

## **MEND Report for CEN**

On November 29, 2004 the multi-stakeholder steering committee of Mine Effluent Neutral Drainage (MEND) met in Vancouver for its second annual face to face meeting. Catherine Coumans (MiningWatch Canada) and Amy Crook (Center For Science in Public Participation) represent the CEN on this steering committee. MEND's mandate is research and technology transfer with a focus on, prevention, effects, a prediction and mitigation of Acid Mine Drainage (AMD). In the past year MEND has also commissioned research on prevention, effects, prediction and mitigation of neutral Ph leaching.

We discussed the status of research projects that have been commissioned: Disposal Options for Lime Sludge; Neutral Leaching; Covers for Permafrost; Paste Backfill; Case Study Assessments; BC Case Studies; a Checklist of items that have to be considered at the project level for prediction and prevention of AMD; and Performance of Dry Covers. These reports are now completed or in the final stages of being completed.

CEN members reviewed 5 of the above reports (one is still to be completed for review). CEN reviewers were: Sue Moodie, Bill Slater, David Chambers. All MEND reports are available at the MEND web site ( <http://mend.nrcan.gc.ca> ) once they are complete. For updates on the work of MEND, the CEN also distributes the MEND Monitor a number of times a year.

The steering committee discussed funding levels for next years work, and possible research projects and opportunities for technology transfer for next year. Once research projects have been decided on we will let the CEN know so that potential reviewers can be solicited.