



RIDLEY TERMINALS INC.

Harnessing infrastructure investment, greener energy exports and Indigenous partnerships to power a more inclusive and prosperous economic recovery

Ridley Terminals Inc.  
submission for pre-budget consultations  
in advance of the 2022 Budget

Submitted by:

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## Recommendations

That the Government of Canada:

1. **Prioritize supporting businesses and workers in the energy industry to transition to producing green energy**, including hydrogen and ammonia, as part of Canada's Net Zero 2050 goals.
2. **Ensure the transportation and export of green energy** is included in its considerations for the future of Canada's energy industry.
3. **Ensure Indigenous voices are fully included** in Canada's transition to producing green energy.



## Overview

Thank you for this opportunity to take part in these pre-budget consultations as Canada build's back from the pandemic.

The government has provided much-appreciated aid across Canada during the recession caused by COVID-19. Now, as Canadians rise to the challenge of rebuilding and creating a clean economy to meet our environmental commitments, we hope the need to support business and workers during this period will remain a high priority for the government. Providing such support will be invaluable if we are to use the post-COVID period to achieve lasting, inclusive improvements in our economy.

Looking ahead, it is clear that maintaining sustainable, prosperous economic conditions will hinge on Canadians' ability to harness our business assets, technology and natural resources to transform the economy and excel in the green global marketplace of the future.

Reliable transportation networks and supply chains are crucial to a strong economy, as the bottlenecks and shortages caused by the pandemic during the past 18 months have shown. Moving forward, it will be vital to prioritize investments supporting transportation infrastructure. In particular, the establishment of better transport and trade corridors will be needed to facilitate green energy production and ensure Canadian producers can take advantage of rising global demand for exports such as hydrogen and ammonia.

The government has recognized that rebounding from the pandemic provides an opportunity to set a new path for our future – one that will see full participation by Canada's Indigenous people and by rural and remote communities--in a more equitable, Canada-wide recovery.

And, as an overarching goal during this promising period, we urge the government to follow through on its commitments to view all its investment decisions with a special lens on enabling the best possible outcomes Indigenous communities as we rebuild after the COVID-19 recession.

## About Ridley Terminals

Ridley Terminals Inc. (RTI), with the support of our part-owners the Coast Tsimshian Lax Kw'alaams Band and Metlakatla First Nation welcome the opportunity to share our perspectives with the Government of Canada on the crucial re-start of the Canadian economy and recovery from the pandemic.

RTI is a marine bulk handling terminal in Prince Rupert, whose operations play a critical role in British Columbia's northern economy and in Canada's northern trade corridor. Under new leadership since its 2019 privatization, our company is at the forefront of important economic partnerships with Indigenous people, with a significant equity position held by the Coast Tsimshian Lax Kw'alaams Band and Metlakatla First Nation.



In cooperation with our local partners, RTI is working hard to secure the terminal's full potential and long-term growth, while helping to sustain our local economy. This future growth will include doubling berth capacity with an expansion project currently in the application process of the National Trade Corridor Fund. This expansion will provide the foundation for Ridley Terminals' hydrogen and ammonia pilot project, allowing Canada to export its growing green energy resources around the world.

## Recommendations

**Recommendation 1: That the Government of Canada prioritize supporting businesses and workers in the energy industry to transition to producing green energy, including hydrogen and ammonia, as part of Canada's Net Zero 2050 goals.**

Many businesses will be partnering with governments in coming months and years as Canadians join forces to overhaul our natural resources and energy sectors to advance clean growth goals. This transformation is essential if Canada is to meet its Net Zero 2050 objectives.

The development of such green products as hydrogen and ammonia is a strategic priority for Canada, and we at RTI are committed to making the investments and changes in our operations to facilitate export of these products. Doing so will allow Canadians to exploit our geographic advantage in Prince Rupert, B.C., as the closest port to Asian markets while also finding new, greener uses and sales possibilities for our abundant natural resources, particularly those in western Canada.

But, during this period of far-reaching change, it will be crucial for the government to prioritize the needed investments and support programs to assist workers and businesses. With salaries to be paid and infrastructure to be built, support will be vital so businesses can work through this new planning cycle and complete a rapid, fundamental overhaul of day-to-day operations and help Canadian producers meet the growing global demand for greener energy sources.

