April 13, 1992

The Honourable Terence Donohoe
Minister of the Environment
5th Floor, Terminal Road Building
5151 Terminal Road
P.O. Box 2017
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3B7

Dear Mr. Donohoe:

RE: REGISTRATION OF UNDERTAKING, WESTRAY STELLARTON PIT MINE

The Community Liaison Committee (CLC) has reviewed the registration document for the Stellarton Pit project. After discussions with the Mine’s management regarding this proposal, there are several recommendations which we, as residents of the community, hope that you will make a part of the operating stipulations for Westray. These recommendations are:

- Westray should make up a compensation package for the residents who are affected by the project (map showing the impacted is attached). This should be in the form of a contract which should remain in place for a 25-year period.
- Westray should be made to compensate people who lose their artesian wells because of this project.
- The citizens should be allowed to choose a lawyer who will represent the residents in their dealings with Westray. Westray should bear the costs of this legal service.
- Dust and noise monitoring should continue for the duration of the project on a three day per week schedule. As the dust monitors are located on residential properties, Westray’s compensation for power usage should increase whenever power rates increase.
Ditches should be placed around the entire property, including new rock lined ditches from existing ditches to the sediment pond and from the sediment pond to Bear Brook.

Decisions made by the Department of the Environment should be final, with no "going over someone's head" to overrule decisions.

Final decisions as to permits should be discussed with the Liaison Committee before being implemented.

A fence should be installed around the complete project.

A barrier of 100 feet should be left intact (i.e. no tree clearing) between existing properties and the mining project.

Properties which are not purchased by Westray should have a barrier of 150 feet, where possible.

Westray should not be allowed to go to 24 hour operations, but should be limited to 12 hour shifts, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., 5 days per week.

Trucks or trains should haul coal only during the regular 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. shift.

The CLC should be kept informed and notified before any additional trucks or trains are put into service.

There should be no work done the day before or the day after Christmas, on Sundays or statutory holidays.

Pumps operating at the settling pond should be somehow muffled to reduce the noise.

The CLC should continue its existence and meet every two weeks or every week at the request of the CLC.

There should be no blasting at the site.

Oil retention booms should be installed.
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- If the mine is sold, all permit stipulations and requirements should remain with any new owner.

- CLC members shall have unrestricted access to the site during working hours, or at other times which are considered reasonable.

- Fire fighting equipment is to be kept on site at all time. Procedures shall be developed and reviewed by the CLC in case of fire starting up in the old workings. These procedures shall be approved by the Nova Scotia Department of Labour.

- The CLC will be provided with copies of all correspondence relating to the open pit project.

- To help eliminate more dust generated from the strip mine site, we recommend that, since the crusher is already set up and operational at the Plymouth mine site, that all crushing will continue to be done there.

- Trucking of coal to other parts of the Province or elsewhere should be done from the Plymouth mine site.

The items listed in this letter are not in any order of priority.

I would like to stress that should other concerns arise, the Liaison Committee will bring those concerns not only to the attention of Mine Management, but to your department's attention as well. I trust you will ensure that your department will act upon our concerns as quickly as possible.

We feel that the Liaison Committee plays an important role in the Stellarton operation and I trust that you will give our list of concerns all due consideration before arriving at any decision regarding this project.

Yours truly,

Tom Kirincich  
Chairman, Citizen's Liaison Committee

attach.

c.c. G.J. Phillips  
Vice President, General Manager  
Westray Coal