

## ASX Announcement

12 November 2021

# COAL POLICY REVIEW PROCESS UPDATE

### KEY POINTS

- Government of Alberta extends deadline for receiving report and recommendations from the Coal Policy Committee to December 31, 2021.
- All exploration activities on Category 2 lands remain suspended pending Alberta's coal policy.
- Atrum continues support for the Alberta Responsible Mining Initiative, presenting facts and science with respect to a proposed modern, ethical and responsible approach to metallurgical coal mine development and operation.

Atrum Coal Limited (ASX: ATU) (**Atrum** or the **Company**) provides an update on recent events with respect to metallurgical coal policy development and community engagement in Alberta.

### Coal Policy Committee Granted Extension to December 31, 2021

The Government of Alberta has extended the reporting deadline for the Coal Policy Committee to December 31, 2021. Consistent with guidance provided by government earlier in 2021, the coal exploration activities on what is commonly referred to as Category 2 land remain paused.

Additional guidance provided by the Government of Alberta includes:

- The extension has been granted to ensure the committee is able to devote the necessary time and attention to the input they have received and to developing recommendations.
- The Coal Policy Committee's reports will be reviewed in detail by the government before being released publicly.

Today's news release (<https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=803416D5265CD-F6DC-96E1-EAF3436F615AAEBE>) also confirms that the provincial government "remains committed to the development of a modern coal policy made by Albertans for Albertans."

Furthermore, Mr. Ron Wallace, Chair of the Coal Policy Committee is quoted in the release that "The committee has been unwavering in our commitment to procedural fairness and transparency. We have requested a deadline extension so that we may better compile, assess and report on the extensive and insightful input submitted."

### Responsible Mining Initiative

Atrum continues to support the activities of the Responsible Mining Initiative (**RMI**). The RMI was launched earlier this year with the objective of presenting facts, science and key detail to Albertans with respect to modern mining, environmental protection and reclamation practice. It was introduced, in part, to counter misinformation being spread with respect to various mine development practices.

The key content of the RMI can be found at [www.responsiblemining.ca](http://www.responsiblemining.ca).

## Atrum's Policy Recommendations to the Coal Policy Committee

Alberta has the opportunity and the responsibility to support both the environment and the economy. Science, technology, and strong legislative and regulatory framework have greatly surpassed the intent, purpose, and value of the coal Categories created in 1976.

A new coal policy should adopt a new land classification system that would continue to protect lands while enabling individual projects to be assessed on their own merits against existing and evolving regulatory frameworks:

**Non-Development Zone 1:** A resource ineligible zone where no resource development is allowed.

**Potential Development Zone 2:** A resource regulated zone where resource projects may be considered based on the merits of the individual project as permitted by regulators.

In consultation with existing leaseholders, Indigenous communities, and other stakeholders, these zones could be drawn to expand and protect additional lands while simultaneously allowing Alberta to build its economy.

Such a distinction would add clarity, provide certainty, reduce conflict, leverage science and technology, diminish red tape and increase the area of environmentally protected lands. This is achievable by applying world-leading environmental governance to the foothills and other terrain now subjectively assigned to Categories 2 and 4.

### **Atrum Managing Director and CEO, Andy Caruso, commented:**

*"Atrum continues engaging with stakeholders about responsible metallurgical coal development in southwestern Alberta to ensure we address concerns, while providing fact-based information to interested parties."*

*"We continue to support the introduction of a policy that is balanced, reinforces strong environmental protections, and addresses the long-term land and water stewardship requirements that are important to Albertans."*

*"Steel continues to be in great demand globally, and we look forward to an opportunity to present our plans for a responsible mining development that would support local, provincial and federal economies as well as providing meaningful participation and employment opportunities for Indigenous and local communities."*

### **This ASX release was authorised on behalf of the Atrum Board by:**

Andrew Caruso, Managing Director and CEO

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