully understand that advocating the amount of nuclear reactors for oil sands development will look strange and unnerving to some but people should and must fully understand what level of energy is at stake here. Alberta consumes and exports large amounts of natural gas per year.

One of the problems (or benefits) with natural gas is its invisible nature. If the same power would be produced with coal then it would be a very visible problem (air pollution).

I have enclosed a sheet that shows the ranking that out of all the countries in the world with natural gas reserves, Canada is in **second to last place** with regard to years of production left. With the UK in last place it is no wonder that British prime minister Tony Blair is now in favour of nuclear power.

My thought is that even with the natural gas from the Mackenzie delta Alberta is using too much natural gas. With the planned expansion of the oil sands even with the Mackenzie pipeline the long term energy supply for oil sand development is in jeopardy.

I hope Alberta will eventually go to nuclear power when the gas is depleted.

My greatest fear is that the oil sand companies will go to coal or coke for the production of hot water and electricity and thereby produce CO2 and acid rain that could reach the lakes of NWT. There has been rumours coal maybe coming north from BC and southern Alberta and shipped by rail by CN from its Fording coal operation in BC to fuel oil sands development (Fording is owned by CN).

Recently on the radio Alberta's Primer Ralph Kline stated that "Coal will be a part of Alberta's energy future". I feel it is no coincidence he had stated this within a week of the Conservative Party victory in the federal election. It is very clear by the Alberta's commitment to coal that clean air, acid rain and Kyoto is not to be considered at all. For all practical purposes Kyoto is considered a dead issue here in Alberta by some but not by me.

My suggestion is for the people of the NWT to seriously consider keeping the natural gas in the ground and use it for themselves for the production of methanol or ammonia that could then be shipped all over the world from the Tuk port. In fact Tuk could supply the world with methanol and ammonia for many years to come producing many long term high paying jobs.

The attached paper was sent to all members of the House of Commons "Standing Committee on Environmental and Sustainable development." for their consideration and comments. I have sent a cover letter similar to this and my paper "Oil sands Kyoto and the Nuclear option" to the Mayor of Tuk Eddie Dillon and will be sent to the new federal environment minister when he (or she) will be announced. Please feel free to share my paper to any other interested parties. I thank you in advance for reading my paper.

Best regards.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Lewis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the text "Best regards."

Gary Lewis