

I, Alistair Des Moulins, live in Coleman, AB and will be directly affected in 2 ways:

- (a) the project will take place in my community and it will change the current nature of our community, and
- (b) The project will take place on and near land that I and many other locals and visitors recreate on.

Living in the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, I know how the community will be affected by the project, both positively and negatively. Recreating on the land in the area, I know how the project will affect recreation for local people and visitors.

Maybe some of what I will submit will be common with other submissions but maybe no one with my perspective on the non motorized recreation in the immediate area will apply to participate.

I am a director of the Alberta Hiking Association and will not be able to confirm whether I will represent that association as well prior to July 20th.

I would certainly wish to make an oral submission but may wish to be a partial participant.

The topics I would address in the submission are:

- (a) Currently the number of people recreating in the area is increasing, this applies to all activities, but in particular the area is becoming known for hiking and mountain biking. This is good for the economy but will diminish considerably if mining comes to the area. People come to this area to get away from cities, industry and noise. They will not come if a mine is here.
- (b) There are many recreational trails in the area surrounding the project area. The experience of hiking and other non motorized activities in a large area surrounding the project will be negatively affected visually and audibly. This was not addressed in the EIA process. The sound of an ATV travels 4 kms. The sound of a mine travels further.
- (c) When the Great Divide Trail Association builds a trail it has to mark and avoid every white bark pine, it seems that industry does not have to do this.
- (d) I have many other concerns that may be raised by others but if they are not being addressed, I will address them. I seek your advice on whether to add them to my submission. Some are: lack of appropriate coal royalties being collected by the province, lack of confidence in company's plans to safeguard the communities' water supply and endangered fish, the failure to fully address strong winds blowing material to the communities and beyond, people in this community who work in BC coal mines choose to live away from mines, after the mine closes (whether in 24 years or when the price of coal drops more) this community will be less able to attract new business than it is now, the precedent approving this mine may set for the approval of more mines in the area, the negative impact of the approval of this mine will have on Alberta's reputation and its ability to attract investment in general.

Regarding location and timing of the public hearing, I would prefer it is October or later in Crowsnest Pass but would be prepared to travel further if necessary. In person is best but I expect Covid-19 regulations at that time will dictate this.

Alistair Des Moulins

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