

Review Panel Manager
Grassy Mountain Coal Project
160 Elgin St. 22 Floor
Ottawa, On K1A 0H3

Dear Panel,

The purpose of this letter is to express the strong support of the Crowsnest Pass Golf and Country Club for the coal project at Grassy Mountain in Crowsnest Pass. We have been working with Riversdale Resources for the past four years on a land swap deal which would give them rail access for coal loadout, and in return we would receive replacement golf facilities for all holes and buildings displaced by the loadout. We have found them to be a good company to work with, and a real asset to our community.

From the very onset of this project, Riversdale has been involved in community affairs and events, and provides a great deal of time and money in support of local initiatives. While the golf course is probably the largest project, others include support for the local hospital association, computers for schools, a kids ski program, community markets, and the list goes on. The takeaway here is, they have been both generous and responsible in our community.

People have expressed concern that the new mine will be dusty and dirty and noisy, just like the mines of the Pass prior to 1980. Riversdale has done their homework, in our opinion, of providing noise abatement, dust suppression, visual acceptability and protection of the environment. I think we all know this is not our grandfather's coal mine, this is a brand new facility built to very rigorous standards, and as such we have no concerns. The golf club is the closest neighbour to the new mine, and we are fully satisfied we can live together harmoniously. They have gone to great lengths to ensure the golf course remains pristine and a piece of natural beauty, and that all the creeks and waterways around the mine and golf course are protected.

We believe this project will bring economic growth to the Pass, something that has been lacking for years. Many of our membership work for Teck Coal, across the border in B.C., and they are looking forward to the opportunity to skip the 2 hour commute and work locally. The jobs they bring will provide employment opportunities for our children which we have not had in 40 years. The influx of 400 people will also generate an equal number of new residents in support jobs, like restaurants, hotels, etcetera. This will be a truly exciting time for the Pass and our Golf Club.

The joint project between Riversdale and the Golf Club is a good demonstration of how industry and tourism can co-exist, and even be located right next to each other. We have always had a nice golf club here in the Pass, but thanks to Riversdale and the Grassy Mountain Coal Project, we will have an excellent, modern facility which will serve the members and community well into the future. We will also have a new member base to help replace our retiring membership, and to help secure our financial viability going forward. Riversdale will have their needed rail access. And our town will have the economic boost we have been waiting for for so long.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Amatto
President, Crowsnest Pass Golf and Country Club