



## Regarding the Raven Underground Coal Project - What Can You Do NOW?

### 1) **Ask for Local Public Meetings for the Environmental Assessment**

Write a letter **NOW** to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) requesting a public meeting be held in your area during the Public Comment Period of the Environmental Assessment (EA) process. Ask that the format of the meeting be interactive, i.e. a question and answer period involving the audience as a whole.

The number of public meetings held in different areas will depend on the extent of public interest shown. The more letters, the better. Your letter must contain your name, telephone number or e-mail address.

E-mail or write to: Rachel Shaw, Project Assessment Manager at [Rachel.Shaw@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rachel.Shaw@gov.bc.ca) (or R. Shaw, 1st Floor 836 Yates St., PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC V8W 9V1). CoalWatch would appreciate a copy of this letter as well ([info@coalwatch.ca](mailto:info@coalwatch.ca)) or PO Box 157, Union Bay BC V0R 3B0.

### 2) **Letters to the Newspapers**

Writing letters to the newspapers, local and provincial, is the most effective thing you can do to make sure everyone, including politicians, knows about this mine and your concerns. Even if your letter isn't published (most will be), you can be sure the editors are reading it, and will realise this is a story they need to cover. And we want people to learn about this mine!

Victoria Times Colonist, 2621 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C. V8T 4M2 [letters@tc.canwest.com](mailto:letters@tc.canwest.com)

Vancouver Sun, Letters #1 - 200 Granville Street, Vancouver BC V6C 3N3 [sunopinion@vancouver.sun.com](mailto:sunopinion@vancouver.sun.com)

### 3) **Tell your MLA what you think – how else will he or she know? Find MLA and other political representative addresses at [www.coalwatch.ca](http://www.coalwatch.ca)**

## What Can You Do DURING THE EA PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD?

- 1) Watch for announcements **and attend** Public Meetings held by the EAO with the Raven Coal Project. Bring your friends! (Notices of these meetings will be found on the CoalWatch Comox Valley website, in local newspapers, and on the EAO website [www.eao.gov.bc.ca](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca) once they are scheduled.)

During the Public Comment Period of 40 days, the public, individuals and organizations, can comment on **the issues** they believe the environmental assessment for the coal mine should examine. The date of the Public Comment Period will be announced by the EAO on their website and in local newspapers. The draft Application Information Requirements (AIR) submitted by Raven Coal will be made public at that time (some libraries will have a copy, links on the EAO and CoalWatch websites will direct you to the AIR). In asking questions and making comments, be as specific as you can in relation to issues that you believe need to be examined – these can include \*environmental \*economic \*social \*heritage \*health issues and cumulative effects e.g. plans for the future of the area that may be impacted by the coal mine.

Be sure to Hand in Your Questions and Comments in Writing ... and within the beginning and end dates of the posted Public Comment Period.

- 2) **Sign up for E-mail Alerts of meetings , important articles, and coal mine events [info@coalwatch.ca](mailto:info@coalwatch.ca).**

**Or follow the news on the CoalWatch Comox Valley Website [www.coalwatch.ca](http://www.coalwatch.ca)**