

July 27, 2023

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault  
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada  
K1A 0A6

By email: [minister-minister@ec.gc.ca](mailto:minister-minister@ec.gc.ca)

**Re: Request for Exemption of Volunteer Emergency Service Providers  
from New Fuel Charges**

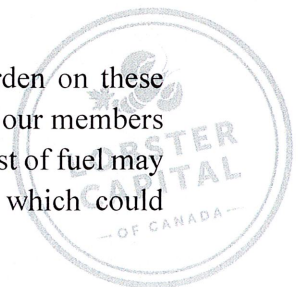
Minister Guilbeault,

On behalf of the Municipality of Barrington, I am writing to you to advocate for the dedicated volunteer emergency service providers within our Municipality and respectfully request that you consider granting an exemption to the volunteer emergency service providers from the new fuel charges.

As we both know, the invaluable contributions of volunteer emergency service providers, including firefighters, and search and rescue personnel, are immeasurable. They selflessly dedicate their time, skills, and efforts to safeguard the lives and properties of our fellow residents, often putting themselves at considerable risk. These volunteers perform their duties with utmost professionalism and dedication, serving as pillars of strength and hope in times of crisis.

While we understand the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting cleaner fuels, we believe it is essential to recognize the unique circumstances and challenges faced by volunteer emergency service providers.

The implementation of these new fuel charges will create an added financial burden on these organizations, who often operate on limited budgets and rely on the commitment of our members who generously devote their personal resources to serve the public. The increased cost of fuel may restrict their ability to maintain and deploy their emergency response vehicles, which could potentially jeopardize the safety and well-being of those in need.

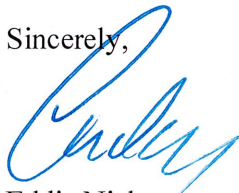


Therefore, I kindly request that you consider exempting volunteer emergency service providers from the new Fuel Charges (Carbon Tax) under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act and the Clean Fuel Regulations. Granting this exemption would not only recognize the significant contributions of these volunteers but also demonstrate your government's appreciation for their unwavering commitment to public safety and welfare.

I am confident that through collaborative efforts, we can strike a balance between environmental stewardship and acknowledging the essential role played by volunteer emergency service providers in our society. I would be more than willing to discuss this matter further and provide any additional information that may assist you in making a well-informed decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this vital request. I eagerly await your response and trust that you will give due attention to the concerns raised on behalf of our esteemed volunteer emergency service providers.

Sincerely,



Eddie Nickerson  
Warden

CC: Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities  
Mr. Rick Perkins, M.P. for South Shore – St. Margaret's  
Mr. Nolan Young, M.L.A. for Shelburne  
Nova Scotia Municipalities

