

Coal Assessment Reporting Information

The *Coal Act* requires that all coal licensees and lessees submit information and data (i.e., coal assessment reports) pertaining to coal exploration activities on coal licenses and coal leases, including geological, geophysical, geochemical, drilling, physical and chemical sampling, prospecting, construction, geotechnical, hydrogeological, and environmental investigations on coal licenses and leases, either singly or combined. A coal licence is valid for a term of one year from the date of its issue. Coal assessment reports are due before the license expires, and must accompany the application for license extension, along with the prescribed rent. On freehold coal lands, coal assessment reports are due on or before March 31 in each year.

The described work must consist mainly of original studies rather than compilation of previous work. Accounts based on brief property visits and scanty data are not acceptable as assessment reports. Previous work should be referenced in a standard bibliographic format.

All coal assessment reports are to be submitted to the Victoria Mineral Titles office. Reports can be:

- hand-delivered to the Security Desk at **1810 Blanshard Street, Victoria**
- emailed to Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca
 - *subject line*: Coal Assessment Report (Project name, **Tenure Numbers**)
- **sent by mail** (recommend Registered Mail) to:

Mineral Titles Branch
4th Floor – 1810 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC
V8T 4J1

Please ensure you receive a copy of the date-stamped “received” Title page of your report for confirmation of delivery. If you have emailed your report to the Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca inbox you will receive a confirmation email. If you have mailed your report to the Victoria Mineral Titles office it is recommended that you select Registered Mail as this is your receipt confirmation.

Coal assessment reports submitted under the *Coal Act* (Act) and Coal Act Regulation (Regulation) will have confidential status for a period of three years from the date of submission. However, specific types of coal data are kept confidential indefinitely, for so long as lease or license remains in good standing and continues to be renewed by the

same owner. These are described in detail in the Regulation, and include information or data on coal quality, results of coking tests, and methane desorption tests.

Link to *Coal Act*:

https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/04015_01

Link to Coal Act Regulation:

https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/251_2004

Digital Submission

The BC Geological Survey Branch requests all clients to submit assessment reports in digital form (PDF). We all benefit from submitting digital assessment reports by:

- generating reports that are of a higher quality;
- reducing the impact on the environment (less paper, no shipping);
- saving government costs (storage, scanning and processing);
- improving the data posted to the internet for your future use; and
- allowing more data to be captured.

Digital data, such as borehole geophysical logs and LiDAR must also be submitted in the original file format.

Report Content

Resources are available on the [COALFILE website](#) page which may be useful in preparing your coal assessment report.

Coal Assessment Report Checklist

FORMAT

- Letter-size (8-1/2" x 11") with legible print; text and maps clearly readable and understandable.
- Title Page listing general nature of the report, which tenures were worked on, mining division, NTS map sheet, latitude, longitude, owner of tenure, operator (who paid for the work), author(s) of the report, and date submitted. Please use the [Coal Assessment report Title Page and Summary Form](#).
- Table of Contents cross-indexed to pages, numbers and titles.
- Introduction: property geographic/physiographic location, access, history, economic and general assessment, and specific type and quantity of new work performed. Include a table of project tenures, listing tenure numbers, owner, tenure type (license or lease), anniversary date, and hectares.

- Objective and scope of present work, discussion and interpretation of results relative to geology and conclusion.
- All measurements in metric units, identified in text and maps.
- A digital version of the report must be submitted. A paper copy may be submitted and must be compiled exactly as the digital copy. The digital version must not have any locks or restrictions placed on the file. Spatial location data (i.e., drill collar locations, sample and trench locations) must be submitted in a non-PDF format (i.e., Excel spreadsheet) for ease of entry into the COALFILE database.

MAPS

- Maps, identified by number, and including title, metric bar scale, north arrow, legend.
- Index map showing property and regional geography.
- Tenure map showing tenure boundaries and labelled with tenure numbers.
- All groundwork mapped (state method of control) at 1:10 000 or more detailed. Legible scale showing numerical results (values) at sample sites and relative to claim boundaries; profiles indexed to a plan.
- Detailed work (trenches, sections, underground, etc.) mapped at 1:1000 or more detailed scale, indexed to a master plan.

