

Decision Statement
Issued under Section 54 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

to
Glencore plc
c/o Matthew White, Country Manager – Coal
Glencore Coal Projects, Canada

745 Thurlow St, Suite 2400
Vancouver, British Columbia
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for the
Sukunka Coal Mine Project

Description of the Designated Project

Glencore is proposing to construct and operate an open-pit metallurgical coal mine located approximately 55 kilometres south of Chetwynd and 40 kilometres west of Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia. As proposed, the Sukunka Coal Mine Project would produce 3 million tonnes of hard coking coal per year for export to overseas markets. The mine life of the project is expected to exceed 20 years.

Conduct of the environmental assessment

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) commenced an environmental assessment of the Designated Project under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* on April 15, 2013. The former Minister of the Environment, under the authority of section 32 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, granted the substitution of the environmental assessment process set out in British Columbia's *Environmental Assessment Act* for the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* process.

British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office conducted an environmental assessment of the Designated Project in accordance with the substitution conditions set out in subsection 34(1) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* and submitted its report to the Agency on October 13, 2022.

Decisions on environmental effects referred to in subsections 5(1) and 5(2) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

In accordance with paragraphs 52(1)(a) and 52(1)(b) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, after considering the report of British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office on the Designated Project and the implementation of mitigation measures that I consider appropriate, I have determined that the Designated Project:

- is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects referred to in subsection 5(1) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*; and
- is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects referred to in subsection 5(2) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*.

In accordance with subsection 52(2) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, I referred to the Governor in Council the matter of whether those significant adverse environmental effects referred to in subsection 5(1) were justified in the circumstances.

In accordance with paragraph 52(4)(b) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, the Governor in Council decided that the significant adverse environmental effects referred to in subsection 5(1) that the Designated Project is likely to cause are not justified in the circumstances.

Issuance

This Decision Statement is issued in Ottawa, Ontario by:

<Original signed by>

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of the Environment

December 21, 2022

Date _____