



Telephone: 250-952-6501
Facsimile: 250-387-2208
File:30200-20/HCMP-05-06

Ref: 97859

August 26, 2008

Kathleen Pomeroy
Vice-President Environmental & Regulatory
Western Canadian Coal Corp.
Suite 90 580 Hornby St
Vancouver BC V6C 3B6

Dear Ms. Pomeroy:

Thank you for your letter of June 4, 2008 requesting that the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) lift the time limit suspension of the Environmental Assessment (EA) review of the Hermann Mine Project (Project).

The EA time limit was suspended on July 13, 2007 by Bob Hart of the EAO through a letter sent to you agreeing with your request to suspend the review of the Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate (Application) under the province's *Environmental Assessment Act* (Act) for Western Canadian Coal Corp.'s (WCCC) Hermann Mine Project. The timeline was suspended to provide additional information pertinent to the project review requested by the McLeod Lake Indian Band, Saulteau First Nations and West Moberly First Nations regarding potential project effects on Aboriginal communities, traditional land use, mine site drainages, and beaver control along the haul roads, or until reasonable efforts had been made to provide the information requested by the aforementioned First Nations, and subsequently by Halfway River First Nation.

I understand that WCCC has provided to First Nations and the EAO information on mine site drainages and beaver control along the haul roads. With respect to potential Project effects on Aboriginal communities and traditional land use, I also understand that there have been several meetings on these issues, that an agreement was reached between the participating First Nations and WCCC on an approach to identify gaps and obtain additional information relevant to the Project, and that WCCC was prepared to provide funding to a sub-committee of those First Nations and their consultant to carry out those activities.



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**Environmental
Assessment
Office**

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9V1

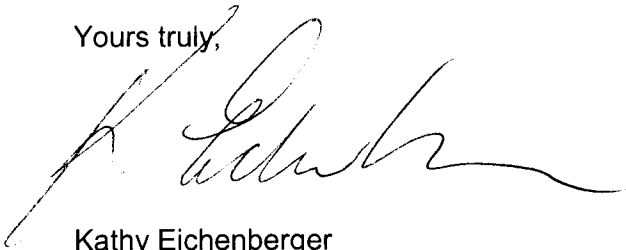
Location:
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Victoria



However, as more than a year has elapsed and no such information has been forthcoming from the First Nations sub-committee, and given that I have no indication that any information will be provided in the near future, I deem that reasonable efforts to obtain additional information regarding potential Project effects on Aboriginal communities and traditional land use have been made. Therefore, the time limit for completion of the Project EA review will resume as of today, August 26, 2008 with 45 days remaining in the 180-day Application review process.

Please contact me at (250) 952-6501 or at Kathy.Eichenberger@gov.bc.ca if you require further information or have any questions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Eichenberger', written in a cursive style.

Kathy Eichenberger
Project Assessment Director

pc: Norm Quail, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Greg Ashcroft, Project Assessment Officer, EAO