September 4th, 2013

Community and Media Update

Technical experts from Polaris Applied Science Inc. and Quantum Murray LP were on site early on Tuesday, September 3 to begin work on the Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Techniques (SCAT) assessment. Scientific experts from Triton Environmental Consultants arrived mid-morning to begin work on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) field analysis. Ministry of Environment officials attended the site to review the temporary silt control dams and the silt fences that were installed over the weekend.

Work on the SCAT and the EIA will continue over the next two to three days. Results and recommendations from the SCAT as well as the preliminary results of the EIA will be compiled into an Action Plan for sediment recovery and clean-up, appropriate assessment and monitoring protocols, and development of an ongoing reporting plan to regulatory agencies and stakeholders. This Action Plan must be submitted for approval to the Ministry of Environment no later than September 8, 2013.

As of Monday, September 2, a temporary operational curtailment, that is expected to last between seven and ten days, was put into effect. During this curtailment, only those staff required for ongoing response and recovery efforts as well as those necessary to maintain basic mine operations will be working. This curtailment affects up to 100 Basin Coal Mine employees and sub-contractors.

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Media Contact:
Keith Meldrum
(250) 878-5758
response@coalmontenergy.com