

# Restoring balance for Albertans

## STAKEHOLDER QUOTES

December 6, 2024

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*“A strategically-planned renewable energy industry has the potential to be an economic driver in rural Alberta for years to come. RMA is optimistic that today’s announcement will ensure that renewable projects are properly located to minimize impact on agricultural land, and that renewable companies will be held responsible for end-of-life management. These requirements will support industry accountability and positive relationships between renewable companies, municipalities, and landowners.”*

**Kara Westerlund, President of Rural Municipalities of Alberta**

*Clearwater County recognizes the foundational role agriculture plays in ensuring food security for Albertans. These new regulations reflect a balanced “agriculture first” approach, ensuring we can continue to grow high-quality food while embracing responsible energy development. This is a crucial step in safeguarding the reliability of our food systems and our pristine backyard for generations to come.*

**Michelle Swanson, Reeve, Clearwater County**

*“Alberta Canola is pleased to see an agriculture-first perspective regarding renewables. Establishing the rules will reduce the risk to farms looking to diversify with these energy projects on their land. Finding ways to co-exist on the landscape means that we can sustainably and progressively move agriculture and renewable energy forward in the province.”*

**Roger Chevraux, Alberta Canola Chair**

*Landowners are the backbone of our communities, and it’s essential that their livelihoods are protected. These new regulations ensure that renewable energy projects are developed responsibly and that landowners won’t be left with undue liabilities. This is a significant step in supporting our landowners while quantifying the protection of agriculture, ensuring that producers can continue to feed the world.*

**Gennifer Mehlhaff, Deputy Reeve, Clearwater County**

*Within Clearwater County, we have a diverse agricultural industry. Our Agricultural Services Board commends the Alberta Government's efforts in safeguarding and preserving our resources. Through this responsible stewardship, our agricultural industry can continue to produce high-quality food for Albertans, benefiting both current and future generations.*

**Aaron Terpsma, Clearwater County Agricultural Services Board Chairman**

*“We applaud Minister Neudorf and the Province of Alberta for taking steps to make sure that wind and solar power generation projects are developed responsibly. There can be great opportunity with these projects when done properly and we need to continue to all work together to make sure we are finding the right balance to truly make these projects “win-win” scenarios for all Albertans.”*

**Jason Schneider, Reeve of Vulcan County**