



April 29, 2024

Karyn Lewis  
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Sent by Email

Karyn Lewis:

**Subject: Crown Mountain Coking Coal Project –Information Request  
Package 1**

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) is undertaking its technical review of the Environmental Impact Statement/Application (EIS/Application) and associated EIS Summary for the proposed Crown Mountain Coking Coal Project (the Project) submitted by NWP Coal Canada to the Agency on December 15, 2023.

The Agency is of the opinion that additional information is required, as per the enclosed Information Request Package 1 (IR1), to understand the potential effects and impacts of the Project and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The IR1 reflects information gaps identified for effects to key biophysical valued components in areas of federal jurisdiction, and overarching comments on all Indigenous chapters related to the assessment of effects of changes to the environment on Indigenous peoples and potential adverse impacts on Aboriginal or Treaty Rights. The enclosed Annex 2 – Advice to the Proponent, provides NWP Coal Canada with additional comments from federal authorities, Indigenous groups, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and members of the public. The advice includes important suggestions for improving the EIS/Application, including standard departmental guidance and direction. The Agency requests that NWP Coal Canada also provide responses to these comments.

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Please note that an additional information request is forthcoming and will reflect the outcomes of the Agency's further review of the contents of the EIS/Application pertaining to effects to Indigenous peoples and their rights, as well as comments provided to the Agency by Indigenous groups on the EIS/Application. Additional information requests may also be identified as technical review progresses. Further, the Agency notes that any substantial updates to Project design or changes to the location of key Project components would require updated environmental effects and impacts on rights assessments, the review of which may then generate additional information requests.

With the issuance of this IR1, the federal timeline within which the Minister of Environment and Climate Change must make an environmental assessment decision on the Project is paused as of April 29, 2024.

Once NWP Coal Canada submits responses to all the requests contained in IR1 the Agency will form an opinion as to whether the information provided is sufficient so that the timeline for the federal environmental assessment will resume. For further information, please consult the Agency's guidance on Information Requests and Timelines: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/information-requests-timelines.html>. The responses to IR1 may be in a format of your choice; however, the format must be such that the responses to individual requests can be easily identified, and in a manner that supports the coordinated environmental assessment process with British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).

You are encouraged to discuss information requests within IR1 with the Agency or other government experts, as necessary, to obtain clarification or additional information, prior to submission of the responses. Working directly with government experts in this manner will help to ensure that requests are responded to satisfactorily. The Agency can assist in arranging meetings with government experts at your request.

The IR1, Annex 2 and your responses will be made public on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (CIAR) Internet site: <https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80087>.

The Agency continues to undertake a technical review of your EIS/Application jointly with the EAO. The Agency and federal authorities are participating in the EAO's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to maximize cooperation and coordination between the federal and provincial environmental assessment processes. To support effective and transparent information-sharing between all TAC members, the Agency has shared all comments received with the EAO and vice versa. The Agency encourages you to use common information, where appropriate, to respond to both federal and provincial requests for information.

Please confirm receipt of this message and contact me if you require further information.

Sincerely,

Stefan Crampton  
Project Manager, Pacific and Yukon Region

Enclosures

c.c.: Michael Gray, NWP Coal Canada Ltd.  
David Baines, NWP Coal Canada Ltd.  
Sheldon Reddekopp, British Columbia Environmental  
Assessment Office  
Christie Spry, Environment and Climate Change Canada  
James Dwyer, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Paula Smith, Health Canada  
Vikash Marine, Natural Resources Canada  
Brandy Craig, Ktunaxa Nation Council  
Scott Manjak, Yaq̓it ʔa·knuq̓i'it (Tobacco Plains Indian Band)  
Jeannette Allan, Shuswap Band  
Mike Oka, Blood Tribe/Kainai Nation  
Ira Provost, Piikani Nation  
Cedric Solway, Siksika Nation  
Bill Snow, Stoney Nakoda Nations  
Violet Meguinis, Tsuut'ina Nation  
Danielle Courcelles, Metis Nation British Columbia  
Theo Peters, Otipemisiwak Métis Government