STATEMENT OF COSTS

Value of original work done and described in the report, and current commercial rate costs documented in a cost statement as follows: field personnel (person-days), consultant(s), food and accommodation, mobilization/demobilization within British Columbia, aircraft support, vehicle rentals, equipment and supplies, instrument rentals, laboratory analysis, contract jobs - unit costs, report preparation, management. Drilling reports may include reasonable costs of core storage. Receipts are not required but must be presented to the Chief Gold Commissioner upon request where clarification is necessary.

A template for the [Statement of Costs](#) in Excel format is available on the [Submission Information page of the ARIS website](#).

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Coal assessment reports form part of the permanent record, and must be written by qualified authors and meet prescribed standards as defined in the Coal Act Regulation.

The reports must be signed by the author and include a statement of author's and field supervisor's qualifications. Geologists, geophysicists, geochemists, prospectors, and geological, geophysical and mining engineers must state pertinent training and experience.

DESCRIPTION OF EXPLORATION PROGRAM

- Specific objective of the exploration plan
- Brief theory of survey results.
- Make and model of instruments, and procedures.
- Results, discussion and interpretation of results, conclusion.
- Results of work done during separate periods should be identified, and suspect/unreliable results should be identified.
- Smoothed/filtered data should be accompanied by raw data.

GEOLOGICAL

- Comprehensive text describing geology; Geology maps must outline outcrops and identify lithology, structure, coal seams.

GEOPHYSICAL

- Electromagnetic survey: specific method used; location of VLF transmitter noted.
- Induced polarization survey: specific method and electrode array described.
- Airborne survey: results in contour form, 1:50 000 scale or more detailed, noting physiography, claim boundaries, flight lines, ground clearance, speed, weather/wind vector. A complete copy of digital airborne data must be included.
- Other types of surveys must be fully described.
- Station locations must appear on the map, clearly labelled. Spreadsheet(s) containing their co-ordinates must accompany the digital file.
- All downhole geophysical logs must be included (PDF and original file format - .las)

GEOCHEMICAL/COAL QUALITY

- Material sampled identified and described as to appearance, horizon/depth; rock-type; assays and metallurgical investigations described.
- Analytical laboratory and chemist must be identified, testing instruments and analytical technique must be described.
- Analytical result certificates must be included in report (PDF format from the laboratory).
- Results must be plotted at a scale of 1:10 000 or greater.
- Station locations must appear on the map, clearly labelled. Spreadsheet(s) containing sample co-ordinates must accompany the digital file.

DRILLING

- Table listing drill-hole collar locations, elevation, inclination/azimuth, dip test results (note if not done), hole/core diameter. Drill collar locations must appear on the map, clearly labelled. Spreadsheet(s) containing their co-ordinates must accompany the digital file.
- Core and/or cuttings logs described by geologists (Qualifications included in report).
- Indicate the location of core and/or cuttings storage.
- Analytical results must be correlated with logs.
- Short holes for blasting do not constitute drilling.

PROSPECTING

An accurate map showing location of traverses, location and description of rock outcrops/float, sample locations, analytical results, and instrument readings described and plotted.

PHYSICAL WORK

Lines/grid, local trails, roads, topography, trenches, open cuts, underground cuts, reclamation, helipad, and tenure boundaries must be shown on maps with metric dimensions noted. Upon request by the Chief Gold Commissioner, the recorded owner of the coal tenure must show where the work has been performed on the ground.

OTHER INVESTIGATIONS

Other related investigations conducted, but not specifically listed above, must also be included in/with the report. Such activities include (but are not limited to) sampling of coal seams for the purpose of physical and chemical analysis, reclamation and environmental, construction, geotechnical, hydrogeological, geological and resource modelling, topographical or aerial surveys, and photogeological interpretations. All relevant data, results, and mapping must be included with the assessment report.