

December 4, 2020

J. Stephens Allan,  
Commissioner, Public Inquiry Into Anti-Alberta Energy Campaigns  
Via email: [info@albertainquiry.ca](mailto:info@albertainquiry.ca)

Dear J. Stephens Allan:

**Re: Public Inquiry into Anti-Alberta Energy Campaigns (the Inquiry)**

We are in receipt of your letter dated November 6, 2020 requesting that we review 16 years of organizational tax returns and other financial records to “be of assistance” to the Inquiry by, among other things, correcting the substantial factual errors in your data. These errors are many, from double counting millions of dollars in grants – resulting in a gross overstatement of international funding –to a failure to get even the name of our organizations right. More significantly, there is no nexus at all between the work funded by the vast majority of the referenced grants and the Province of Alberta.

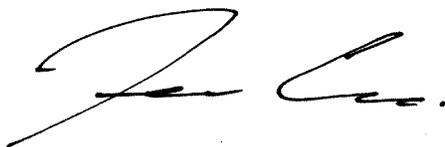
In brief, we consider your request – and similar ones recently sent to other non-profit and charitable organizations across Canada –to be an unwarranted, politically motivated fishing expedition, which we do not condone, and decline to participate in.

Since the Inquiry was first announced last year, it has been apparent that its purpose was pre-determined and intended to portray entirely legal fundraising and charitable activities as “misconduct”, and thus delegitimize factual and legitimate concerns about the Alberta government’s policies, oil sands environmental impacts or regulatory gaps. This latest fishing expedition goes even further, apparently seeking to draw into the net of the Inquiry a wide range of non-profits and charities from across the country who may receive international funding for any environmental purposes at all.

These issues, along with concerns that the Inquiry is biased, unconstitutional and flaunts basic norms of procedural fairness, contribute to our decision. We have no desire to legitimize this divisive political exercise at a time when all of our efforts would be better focused on protecting environmental and human health.

To the extent that the Inquiry has jurisdiction at all over BC-incorporated societies, carrying on business in the Province of BC, which we contest, we note that we have not received notice of any potential adverse findings against us. If such findings were contemplated we would expect to have the benefit of the notice period and right of response required pursuant to the *Alberta Public Inquiries Act*.

Sincerely,



Jessica Clogg,  
Executive Director & Senior Counsel  
West Coast Environmental Law Association  
West Coast Environmental Law Research Foundation