

Version 1: Direct & Firm (Accountability Focus)

Subject: Concerns Regarding the ALTO Project and Its Impact on Rural Communities

Dear [Recipient Name],

I am writing as a rural resident and member of the agricultural community in Eastern Ontario to express serious concerns about the proposed ALTO high-speed rail project.

From a farming perspective, this project raises immediate red flags. The proposed route threatens to cut through productive farmland, disrupt drainage systems, and fragment agricultural operations that have been built over generations. These are not abstract concerns—this is land that feeds our communities and supports local economies.

Beyond the local impacts, there are broader issues that cannot be ignored. There has been a troubling lack of transparency surrounding this project. Key details—including route selection rationale, environmental considerations, and consultation outcomes—have not been clearly communicated to the public.

Equally concerning is the absence of a publicly available and credible business case. Canadians are being asked to support a project that is expected to cost upwards of \$90 billion, yet there is little evidence that this investment is justified, necessary, or financially responsible.

At a time when affordability is a pressing concern for Canadians, it is difficult to understand how such an enormous expenditure can move forward without full public scrutiny and accountability.

I urge you to:

- Publicly disclose the full business case for the ALTO project
- Commit to meaningful consultation with affected rural and agricultural communities
- Ensure that farmland and sensitive ecological areas are protected
- Reconsider the project until transparency and fiscal responsibility are demonstrated

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Community]

Version 2: Personal & Community Impact (Farmer Voice)

Subject: Rural and Agricultural Concerns About the ALTO Rail Proposal

Dear [Recipient Name],

I am writing to you as someone who lives and works in a rural farming community that may be directly affected by the proposed ALTO rail project.

For those of us in agriculture, land is not just property—it is our livelihood, our legacy, and our future. The possibility that this project could divide farms, reduce workable acreage, and interfere with drainage and access is deeply concerning. These impacts are long-term and, in many cases, irreversible.

What makes this even more difficult is the lack of clear and transparent information. Many of us feel that decisions are being made without our input, and without a full understanding of how rural communities will be affected.

We are also concerned about the scale of this project. With costs expected to exceed \$90 billion, this represents a significant financial burden for all Canadians. Yet, there has been no clear, publicly accessible business case that explains how this investment will deliver value.

Specifically, I ask that you:

- Ensure rural voices are meaningfully included in decision-making
- Release all supporting documentation, including the business case
- Protect farmland and avoid unnecessary expropriation
- Demonstrate fiscal responsibility before proceeding further

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Community]

Version 3: Measured & Policy-Focused (Professional Tone)

Subject: Request for Transparency and Due Diligence on the ALTO Project

Dear [Recipient Name],

I am writing to express concern regarding the proposed ALTO high-speed rail project, particularly as it relates to rural communities and the broader public interest.

The potential impact on agricultural land is significant. Large-scale infrastructure projects of this nature can result in fragmentation of farmland, disruption of drainage systems, and long-term effects on agricultural productivity. These impacts warrant careful consideration and mitigation.

In addition, there are several policy-level concerns that require attention. To date, there appears to be limited transparency regarding the project's development, including route selection, environmental implications, and consultation outcomes.

Furthermore, the projected cost—estimated at over \$90 billion—raises important questions about fiscal responsibility. At present, there does not appear to be a comprehensive, publicly available business case that clearly outlines the economic justification for this level of investment.

Given these factors, I respectfully request that the government:

- Release a detailed and transparent business case
- Provide clear documentation of consultation processes and findings
- Ensure rigorous protection of agricultural land and rural communities
- Undertake a thorough review of project costs and alternatives

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Community]