

**APPENDIX A - Swamp Point Aggregate Mine Project  
Public Issues Tracking Summary**

#	Raised By	Issue Raised	Ascot Response	Ascot Commitment
	<i>Audience Questions and Comments</i>	<b>Prince Rupert Open House, 12 January 2006</b>		
1		How soon could the project begin?	The project is moving forward through the B.C. environmental assessment (EA) process. Ascot is seeking a Ministers' decision on the EA Certificate in May 2006. If the certificate is granted, then Ascot needs to obtain provincial permits to construct and operate the mine. No aggregate sales have been secured yet. Limited production may occur this summer/fall, but the earliest substantial production could take place is in 2007.	n/a
2		How will the company ensure that there are no collisions with commercial fishing boats?	Meeting with federal, provincial and Nisga'a, Lax Kw'alaams and Metlakatla Band Council held on February 22, 2006 to discuss concerns about shipping in the Portland Canal.	Refer to commitment #75 in Appendix D
3		Will the company provide compensation to the vessel owner/fisherman if there is damage to their nets? The concern is not only for lost nets, but also for down time and lost fishing opportunity.	This issue was discussed at the February 22 2006 meeting with vessel traffic control et al Prince Rupert. <a href="#">EPIC Project Information</a>	Refer to commitment #75 in Appendix D
4		There are several very experienced equipment operators in Lax Kw'alaams. What will Ascot's hiring policy be and will our people have the ability to obtain work?	Ascot plans to hire locally – primarily in the Nass Valley and Stewart. Hope to hire experienced workers from northwest BC. However, training opportunities will be provided for inexperienced workers.	Refer to Commitment #61-64 in Appendix D
	<i>Audience Questions and Comments</i>	<b>Stewart Open House, January 16, 2006</b>		

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5		Has Ascot recently had a stock offering?	Ascot has not had a stock offering. It is currently funded by assets in the company's portfolio.	n/a
6		What is the quality of the resource and is Ascot willing to provide that information to the public?	There has been extensive test work to quantify the volume and quality of sand and gravel at Swamp Point. The quality meets or exceeds standards set out by several testing agencies.	n/a
7		What sort of training will be provided by the company?	A certain portion of staff hired will have to be skilled and experienced to initiate the project. Junior employees will be provided with on the job training. Ascot is currently working with the Northwest Community College to develop skills availability and training needs assessment. A skills inventory for the Stewart area would be helpful to Ascot, and discussions will occur with the college to see if that can be done.	Refer to Commitment #64 in Appendix D
8		Where will the labour force originate from?	Ascot has committed to hire locally, primarily in the Nass Valley and the Stewart area. A likely work schedule will be 4 days on, 4 days off, and this would make it difficult for people from a long distance away to work at the mine.	n/a
9		How soon will the company be accepting job applications?	If an aggregate sales contract is secured, it is anticipated that larger scale production could start in 2007. However at this time, Ascot does not have a sales or shipping contract for the project so the timing of employment is not known. Ascot will keep local communities apprised of possible start dates.	n/a
10		Does Ascot have a policy on the age of employees? I am semi-retired but would be interested in working on the project.	Ascot does not currently have a hiring policy. A policy will be developed once a long-term aggregate contract has been secured.	n/a

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11		Will the currents in the area cause problems for ship berthing?	Tidal currents were measured in situ and they were found not to pose a problem for large ships.	n/a
	<i>Anton Petek, Stewart B.C.</i>	<i>Public Comment Form, filled out at Stewart Open House, January 16, 2006.</i>		
12		Open the mine so we can have some jobs in this area.	Ascot is doing its best to obtain an EA Certificate and necessary provincial permits. Working to bring the mine into production (if approved) as soon as possible. As of yet, there are no secure contracts for selling or shipping the product. Contracts are required before a production decision can be made. Ascot is committed to providing opportunities for local communities.	n/a
	<i>Darrell Mrowka, Stewart B.C.</i>	<i>Public Comment Form, filled out at Stewart Open House, January 16, 2006.</i>		
13		Well done, very informative, hope all goes well.	n/a	n/a
	<i>Lorna Reynolds, Stewart B.C.</i>	<i>Public Comment Form, filled out at Stewart Open House, January 16, 2006.</i>		
14		Excellent project.	n/a	n/a

**Note:** n/a = Not Applicable.