



RECEIVED
OCT 23 2012

ALBERTA
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Drayton Valley-Devon*

AR 50012

October 17, 2012

Ms. Christyann Olson, Executive Director
Alberta Wilderness Association
Box 6398, Station D
Calgary, AB T2P 2E1
colson@abwild.ca

Dear Ms. Olson:

Thank you for your letter to Premier Alison Redford, the Honourable Ken Hughes, Minister of Energy, Mr. Dan McFayden, Chair of the Energy Resources Conservation Board, and I dated September 13, 2012, regarding your concerns about coal development in the Eastern Slopes of Alberta. Premier Redford has reviewed your comments and has asked me to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta. I have consulted with my colleague, Minister Hughes, and am pleased to provide you with the following information.

The Coal Development Policy for Alberta provides guidance for coal development through coal land categories. Since the policy was established 36 years ago, policy and regulations have been enhanced to reflect current technologies and research. Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development continues to consider the coal policy, regulatory requirements, our other current policies, including the Eastern Slopes resource management policy, and integrated resource plans, when reviewing coal project applications.

I assure you this government remains committed to the responsible management of our resources. Thank you for sharing your concerns with us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana McQueen".

Diana McQueen
Minister

c: Honourable Alison M. Redford, QC, Premier
Honourable Ken Hughes, Minister of Energy

204 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada Telephone 780-427-2391 Fax 780-422-6259
5136B - 52 Avenue, Box 7272, Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1S5 Canada Telephone 780-542-3355 Fax 780-542-3331