



Prairie and Northern Region
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May 6, 2021

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO:

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Transport Canada	PNREA-RPNEE@tc.gc.ca; Scott.Kidd@tc.gc.ca

Subject: Federal Authority Advice Record for the Proposed Phase I Vista Test Underground Mine and Vista Mine Phase II Expansion Projects

Dear Colleagues:

On May 5, 2021, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) accepted the Initial Project Description for the Phase I Vista Test Underground Mine and Vista Mine Phase II Expansion Projects (the Projects) from Coalspur Mines (Operations) Ltd. as meeting the requirements of the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* under the *Impact Assessment Act* (the Act). As of today, the 180-day planning phase of the impact assessment has commenced. The Initial Project Description is available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site at: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80731>

The Agency has announced the start of a 20-day comment period (<http://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/138949?culture=en-CA>), inviting the public, Indigenous groups and other jurisdictions to provide feedback related to the Projects and inform the Summary of Issues. Once completed, the Agency will provide the Summary of Issues to the proponent.



In accordance with subsection 13(1) of the Act, the Agency requests your department's or agency's¹ input to identify its responsibilities and expertise related to the Projects and to inform the Agency's preparation of the Summary of Issues. Attached to this letter is the Federal Authority Advice Record form that the Agency requires your department to complete and return by no later than **May 26, 2021**. Your department is encouraged to provide as much detail as practicable in describing the potential issues that may be of relevance or concern in relation to the Projects. You are also required to provide a concise synopsis of each issue for inclusion in the Summary of Issues.

Concurrent with the initial comment period, the Agency will convene a Federal Review Team comprised of representatives from the relevant federal authorities. The Agency will develop, in consultation with federal authorities, a projects-specific work plan that sets out the detailed tasks, deliverables and timelines, consistent with the Act's legislated time limits, for each phase of the impact assessment. The work plan may be updated as the assessment of the Projects progresses.

For your future reference, after the proponent receives the Summary of Issues, it is required to submit a Detailed Project Description that includes an explanation of how it intends to address the issues raised. The Agency may contact your department for information or advice at that time for the purpose of determining if the Detailed Project Description is complete. Following acceptance of the Detailed Project Description, the Agency may seek the opinion of your department to inform the Agency's decision on whether an impact assessment of the Projects is required.

Please note that all records produced, collected or received in relation to the impact assessment of the Projects – unless prohibited under the *Access to Information Act* – will be considered public and posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website (Reference #80731).

If you have any questions regarding the impact assessment process or the response form, please do not hesitate to contact me at IAAC.VistaMine-MineVista.AEIC@canada.ca or 587-357-6484.

Sincerely,

<Sent electronically>

Shelly Boss
Project Manager
Prairie and Northern Region

Attachment 1: Federal Authority Advice Record

¹ All subsequent references to department mean department or agency.

May 6, 2021

ATTACHMENT: Federal Authority Advice Record

Response due by May 26, 2021

Coalspur Mines Ltd. – Phase I Vista Test Underground Mine and Vista Mine Phase II Expansion Projects

Registry number: 80731

Department/Agency	
Lead IA Contact	
Full Address	
Email	
Telephone	
Alternate Departmental Contact	

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1. Is it probable that your department or agency may be required to exercise a power or perform a duty or function related to the Projects to enable it to proceed?

If yes, specify the Act of Parliament and that power, duty or function.

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2. Is your department or agency in possession of specialist or expert information or knowledge that may be relevant to the conduct of an impact assessment of the Projects?

Specify as appropriate.

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3. Has your department or agency considered the Projects; exercised a power or performed a duty or function under any Act of Parliament in relation to the Projects; or taken any course of action that would allow the Projects to proceed in whole or in part?

Specify as appropriate.

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4. Has your department or agency had previous contact or involvement with the proponent or other party in relation to the Projects? (for example, enquiry about methodology, guidance, or data; introduction to the project)

Provide an overview of the information or advice exchanged.

5. Does your department or agency have additional information or knowledge not specified, above?

Specify as appropriate.

6. From the perspective of the mandate and area(s) of expertise of your department or agency, what are the issues that should be addressed in the impact assessment of the Projects, should the Agency determine that an impact assessment is required?

For each issue discussed, provide a concise, plain-language summary that is appropriate for inclusion in the Summary of Issues.

Name of Departmental / Agency
Responder

Title of Responder

Date