

# Murray River Project



FALL 2014

## **QUICK FACTS**

Murray River Project is a proposed underground coal mine:

- Murray River Project (the Project) is a proposed 6 million tonne per year (6 Mtpa) underground metallurgical coal mine.
- Located 12.5 km southwest of the town of Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia
- Full mine development application is within the BC and Canada Environmental Assessment Process.
- A bulk sample permit has provided for preliminary surface and initial mining activity to commence.
- HD Mining has employed over 1000 Canadians on the project, with over \$100 million dollars spent to date on housing, geological investigations and drilling, environmental assessment and equipment and asset purchases.
- HD Mining has spent over \$15 million for a housing development for workers, utilizing Canadian contractors.
- Long-wall mining technology will be utilized. It requires unique training, skilled workers and specialized equipment.
- There are no operating underground longwall mining operations in Canada.



## **TECHNICAL UPDATE:**

- HD Mining is currently advancing development of a Bulk Sample on site.
- Permitted Bulk Sample activity has included site preparation at the Decline Site and Shaft Site.
- The decline portal has progressed to a depth of 700 metres.
- The decline being constructed for the Bulk Sample will continue to be used for the full mine development. It will serve as the main entry for personnel and materials, as well as a fresh air intake. The shaft planned for the Bulk Sample will also continue to be used for the full mine development, serving as the return air shaft for ventilation.

**\$100 Million**

spent to date in Tumbler Ridge, the Region and BC

**18,264 person years**  
of employment over the life of the mine  
if the full mine is approved

**\$1.183 Billion total**  
**tax revenue**  
Federal and provincial

## **WHAT IS THE NEXT PHASE:**

- Moving from this preliminary bulk sample stage to the full mine development is a critical future milestone.
- The full-mine project continues to be under environmental review by the federal and provincial governments.
- A decision by Ministers is anticipated in 2015.
- Engineering planning and procurement for future development is ongoing.
- If approved the Murray River Project will employ approximately 18,264 person-years over the life of the mine.

## **IS LONG-WALL MINING CHANGING THE MINING IN CANADA?**

- For underground coal – yes. The Project will introduce a cutting-edge underground mining technology to BC and Canada in which a long wall of coal is mined in a single slice. This innovation will result in substantial technological, human resource, and safety benefits.
- The nature of the development of a new underground coal mining requires its workers to have the necessary experience to operate safely and efficiently. Deep underground gassy coal mines pose the most hazardous working environment that exists for workers in the mining industry in British Columbia. HD Mining therefore requires experienced workers for the underground bulk sample program

## CRITICAL PROJECT SERVICES TO DATE HAVE DRAWN FROM LOCAL AND REGIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS:

### **Ground Surface Preparation**

- Hauling & Trucking
- Fuel Services
- Road work
- Drilling & Blasting
- Surveying
- Engineering

### **Decline Portal Construction and Operation**

- Security
- Mine Electricians
- Mine and Equipment Operators
- Engineering
- Office Clerks
- Support Workers

### **Housing Construction**

- Contractors
- Electricians
- Plumbers
- Carpenters

### **Environmental Management & Environmental Assessment Baseline Information Requirements**

- Scientists and Engineers
- Local technical support and assistance
- Drilling and water management services
- Environmental Management & Monitoring Services
- Wildlife, Fisheries & Archeological studies

### **Local jobs in the District of Tumbler Ridge and surrounding communities:**

- Contracting
- Fuel Services
- Facilities / accommodation
- Food services
- Recreation / entertainment centres
- Downtown businesses



- Proprietary long wall mining methods will be used to maximize extraction rates and efficiencies and to maintain the highest standards of worker safety. The proprietary equipment made available to HD Mining uses a tested, safe and reliable system involving hydraulic shields and pillars to sustain the roof at the coal face for the protection of the underground work force.

## **WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL MINERS?**

- HD Mining is committed to training Canadian workers in underground longwall mining. HD Mining has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Northern Lights College to develop a training curriculum for long-wall mining.
- There is currently a shortage of skilled underground mine workers in the Canadian mining sector.
- Since there is not a labour pool of long-wall mining operators in Canada from which to draw to safely undertake longwall mining, HD is temporarily utilizing specially trained workers to operate the longwall mining equipment and manage the mining operations.
- A local training and transition plan has been developed to transfer employment to local Canadian workers over the next 10 years.

## **WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE PROJECT?**

- HD Mining is working with Northern Lights College on a training curriculum for long-wall mining.
- HD Mining's bulk sample project is proceeding and continuing to resource services throughout the region in addition the specialized services from a handful of specially trained overseas workers.
- HD Mining is continuing to support technical information and environmental assessment requirements of the assessment process.

## **We'd like to hear from you**

Please send us a note, or contact us regarding a speaking opportunity with your group or organization.

Input Opportunities: [Info@hdminingintl.com](mailto:Info@hdminingintl.com)

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