



Canadian
Electricity
Association

Association
canadienne
de l'électricité



Washington Board Forum Dinner Remarks at the Canadian Embassy

Remarks by
The Honourable Sergio Marchi
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CEA's Annual Washington Board Forum
Washington, D.C.
April 3, 2017





Thanks Ambassador for your thoughtful words and thanks to you and your Embassy team for your continued support of our annual CEA Washington Board Forum, and for the ongoing policy and political assistance that you lend to our members. It's dearly appreciated.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, and a warm and genuine thanks to all of you for coming to our Embassy, and participating in our annual Board Forum dinner. We just completed our first day of meetings, and they went very well. And tomorrow is another full day. Tonight, we're looking forward to the words of Congressman Cramer.

Our board members value this annual visit to Washington, because they know how valuable our cooperation with the US is. Our two countries, our two governments, our shared reliability organization, NERC, and our sister organizations here in the US --- EEI and APPA --- all closely collaborate to protect and promote the viability and integrity of our shared grid, and to ensure that our citizens continue to benefit from this indispensable magic we call electricity. This collaboration is a good news story. Ours is a sound partnership. One built on solid foundations and CEA takes the view that this permits us to further expand this platform, as we both strive to shape and accommodate a changing future.

What kind of foundations am I speaking about?

- Well, for starters, we have enjoyed a long and trusting relationship, well over a hundred years. Alongside other Canadian energy producers, Canadian Electricity supply has contributed to America's "national energy security". Friendly, dependable, reliable, secure, low-cost, clean.
- We are custodians of an integrated electricity grid, powered by some 35 connections, with six more under development. Our vested interests for a secure and reliable system are one and the same.
- We have a robust, two-way trade in electricity, which makes these flows and transactions mutually beneficial. Canada provides enough electricity to power almost 7 million American homes. And Canadian uranium generates 6% of America's electricity --- enough to power one in every 17 of your homes.
- We have worked closely together to develop exemplary best practices and institutions in support of that integrated electricity system. NERC, is testimony to this joint and progressive commitment.





- More recently, our industries and our respective government officials work hand-in-glove on cyber security issues. Formal structures, such as the electricity Sub-Sector Coordinating Council, is a fine example of this cooperation.
- I can go on

The bottom line is that our shared electricity story is a real strength, and it has come to epitomize the close bonds that continue to define the warm relationship between our two nations. That story represents a cross border win-win. And yes, we won't always agree. And yes, there will be challenges that will test our resolve. And yes, our democracies will provide our peoples with different governments and changing policies, on both sides of that border but CEA remains convinced that we must collectively make every effort to promote our story of partnership and collaboration well into the future.

Our predecessors have passed onto us the foundations I spoke about, and we have seen fit to refortify them and extend their reach. Our shared obligation is to ensure that this story to continue to stand the test of time and circumstance because electricity is so fundamental to our prosperity, it has simply become indispensable to the quality of life enjoyed by our citizens, and to the competitiveness and health of our two national economies. That indispensability places very high expectations on all of us, as we write our story's next chapter.

Thank you.

