



Sarnia Observer (On)

Use of PCI misunderstood


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Sir: I'd like to take this opportunity to respond to a recent editorial printed in Sarnia Observer (Liberals reveal easy hypocrisy, August 29), criticizing the McGuinty government's investment with Dofasco under the Advanced Manufacturing Investment Strategy.

The article suggests our investment to assist Dofasco's upgrade to Pulverized Coal Injection (PCI) goes against our policy of building a cleaner and greener Ontario.

Wrong. Our investment in this leading-edge technology is in no way related, or can be compared, to the use of coal as a power source in a coal plant. In fact, with this new investment, Dofasco will actually be lowering its carbon dioxide emissions and its energy usage by switching from oil (not natural gas as your editorial alluded to) to pulverized coal as a source of carbon, which is a key ingredient in steel production. Pulverized coal will not be used as a source of energy by burning, as in a power plant.

To state this investment is like burning coal for energy purposes is like comparing apples to oranges.



PCI is the new standard among the world's best steelmakers, and this process will help Dofasco reach the next level of production by achieving a long-term competitive advantage in the steel industry.

Since we took office in 2003, we've worked very closely with our manufacturing sector to invest in innovative technologies that increase the competitiveness of our industries, create new jobs and provide a higher quality of life for all Ontarians.

Dofasco's investment is a win for Ontario and the company. Innovative manufacturing is the key to many communities' prosperity and Dofasco is investing in an innovative technology.

The bottom line is that the McGuinty government is building a greener and healthier Ontario for everyone, while partnering with our manufactures to invest in new technologies that help us make our mark abroad and create more opportunities for all Ontarians at home.

Sandra Pupatello

Minister of Economic Development and Trade

Editor's note: Pulverized coal is burned at extremely high temperatures and used as a chemical reductant to rid iron ore of oxides. Switching to coal from oil and coke will save Dofasco almost \$45 million in fuel costs.

The incorrect reference to natural gas and the savings figure originally reported originated in the premier's office, Dofasco officials told The Observer.

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