



File: 30200-20/RUCP-05-08

Reference: 288479

August 7, 2015

John Snyder  
CoalWatch Comox Valley Society  
PO Box 157  
Union Bay BC V0R 3B0

Dear Mr. Snyder,

I am writing in response to your letter of June 4, 2015 regarding CoalWatch Comox Valley Society's (CoalWatch) request that the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) terminate the environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Raven Underground Coal Mine Project (Raven).

As you are aware, under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act) and the Prescribed Time Limits Regulation, the Executive Director under the Act may suspend or terminate an EA if the information required by the AIR has not been provided within three years. The decision on whether or not to terminate the EA or suspend an assessment would depend on the specific circumstances of a particular project at the time. Considerations may include: how active the proponent has been in advancing the EA, the proponent's expected timelines for submitting the required information, and whether the AIR remains relatively current with EAO policy and practice. There may be other options available to address the latter issue, such as continuing the EA but requiring necessary updates to the AIR or other EA documents to meet current practice.

In order for EAO to be able to assess the appropriate next steps for the EA for Raven, EAO requested Compliance Coal Corporation (Compliance) provide information on Compliance's project plans and its perspective on the continuation of the EA. That letter has been posted on EAO's public electronic Project Information Centre (e-PIC).

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Compliance's response to EAO's request for a project update will be posted to e-PIC. As well, EAO will post to e-PIC any changes to the EA process for Raven, including termination, suspension, withdrawal and any direction from EAO to revise key EA documents.

Yours truly,



Shelley Murphy  
Executive Project Director

cc: Rob Hajdú, Project Manager, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Chelsea Garside, Project Assessment Officer, Environmental Assessment Office