

**Personal Information Withheld - Qualicum Beach, British Columbia**

Rachel Shaw, Project Assessment Manager

BC Environmental Assessment Office

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Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Andrew Rollo, Project Manager

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

#805, 1550 Alberni Street

Vancouver, BC V6G 1A5

Dear Ms. Shaw and Mr. Rollo:

The Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers has registered specific issues regarding the Raven Underground Coal Project to you in a letter on September 20th, 2010. In the ensuing period, nothing has happened that would allay any of our concerns. In fact they have been amplified by the breadth, depth, and well-informed views expressed by individuals and groups across the Island.

If this project continues to receive serious consideration, it is imperative that it be referred to a full federal/provincial independent expert review panel. Comprehensive mapping and modeling of aquifers in the full Raven tenure, interaction of ground and surface waters, and the relationship to the marine environment all must be critical elements of that review.

We believe that the potential damage to fish habitat in the involved watershed, to the coastal fishery, and to the ecosystems must be explicitly defined. The full costs and risk mitigation of the proposed mine must be identified. The proponents seem to be underestimating the risks, and may be assuming that taxpayers will bear the costs of any future losses to the fisheries, and to private and municipal water users, and to public infrastructure.

We need to understand if the Raven consortium can and will assume the financial burden of an environmental disaster. We also need to know

what happens in the event of their insolvency, and also in the event of a change in ownership.

Thank you for fully investigating our concerns.