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our file number:

JUL 1 8 2013

Val Istomin Xstrata Coal Donkin Management Limited 633 Main Street Glace Bay NS B1A 6J3

Dear Mr. Istomin:

Re: Environmental Assessment - Donkin Export Coking Coal Project Cape Breton Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia

The environmental assessment of the proposed Donkin Export Coking Coal Project, to be located on the Donkin Peninsula, Cape Breton Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia, has been completed.

This is to advise that I have approved the above project in accordance with Section 40 of the *Environment Act*, S.N.S., 1994-95 and subsection 13(1)(b) of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, N.S. Reg. 348/2008, made under the Act. Following a review of the information provided by Xstrata Coal Donkin Management Limited and the information provided during the government and public consultation of the environmental assessment, I am satisfied that any adverse effects or significant environmental effects of the undertaking can be adequately mitigated through compliance with the attached terms and conditions.

This approval is subject to any other approvals required by statute or regulation, including but not limited to, approval under Part V of the Nova Scotia *Environment Act* (Approvals and Certificates section).

If you have any questions regarding the approval of this project, please contact the Acting Manager, Environmental Assessment Branch, Ms. Helen MacPhail, at (902) 424-3960 or via e-mail at macphafh@gov.ns.ca.

Sincerely,

Sterling Belliveau

Minister

Encl.