

**Coalbed Methane Poll**  
**300 Residents of Smithers, Telkwa**  
**and the Regional District of Bulkley Valley Nechako**  
**Prefixes 846 (n=67), 847 (n=208) , 877 (n=25)**

Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_ calling from Synovate. We are conducting a 4-minute poll with residents of Smithers, Telkwa and the Bulkley Valley. May I please speak with the adult in the household who is 18 or older and will be having the next birthday?

IF NOT AVAILABLE, ARRANGE CALLBACK.

IF NOT A RESIDENT OF THE 3 AREAS, THANK AND TERMINATE

A1. Firstly, can I confirm that you live in one of these three areas...READ

1. Within the town limits of the Town of Smithers
2. Within the town limits of the Village of Telkwa, or
3. Do you live in the area but outside of Smithers and Telkwa – you may know this area as the Rural A region
4. Don't live in any of these three areas – THANK AND TERMINATE

A2. RECORD GENDER

1. Male 140-150
2. Female 150-160

Q1. Have you heard anything about a proposal to develop a coalbed methane gas field near Telkwa?

1. Yes
2. No GO TO Q5

Q2. How familiar are you with the proposed plan or the debate that surrounds it? Are you...READ

1. Very familiar
2. Somewhat familiar or
3. Not very familiar

Q3a. Based on what you currently know or have heard about the proposed coalbed methane gas project, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it, or do you not have an opinion?

1. Strongly support
2. Somewhat support
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
- No opinion GO TO Q4

Q3b. Why do you say that?

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4. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements? READ, ROTATE
- a) The proposed coalbed methane project poses an unacceptable risk to drinking water reserves
  - b) BC's regulations for coalbed methane are inadequate and poorly enforced
  - c) The proposed coalbed methane development will be good for the local economy
  - d) BC should develop coalbed methane so it can better fund social services such as education and health care
  - e) The potential benefits of coalbed methane are not worth the potential risk to our wild salmon and steelhead
  - f) The BC government should go ahead with coalbed methane development in the Bulkley Valley if it believes it's in the best interests of the province as a whole
  - g) The BC government should not sell the development rights to the company if the majority of Valley residents feel the risks are too great
5. Proponents of the coalbed methane gas project claim it will contribute revenues to the BC government and create spin-off jobs. Opponents of the project claim it risks contaminating water supplies, harming salmon, and causing a drop in property values. Given these two competing views, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose going ahead with the proposed coalbed methane gas field near Telkwa, or do you not have an opinion?
- 1. Strongly support
  - 2. Somewhat support
  - 3. Somewhat oppose
  - 4. Strongly oppose
  - No opinion
6. Would you say the BC government's efforts to consult with local residents about the proposed coalbed methane project have been...READ
- 1. More than adequate
  - 2. Adequate
  - 3. Less than adequate
7. Will coalbed methane development in the Bulkley Valley be an important issue for you when deciding whom to vote for in the next municipal election?
- 1. Yes
  - 2. No
8. Will coalbed methane development in the Bulkley Valley be an important issue for you when deciding whom to vote for in the next provincial election?
- 1. Yes
  - 2. No
- A3. Lastly, for classification purposes, can you tell me whether you are between the ages of...READ
- 1. 18 and 34
  - 2. 35 and 54, or
  - 3. 55+