



President

Président

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August 24, 2022

Bill Arling
Director of Environment
North Coal Limited
barling@northcoal.ca

Bill Arling:

On July 7, 2022, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) received your request for an extension to the three-year legislated time limit to provide the required information or studies for the environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) of the Michel Coal Project (the Project).

As per subsection 181(2.1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA), at the proponent's request, the Agency may extend the time limit by any period that is necessary for the proponent to provide the Agency with the required information or studies.

Following a review of available information, including the information submitted in your request, the Agency has determined that it **will extend the time limit**. The Agency is of the view that:

- you have made demonstrable progress on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and several sections of the draft EIS have been shared with the Agency and federal authorities for review;
- it would allow for continued coordination with the province, including on technical issues of overlapping jurisdiction; and
- it would avoid potentially increasing the consultation and engagement burden on Indigenous groups.

The deadline to submit the required information or studies is now **August 28, 2027**. Note that no further extension may be granted by the Agency.

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The required information and studies to be provided include the EIS and any additional required information or studies that may be identified as a result of:

- the Agency's conformity review of the EIS;
- the public comment period on the EIS Summary;
- the technical review of the EIS by the Agency and federal authorities;
and
- associated consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities.

If the information or studies are not provided within the extension of the time limit that has been granted, the environmental assessment for the Project under CEAA 2012 will be terminated in accordance with section 181(3) of the IAA. If the environmental assessment is terminated, note that, in accordance with subsection 7(1) of the IAA, proponents of a designated project are prohibited from carrying out any act related to the project that may cause one of the effects listed therein. If the proponent wishes to continue with the project after the termination of the assessment, it must submit an Initial Project Description to the Agency in accordance with Section 10 of the IAA.

Please note, your request, this determination, and a notice informing the public of the new time limit will be posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry.

If you have any questions, you may contact Regina Wright, Regional Director, Pacific and Yukon, by telephone at 604-377-2004 or by email at Regina.Wright@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Terence Hubbard (he/him, il)