

<contact information withheld>
Comox, B.C., V9M 1S4

August 16,2010

Andrew Rollo,Project Manager
805-1550 Alberni St.,
Vancouver,B.C. V6J 1A5

Raven Underground Coal Project, Reference #10-03-55529

Dear Mr. Rollo,

As a long time resident of the Comox Valley I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the Raven Underground Coal Project.

I have a number of requests and concerns:

1.I am asking that the Hon.Jim Prentice, federal Minister of the Environment refer the Raven Underground Coal Project to a Review Panel as it will have significant environmental impacts and there is considerable public concern and interest about this project.The issue has been raised at all local councils and The Comox Valley Regional District.

2.The aquifers and connected hydrological features including groundwater and streams must be fully mapped before an appropriate mine design and environmental impact statement can be developed. I farmed in this Valley for 25 years and am very aware of the importance of groundwater to all. I well remember when an urban development went ahead upstream of our and neighbouring farms and the impact that had on a small fish hatchery on one of the farms. The protection and awareness of water is key!

3. There are so many potential environmental impacts from this project it is staggering. I will list a few:

A.I've already mentioned groundwater-the impact on Baynes Sound which I'm sure you know is a huge shellfish resource employing hundreds of people. Baynes Sound is also a nationally recognized "Important Bird Area"

B. What are the impacts on those important salmon bearing rivers, streams and creeks on Eastern Vancouver Island; to say nothing of all the others species that depend on clean water.

C.What are the impacts on all wildlife living in this watershed and beyond.

D.It is a huge area they are proposing to use - what is the impact of all that dust and noise?

E.As I understand it the proposal is to truck the coal to Port Alberni - How will this be accomplished without huge impacts on the environment?

F.All of our local councils in the Comox Valley and the Regional District have signed onto the B.C. Climate Action Charter and The Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners For Climate Protection. It staggers the imagination to think of the carbon footprint of this project to say nothing of the amount of CO2 that will end up in the atmosphere from mining and transport. Then there is the CO2 produced in the country of destination; this contributes to the global total which is a problem for us all.

Please ensure through your process that these issues are thoroughly addressed so that citizens know we are protecting our home and our planet for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Prothero

CC.Hon. Jim Prentice
Hon. John Duncan
Mr.Don McRae,MLA
Mr Jack Leighton,leader NDP
Mr. Michael, Ignatieff, Opposition Leader