

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ALBERTA

## Scott Cyr, MLA Bonnyville – Cold Lake

Ms. Sheila Kitz Chief Administrative Officer County of St. Paul No.19 5015 -49 Avenue St. Paul, Alberta TOA 3A4

September 1, 2015

Dear Ms. Kitz:

On July 28, 2015 I met with provincial Transportation Minister Brian Mason regarding numerous issues pertaining to the Highway 28 corridor.

One of those pressing issues, among many, is the 75% road ban that has been placed on Highway 41 through the Kehewin First Nation. While a solution is being engineered and costs estimated to resolve the geotechnical failure of Highway 41, the 75% road ban has the effect of banning the import and export of high loads to and from the manufactures in the Bonnyville-Cold Lake constituency. This also hampers the development of the Cold Lake Oil Sands and local heavy oil production.

A readily available solution to support industry is the conversion of Highway 28 from the junction of Highway 36 at Ashmont to the Junction of Highway 41 at Hoselaw to a high load corridor. Unlike the repairs through Kehewin that could end of up being thrown away if the geotechnical failure continues, the burying and raising of utility lines is a permanent, relatively low cost move.

I conducted a survey of the route and determined there are 31 instances of wires crossing over this road section. Sources have indicated the costs to move each wire can range anywhere from \$10,000 to \$30,000. This provides a rough estimate of \$310,000 to \$930,000 for the work before actual engineering and tendering.

I would ask that you and your council help support local industry and local jobs by sending a letter of support to Alberta Transportation Minister Brian Mason asking him to have the wires raised or buried on Highway 28 from Highway 36 to Highway 41.

Sincerely,

Scott Cyr, MLA Bonnyville – Cold Lake

CC;

Glenn van Dijken, MLA Barrhead – Morinville – Westlock, Shadow Minister of Transportation Dave Hanson, MLA Lac La Biche - St. Paul - Two Hills, Shadow Minister of Aboriginal Relations