

# Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Line Creek Operations Phase II Project

## Open House *and* Invitation to Comment

Teck Coal (Proponent) is proposing to expand its existing Line Creek Operations (LCO) through the development of two new mining areas, referred to as Burnt Ridge North and Mount Michael (proposed Project). The proposed Project would be located within the East Kootenay region in southeastern B.C. immediately north of the existing Line Creek mine. The proposed Project would provide an estimated aggregate total of 52 million metric tonnes of clean coal and would extend overall mine life by approximately 20 years. The proposed Project would not result in an increase in the operational productive capacity of the Line Creek Operations.

The proposed Project is subject to review under British Columbia's *Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

The Proponent must obtain an environmental assessment certificate before any work can be undertaken on the proposed Project. However, prior to submission of an application (Application) for a certificate by the Proponent, the Environmental Assessment Office of British Columbia (EAO) must first approve Application Information Requirements.

The Application Information Requirements will specify the studies to be conducted and the detailed information to be provided by the Proponent in its Application. The EAO has now received draft Application Information Requirements from the Proponent and invites comments on this draft.

In order to provide information about the Application Information Requirements, and to receive comments from the public, the EAO invites the public to attend an **Open House**. There will be two Open Houses, to be held as follows:

- at: **Elkford Recreation Centre (Banquet Room)**  
**816 Michel Road**  
**Elkford, B.C.**
- on: **March 24, 2010**
- from: **4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**
- at: **Causeway Bay Hotel (Ballroom)**  
**Sparwood, B.C.**
- on: **March 25, 2010**
- from: **4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

At **6:00 p.m.** there will be a presentation by the EAO on the process with an opportunity to ask questions about the process. A second presentation will also be given by the Proponent in relation to the proposed Project.

If you are unable to attend an Open House, you may still wish to make a written submission. There are 30 days for the submission of comments by the public in relation to the draft Application Information Requirements.

The comment period will begin on March 16, 2010 and end at midnight on April 14, 2010. All comments received during this comment period in relation to the Application Information Requirements will be considered.

The intention of seeking public comments is to ensure that all potential effects – environmental, economic, social, heritage and health – that might result from the Project are identified for consideration as part of the assessment process. At this stage of the process, the primary intent is to receive feedback about the studies or information required for a comprehensive environmental assessment.

After taking public comments into account, the EAO will finalize the Application Information Requirements and issue them to the Proponent.

The EAO accepts public comments through the following ways:

- By online form: <http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca>
- By mail:  
Karen Christie  
Project Assessment Director  
Environmental Assessment Office  
PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9V1
- By fax: 250-356-6448

If you are unable to participate at this time, there will be an additional comment period during the Application review stage when you will also be able to provide comments to the EAO on the proposed Project.

An electronic copy of the Application Information Requirements and information regarding the environmental assessment process will be available at [www.eao.gov.bc.ca](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca) on March 16, 2010. Copies of the Application Information Requirements are also available for viewing at these locations during the comment period:

- District of Elkford Municipal Office (816 Michel Road, Elkford, B.C.)
- District of Sparwood Municipal Office (136 Spruce Ave, Sparwood, B.C.)
- Fernie City Hall (501-3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Fernie, B.C.)
- Municipality of Crowsnest Pass Town Office (8502-19 Ave, Coleman, AB)
- Elkford Public Library (816 Michel Road, Elkford, B.C.)
- Sparwood Public Library (110 Pine Avenue, Sparwood, B.C.)
- Fernie Heritage Library (492-3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Fernie, B.C.)
- Crowsnest Pass Library (2114-127 Street, Blairmore, AB)

**NOTE:** All submissions received by the EAO during the comment period in relation to the proposed Project are considered public and will be posted to the EAO website. While EAO will withhold your name and location upon request, all comments will be posted. EAO does not accept confidential submissions.