

The Honourable Carol Mitchell
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Public Archives Building
77 Grenville St., 11th Floor,
Toronto, ON, M5S 1B3

November 24, 2010

Dear Minister Mitchell:

The Agrienergy Producers' Association of Ontario (APAO) appreciates meeting you and your staff on November 22nd to review how Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas in Ontario can further demonstrate the benefits of the Green Energy Act to Ontarians, and reinforce the stability of the agricultural community. Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas technology is the renewable with an immediate and broad scale impact to the betterment of Ontario as a whole and specifically to the agricultural and rural communities. Biogas truly fulfills the intent of the Green Energy and Green Economy Act.

OMAFRA is in a position to facilitate working relationships between various ministries to work together and understand the value Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas brings to each portfolio.

OMAFRA can support Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas through existing programs like the Growing Forward Initiative including the Canada-Ontario Farm Stewardship Program, Environmental Farm Plan, Growing Your Farm Profits and others to promote awareness, educate the public and create additional opportunities.

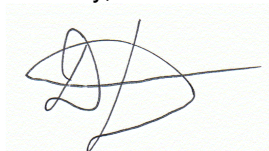
OMAFRA can create incentive based programs adapted to existing procurement mechanisms such as the OPA Feed In Tariff Program recommended for use of manure, energy crops, installation of new technology and facility upgrades or cogeneration systems (capturing heat for other uses).

Importance to drive Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas Development to every farm in Ontario!

- Provides self sustaining farm practices, stronger nutrient management, and full life-cycle opportunities;
- Reduces environmental footprint through waste reutilization, renewable fertilizers, GHG capture, and clean water;
- Produces clean, renewable power that is dependable, consistent and distributed locally resulting in improvements to power quality;
- Enhances aging infrastructure through private investment by farms;
- Creates innovation and leadership on farm and in rural communities and development of new technologies;
- Contributes to rural economic development and job creation; and,
- Offers income diversity and longevity and succession of family farms into 21st century.

If your Ministry can see fit to amend its current offerings to encourage the adoption of Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas projects we believe you will see Ontario take the lead in North America for cost effective, environmentally sustainable agricultural products and energy production.

Sincerely,



Dan Jones
President, AgriEnergy Producers' Association of Ontario