**Recommendation 2: That the Government of Canada ensure the transportation and export of green energy is included in its considerations for the future of Canada's energy industry.**

COVID-19 battered the economy and created uncertainty in the daily lives of Canadians. We at RTI are proud that we have been able to maintain our essential support of Canada's northern trade corridor and retain all our staff during this challenging period.

Now, as the federal government looks to help the economy recover and "build better," we believe one of the most important tools available will be continuing and expanding investment in core infrastructure.

The value of infrastructure investments is well established. The Economic Strategy Tables initiated by the federal government concluded that upgrading infrastructure is "the foundation to achieving our growth targets." The report added that Canada should prioritize infrastructure that opens new export capability. And the importance of such investments has been driven home by



the threat to supply chains during the pandemic and the rise in recent years of trade uncertainties that have strongly reinforced the need to diversify Canada's overseas markets.

Investing in infrastructure, particularly in Canadian export trade, industrial and transportation infrastructure, will be crucial to re-energizing the economy and creating a stronger, more resilient country.

We believe the best path forward is for the federal government to renew its commitment to the National Trade Corridors Fund (NTCF) with a significant increase in funding and specific allocations to strengthen and expand trade facilities for the export of green energy products. The NTCF program has proven to be extremely useful and has the potential to be even more valuable than ever at a time when the need to diversify and strengthen our export capabilities, secure Canada's supply chains and expand green energy sales abroad has become apparent. A substantial increase in funding will allow the NTCF program to renew its role as a key driver of regional and rural economic development, Indigenous job creation and skills development, net-zero focused industrial development and stronger, more resilient economic supply networks.

With the enormous job of developing a more productive, forward-looking and greener economy now at hand, we urge the government to set the stage for long-term growth and inclusive prosperity through the judicious and generous use of the existing NTCF, buoyed by a large increase in its funding envelope.

The kind of projects supported by NTCF will be crucial to ensuring the safe and consistent flow of Canadian resources and goods, promoting Canadian green energy exports, and ensuring Canadians have stable, long-term, well-paying jobs.

Infrastructure, as the government is aware, also holds potential to aid in a quick economic rebound. There are an immense number of shovel-ready capital projects ready to go – including ones at our own terminal – where federal investment or financial support can unlock and increase the effectiveness of private investment in facilitating green energy exports.

**Recommendation 3: That the Government of Canada ensure Indigenous voices are fully included in Canada's transition to producing green energy.**

At RTI, we work closely with our Indigenous partners to build employment-ready skills, create jobs, increase economic and social capacity within communities and drive economic growth.

It is crucial that programs and supports focus on stimulating rural and Indigenous communities like those in northern B.C. — whose economies are largely based on natural resources and export trade — to seize this opportunity to energize communities and recover from the economic damage of the pandemic and realize their full potential. Doing so has taken on a great deal of additional importance as Canadians strive to build more economic partnerships with Indigenous communities.

These economic opportunities are important for all Canadians. Shovel-ready projects that deliver lasting social benefits will help Canada recover and make us stronger. We are a nation



built on natural resources and the ability for Indigenous communities to realize the benefits of those natural resources is critical, especially as we rebuild from COVID-19 and make the transition to green energy for both domestic use and export.

## Conclusion

For a trading country like Canada, our transportation corridors and supply chains could not be more crucial. The pandemic has demonstrated once again the vital importance of keeping Canadian supply chains open and resilient. Being able to efficiently move goods within Canada, as well as export our natural resources, is essential to our nation's economic health.

Potential disruptions to the transportation supply chain, either through future pandemics or through other crises, underscore the need for multiple export pathways to ensure the uninterrupted steady flow of goods. This is all the more important as Canadians work to build a stronger, more inclusive economy able to meet our environmental goals in this post-pandemic period. Like others, we at RTI are preparing to make the investments to open the way to more exports that can take advantage of the growing market for greener energy—at the same time enabling Canadian producers to benefit from our geographic edge that comes with being the closest port to Asia.

It is important that our trade corridors be supported and that, as new programs and regulatory requirements are put in place, those who are creating jobs have the support of the Government of Canada as we rebuild from the pandemic and pursue innovative strategies to ensure a more inclusive economy and meet Canada's Net Zero 2050 goals.