

From: Blair Painter <email address removed>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 11:11 PM
To: J Yanota <email address removed>; Grassy Mountain (IAAC/AEIC) <iaac.grassymountain.aeic@canada.ca>
Cc: <email address removed>; Livingstone-Macleod <email address removed>
Subject: RE: Grassy Mountain Mountain Coal Project

Hi Jay. Thank you for forwarding us the documents that you sent in to the Review Panel for our review. Like you, I also am a resident that was born and raised in the Crowsnest Pass, with family ties going back to the early 1900's and support the Riversdale Project. The Crowsnest Pass needs the jobs and the tax base that an industry of this calibre will bring.

Kindest Regards

Blair Painter



to our community

Blair Painter
MAYOR

Municipality of Crowsnest Pass
P.O. Box 600 | Crowsnest Pass, Alberta | TOK OEO
<contact information removed>

From: J Yanota <email address removed>
Sent: October 17, 2019 3:25 PM
To: IAAC.grassymountain.AEIC@canada.ca
Cc: Blair <email address removed>; <email address removed>; Livingstone-Macleod <email address removed>
Subject: Grassy Mountain Mountain Coal Project

For consideration during the evaluation of the Grassy Mountain Coal Project,

On January 11, 2019 I provided comments (copy below) noting my complete support for the project. Since then there have been further developments related to advancing the Grassy Mountain Coal Project. I have followed the review process, reviewed many of the submissions and have considered the benefit of the purchase of the Grassy Mountain Coal Project by the Hancock Group. Further to those comments below I continue to fully support the advancement of the application through to approval of the mine (issuance of a mining permit). I now am even more supportive knowing that a world-class mine developer has furthered their initial interest in the Crowsnest Pass by purchasing control of the project.

I think of particular note is this: An initial group of investors purchased land and invested over \$100 million during over 4 years as they did their due diligence to ensure the project could move from exploration to development to an operating mine. These types of projects proceed on more than economics. They carefully consider the entire portfolio of commitments they are making to people, the community at large, the protection and betterment of the environment in harmony with the laws, regulations and to the collective benefit of the community, governments and owners of the project.

I need to reiterate my message below. I grew up here. My parents grew up here. My friends live here. I moved away and returned to the Pass over 7 years ago. This is home.

For over 64 years and through ongoing education and observation I have developed an understanding how people and environment can both benefit as they develop. I have deep respect for and have made a commitment to ensure that the surrounding community, it's people and the natural environment can all evolve in a good way. I believe that all the technology, techniques, equipment, regulations and processes used in new mines all but guarantee clean and safe processes, minimal impact on the land and conclusion of operations, lands restored to a habitable conditions. For Grassy Mountain, this means "better than it stands today".

The Municipality of Crowsnest Pass grew out of and developed over the past 120+ years with steel-making coal in it's veins. To this day and well into the future steel-making coal will be responsible for the economic and social vitality of this community. Grassy Mountain is a project that simply paused for 60+ years waiting for the right time for it's resource to be resurrected and again put to good use for the collective benefit of those that produce it, the lands that harbour it and those around the world that will eventually use the products it is used to create.

The Hancock group is very experienced, well capitalized and obviously has a respectable track record of mining developments. To me this adds further assurance that the project would proceed as proposed and as permitted, respecting all the laws and regulations and of notable benefit to the people and future people of the Crowsnest Pass.

I consider the likelihood of this mine becoming a reality to be one of the only possible ways this community could again experience vitality and again, will become more than a community which the rest of the country drives through on the way to somewhere else. I believe this community would cherish the opportunity to demonstrate how a world-class mine can sustainably and prosperously coexist with and to the benefit of the surrounding natural landscapes.

I support the advancement of the Grassy Mountain Coal Project through to issuance of a mining permit and the successful development and operation of the mine.

