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Parliamentary Committee on
Environment and Sustainable Development
House of Commons, Ottawa

Dear Members of the Committee:

I lie awake at night wondering what kind of lives my grandchildren will live. In the last election I worked very hard for the candidate and the party who best understood our climate crisis.

We have less than ten years to turn the world around. Federal and provincial governments across Canada responded with amazing speed to the COVID crisis. Now they must work even harder to fight our biggest existential threat.

Bill C – 12 as presented is a good start, but it's not nearly strong enough. At the very least, it needs these amendments:

1. Set **2025** as the first milestone year.
2. Set a target of **50% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030**. My own Town of Halton Hills is already aiming for net-zero by 2030, and has plans in place to get there.
3. Believe science. Establish a completely non-partisan panel of independent scientists from every field of climate study, similar to the UN's International Panel on Climate Change (the IPCC), to advise on how our targets can be met. Listen to them, and require action based on their advice.
4. Ensure that no future government can overturn or lessen requirements in the Act.

Political leaders need to act like we're experiencing a national and global emergency, because we are! What kind of leadership do we need?

- Give Canadians an immediate heads-up that life must change. Ban production of all fossil-fueled cars by 2025.
- Stop all subsidies for the fossil fuel industry.
- Establish a council of the best minds in Canada, possibly seconding some of our top CEO's to drive the change we need. Many of them already get it and are ready to go there.
- Keep communicating to Canadians through every means available how severe the crisis is, with clear signals that a green economy and healthier future are possible, and that C – 12, once it's enacted, is providing the pathway to get there.

I have read Mark Carney and Seth Klein's recent books. Both of them make it clear what we need to do. In a Zoom meeting I had this week with climate action leaders from all over my region, it was suggested that **Canadians are ahead of their elected representative in wanting strong climate action.**

Please be bold, be fearless, ignore party lines, and be the leaders we will remember and thank in years to come because you drafted a survival plan and the route to a vibrant, better future.

Respectfully,

Janet Duval