

## Economic and Social Impacts

- The coal mining industry contributes just over \$3.2 billion in value-added GDP to the provincial economy.
- In 2011, the value of provincial coal production reached \$5.7 billion.
- Total tax payments made by the coal mining industry to all levels of government in 2011 was \$715.2 million – this includes \$399 million in tax revenue generated by economic activity and \$316.2 million in mineral taxes paid to the B.C. Government.
- Tax revenue helps government support infrastructure and government programs which enrich the lives of people living in B.C.

## Coal Resources

- British Columbia has 12.9 billion tonnes of potentially mineable coal resources, of which 8 billion tonnes are located in the East Kootenay coalfields in southeast B.C. and 4.9 billion tonnes are located in the Peace River coalfield in northeast B.C.
- B.C. has 10 operating coal mines located in the northeast (Peace River area) and the southeast (Kootenay area), and Vancouver Island. Additional project sites throughout the province are under exploration or at other stages of advanced development.
- 9 mines produced metallurgical coal (used for making steel) while one mine (located on Vancouver Island) produced thermal coal.

## Production and Exports

- In 2011, B.C. coal production represented almost 40% of national coal production.
- B.C. has produced around 25 million tonnes of primarily metallurgical (steel-making coal) and thermal coal every year generating significant economic and social benefits.
- Export sales for metallurgical and thermal coal were \$7.1 billion in 2011, representing 22% of total exports from British Columbia.
- Canada is the third largest exporter of metallurgical coal after Australia and the United States and 89% of Canadian metallurgical coal comes from B.C.
- Coal exports are a major contributor to B.C.'s export activity making up 21.8% of total provincial exports in 2011.
- Japan and South Korea consumed the largest share of B.C.'s total metallurgical coal exports, however China's demand for B.C. coal has been on the rise recently.

## Employment

- Canada's coal industry requires a highly skilled and technical workforce including engineers, geologists, technologists, environmental scientists, and a variety of tradespeople such as electricians and heavy duty mechanics.
- Over 26,000 jobs in B.C. are attributable to the coal industry.
- The estimated average yearly wage for workers directly employed by coal companies was \$95,174 in 2011. This is twice that of the provincial wage of \$43,500.

## About the Report

- The Coal Association of Canada engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) to quantify the economic contributions of British Columbia's coal mining industry. This report is a companion to a national coal report released in October 2012.
- The economic impact analysis of the B.C. coal industry is based on a confidential survey of the coal companies operating mines in BC as well as companies involved in the exploration and development of new mine sites.
- Along with information from coal companies, information from Statistics Canada and Natural Resources Canada were used to estimate industry impacts.

## For more information:

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