



Saskatchewan Association
of Rural Municipalities

SARM represents its membership of rural municipal government in Saskatchewan and is the principal advocate in representing them before all levels of senior government.

Energy

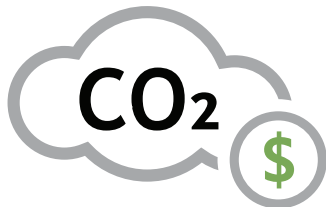


Concerns with increasing fuel costs

- Our industries are heavily dependent on fossil fuels to produce energy, food, fertilizer, products, and commodities needed around the world. It's up to us to come up with solutions that encourage action to meet the challenges posed by climate change.

Emissions Regulations (ie. Clean Fuel Standards etc.)

- We wholeheartedly support efforts to reduce greenhouse gases. But those efforts must be effective, and they must not disadvantage one region of Canada more than another.



Carbon Tax/Offsets

- Since the EU declared natural gas as green, the federal government should follow suit and be taking the carbon tax off our natural gas bills for heating our homes.
- We are still waiting on promises of a relief for carbon tax on grain drying.
- Carbon credits would not only help offset the burden of the carbon tax but would help to strike an appropriate balance between environmental protection and economic growth.
- The draft federal regulations indicate that agricultural land-management practices will have to go above and beyond "business as usual" to be recognized as a carbon offset credit. The federal proposal could disqualify most crop producers from participating in an offset trading system.
- SARM is very concerned that the federal government does not appear to value agricultural Carbon Offsets that are retroactive, most of the farmers in our province will not qualify to sell in an Offset market.
- The Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment is getting closer to finalizing a provincial offset program. SARM has been working with our province to create an offset program that is meaningful for agricultural producers and one that is equivalent to a federal program.