



Department of Environment

PO Box 442
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2P8

Our File Number:
10700-40
40100-30-122

Office of the Minister

Original Dated December 18, 2008

Mr. Val Istomin, Project Manager
Xstrata Coal Donkin Management Limited
Suite 201, 633 Main Street
Glace Bay, NS B1A 6J3

Dear Mr. Istomin:

**Re: Environmental Assessment - Donkin Underground Exploration Project,
CBRM Nova Scotia**

The environmental assessment of the proposed Donkin Underground Exploration Project, CBRM, 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. I am satisfied 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, 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 Manager, Environmental Assessment Branch, Ms. Lorrie Roberts at (902) 424-6344 or via email at ROBERTLA@gov.ns.ca

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed By

Mark Parent
Minister of Environment

Encl.