



## FERTILIZER ISSUES:

# AT-A-GLANCE

## GREENHOUSE GASES

- Canada's fertilizer industry ranks as the world's most energy efficient for nitrogen production
- The government is demanding that the fertilizer industry make a substantial and costly commitment that our competitors in many other countries won't have to make
- Increases in costs for the Canadian fertilizer industry will result in demand met by less efficient producers in other parts of the world. Global Greenhouse Gas emissions will actually increase.
- We want a commitment that the Liberal government will listen to industry and provide a more flexible LFE process that recognizes factors such as the energy intensity of our industry, the value of our exports, the timeframes needed for developing new technologies, and the critical role we play in agriculture, food security and the rural economy.

## QUICK FACTS

Canada's fertilizer industry...

- Contributes \$6 billion annually to the Canadian economy
- Farm gate sales valued at about \$2.5 billion a year
- Supplies fertilizer materials to over 50 countries
- Employs 12,000 Canadians

## ENERGY

- North American natural gas prices are the highest in the world.
- Natural gas is a key input for making fertilizer and accounts for 70 to 90 percent of the cash production costs for nitrogen fertilizers. In fact, our industry accounts for almost 6% of Canada's natural gas consumption.
- High natural gas costs in North America put Canada's fertilizer industry at a severe competitive disadvantage in the global market.
- Canada urgently needs a national energy strategy to increase supplies of natural gas for our industry and our customers – Canada's farmers.
- Steps include accelerating the construction of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline, building liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal facilities to provide access to world supplies of natural gas, developing new sources of energy such as coal bed methane, and promoting clean coal and nuclear options for electricity generation.



## CEPA

- “Ammonia dissolved in water” and “gaseous ammonia”, both forms of nitrogen fertilizer, have been listed as toxic under CEPA, and potassium chloride (potash) has been subject to the listing process for “road salts”, yet our products are essential, beneficial, life-giving and natural.
- As part of the food industry, fertilizer producers are extremely sensitive to the impact of labels such as toxic on global markets and the general public.

## STEWARDSHIP

- Industry stewardship initiatives such as the Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) program, science-based Best Management Practices (BMPs) and agricultural research help ensure efficient, environmentally responsible use of fertilizer, while helping farmers achieve maximum economic yield.
- CFI plays a key leadership role in industry coalitions devoted to environmental and product stewardship, including the Crop Nutrients Council ([www.cropnutrients.ca](http://www.cropnutrients.ca)) and the Fertilizer Safety and Security Council ([www.fssc.ca](http://www.fssc.ca)).
- The Fertilizer Safety & Security Council is engaged in several industry-wide product stewardship initiatives. These include Codes of Practice for anhydrous ammonia and ammonium nitrate, new safety training for first responders, as well as the On Guard for Canada program, an awareness campaign developed in cooperation with government and law enforcement officials to promote ammonium nitrate security measures.

## ABOUT CFI

The Canadian Fertilizer Institute (CFI) is an industry association representing manufacturers, wholesale and retail distributors of nitrogen, phosphate and potash fertilizers. Our mission is to be the unified voice of the Canadian fertilizer industry by promoting the responsible, sustainable and safe production, distribution and use of fertilizers.



CANADIAN FERTILIZER INSTITUTE  
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