



c/o Box 320, Union Bay, BC V0R 3B0

For Immediate Release, November 16th, 2009

Let's Talk Coal Mining

The Comox Valley Water Watch Coalition has been asked by Compliance Coal, proponents of a major new coal mine for the Comox Valley, to participate in its Community Advisory Group. The request included a list of the company's conditions of participation. CVWWC has replied with its own conditions before the drinking water watchdog will attend more meetings held by the coal mine wannabe. The Coalition is insisting that it must be free to speak to the communities, government or the media without asking permission from the mine's Community Advisory Group.

The Coalition also insists that their attendance at meetings to get information should not be interpreted as working towards approval of the mine.

"We must be able to report to the public on what we find out about coal mines," says the Coalition.

"Our unanswered questions about water are pretty simple," said Delores Broten, speaking for the steering committee of the Coalition. "Where is the water to wash the coal coming from? How much water is used in the process per tonne of coal? and ,What is going to be done with the polluted water?"

Since there is no groundwater legislation in BC, the Comox Valley Water Watch Coalition wants to know what Compliance is going to do to protect the drinking water of Ships Point and Fanny Bay. The first stage of this mine, the Raven stage, is going to extend for 7660 acres (3100 hectares) underground. What does that mean for all the water?

The public can read all the information the CVWWC gathers, as well as the letters-to-the-editor which are not published in the papers, at www.coalwatch.ca.

Comox Valley Water Watch Coalition is sponsoring a public community meeting for information and discussion, "Let's talk coal mining" at the Fanny Bay Community Hall, 7793 Island Highway, on Tuesday November 24th at 7:15 PM.

For More Information: www.coalwatch.ca Or phone: 250-335-0747 or Delores Broten, 250-339-6117