Respectfully,

Jay

<email address removed>

Coleman, Alberta

My submission of January 11, 2019

My name is John Yanota. I am 63 years old and grew up in the Blairmore, AB (Crowsnest Pass). I moved to Calgary for 40 years and returned to the Pass in 2012. I love the Crowsnest Pass primarily because of the sense of community and the access to outdoors. My parents lived here the majority of their lives (since the 1920's). I have a deep attachment and admiration for this area and wish to see the Pass be prosperous and the environment cared for in a sustainable way.

Everything that I have learned about the proposal for the Grassy Mountain Coal Project has convinced me that the people of the Pass will have a more prosperous future and during the next 25 years+ will see the lands and streams in the area properly protected. In addition and as an added bonus, the majority of the workings from previous mining at Grassy Mountain will be restored to a condition that would not otherwise be possible.

This area has always been a mining community. Today, over 400 people that live here travel to the Sparwood, BC area to work each day. It's very simple. The majority of the people in the Pass rely on mining either directly by working for the mines or indirectly, working to support the people and businesses that work with/for the mines. The local mines produce metallurgical coal, coal that is used by the production of iron ore. There is no other way to economically replace the use of met coal for the production of steel from iron ore, steel being a component of almost everything we use every single day, cars, farming equipment, factories, appliances, tools, buildings, furniture, medical equipment, power generation, windmills, solar panels and more. Just look for something that does not contain steel. Steel is absolutely essential to the lifestyle we are accustomed to.

The Grassy Mountain project is a continuation of a project that was abandoned in the 60s. The workings have remained in their current state (no rehabilitation) and will remain in that state forever unless a commercial interest takes on the rehabilitation of those lands. It is clear and there is no rumours or facts indicating that any level of government would take over the reclamation of those workings. Benga Mining and Riversdale have in their plans and within their application the commitment to rehabilitate the old Grassy Mountain workings. We also have several more abandoned open pit mines in the area that are not and will never be rehabilitated unless a commercial interest becomes involved as part of their "mine reopening and reclamation plans".

I am confident that the regulations that have evolved over the last 125 years of mining are at a level that ensure the environment is respected and protected and that how mining is undertaken today has the least negative effect on the environment and community of any period in that 125 years. Grassy Mountain at it's design capacity will produce about 4M tons of met coal. 30 kilometres further west we have mining facilities producing over 26M tons of met coal. All this coal is exported. I reiterate, met coal is the fuel that makes production of steel economically possible. If Alberta and Canadian met coal is not burned it will be coal from some other area of the world, with far less stringent environmental standards that will be mined and burned.

I am on the Board of the Crowsnest Pass Golf course. The mine desires to acquire some of the golf course land for the rail load out in exchange for replacement of course land and buildings developed in a way that will be an improved asset for the community. Prior, as the Board evaluated whether to enter into negotiations with the mining company the board (including discussions with members), as a group met with representatives of Municipal Council. The Board was not wanting to proceed in a direction that did not have overwhelming support of Council and the citizens of the municipality. Beyond speaking to Council I have attended most of the public information sessions over the past 5 years I've witnessed the support for re-opening of the mine go from 50/50 in the beginning to what I now think is now 80-90% in favor of the mine proceeding. The golf course board, golf course members and local golfers, Municipal Council (representing the Pass citizens) and

the vast majority of people we've talked to all agree that re-opening of Grassy Mountain would be very an asset to the community in so many ways.

I returned "home" to the Pass after being in the Calgary for 40 years. I am an avid outdoors person and want to see my mountains, hills, valleys and streams healthy and capable to support an abundance of wildlife and forever be used sustainably by people. I am confident, under the current regulatory regimes that the protective systems and community will ensure the lands around my home are well respected and protected.

Lastly,

My support therefore, is in favor of allowing the mine to proceed as proposed thereby enabling the Crowsnest Pass community to be the vibrant, prosperous and sustainable mountain community that it has been struggling to become.

Respectfully,

Jay

<personal information removed>