



File: 30200-20/EHCO-05-02

Reference: 312336

November 6, 2017

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

Lisa Walls  
Regional Director  
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
410 - 701 West Georgia Street  
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Dear Ms. Walls:

On May 17, 2013, the Honourable Peter Kent, former federal Minister of the Environment, approved the request from the Honourable Terry Lake, former provincial Minister of Environment, to undertake a substituted Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Echo Hill Coal Mine Project (the Project).

The substituted EA for the Project has been inactive since June 2013, and on March 29, 2017, Hillsborough Resources Ltd. wrote to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and requested that the Project be withdrawn from the EA process. On April 13, 2017, the EAO granted Hillsborough Resources Ltd.'s request and the Project was withdrawn from the EA process under British Columbia's *Environmental Assessment Act* (letter enclosed). The EAO will, therefore, no longer be undertaking the substituted EA as was agreed to by the former federal Minister of Environment.

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I want to thank the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency team for its collaboration with the EAO on substituted EAs including the Echo Hill Coal Mine Project.

Yours truly,

<Original signed by>

Scott Bailey  
Assistant Deputy Minister

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cc: Quincy Leung, Project Manager, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
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