

City of Calgary Standing Policy Committee on Utilities and Corporate Services 800 MacLeod Trail SE Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

RE: City of Calgary Climate Resilience Strategy and Action Plans

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:



Thank you to the City of Calgary and the Climate Change Program team for giving ATCO an opportunity to participate in the City's Low Carbon Advisory Panel and its embedded working groups. As an organization, we regularly endeavour to take part in this kind of multi-stakeholder discussion on our shared energy future that will help us all to develop more collaborative, innovative solutions to climate change.

As a long time, integrated energy infrastructure provider in Alberta, it is our responsibility at ATCO to deliver clean, efficient and reliable energy solutions to our customers.

We know the transition to a lower-emitting energy system is extremely complex and challenging, and ATCO is committed to that challenge. We're committed to exploring how we continue to deliver the benefits of reliability, resiliency and affordability while contributing to a lower GHG emission future. Currently, we are investing in innovative and renewable technologies, such as cutting edge solar projects and distributed generation like combined heat and power. We are also continuing to discover unique ways that we can help to support Alberta's transition to a cleaner future.

Today, for example, we are working hard to develop projects that green the energy grid and deliver low-to-net-zero-carbon renewable natural gas, to make the best use of our existing natural gas distribution system.

Renewable natural gas, or RNG as it is known, is natural gas produced from organic waste from farms, forests, landfills and water treatment plants – it is 100% interchangeable with regular natural gas, it can be produced 24/7/365 and can be delivered and stored using existing infrastructure. The benefit of RNG is that it captures potentially more harmful GHGs like methane produced from organic waste before they enter the atmosphere. It turns this into natural gas for use in buildings, CNG buses and power generation, which offsets the use of conventional natural gas, reducing emissions further. In many cases, RNG can be carbon negative.

Municipalities are positioned well to demonstrate leadership, realize economic benefits and increase climate resilience via the development of renewable content for the energy grid as both a producer and consumer of RNG. While there are no specific actions citing RNG in the proposed Climate Resilience Strategy and Action Plan, there is mention of RNG's potential fuel switching alternative. I want to



highlight the potential of RNG for fleet vehicles as a viable contributor towards the City's climate change objectives.

We at ATCO look forward to continuing our work with the City of Calgary on the important path to climate resilience. We believe our efforts to pioneer low-emitting energy solutions for our customers could help to inform the City's strategy. As mentioned, we believe this includes items like RNG, but also includes many of the strong actions identified by the City through this process, like on-site and neighborhood scale renewables and low-carbon energy systems, electric and low emissions vehicles, and energy management and performance.

We believe that a viable long-term solution takes understanding the challenges and needs of our communities, identifying opportunities and ultimately participating in solutions for a better future.

Sincerely,

Ryan Germaine, P.Eng.

Vice President, Calgary Region Operations

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