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## NEWS RELEASE

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Environmental Assessment Office  
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management

### **RAV LINE CLEARS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

VICTORIA – The Richmond-Airport-Vancouver Rapid Transit Project (RAV) has received an environmental assessment certificate, announced minister of Sustainable Resource Management George Abbott today.

“This is a major transportation infrastructure project with compelling public interest that will deliver long-term benefits for generations to come,” said Abbott. “We are satisfied that the RAV assessment balances the government’s commitment to maintain high environmental standards, support economic growth and build strong communities.”

The environmental assessment reviewed the potential impacts on fisheries and aquatic habitat, First Nation interests, air quality, noise, contaminated soils, cut-and-cover tunnel construction, landscapes and the neighbouring communities.

“To help mitigate the short-term effects associated with the project RAVCo must comply with all the commitments and assurances developed during the environmental assessment process,” said Abbott. “There are more than two dozen of these binding commitments and assurances to address First Nations’ interests and ensure the project has no residual adverse environmental, economic, social, heritage or health effects.”

The measures include a commitment by RAVCo to provide over \$1 million to fund a business liaison program for the Downtown and Cambie Street segments of the line and the development of traffic and air quality management plans.

The decision was made by the ministers of Sustainable Resource Management, Water, Land and Air Protection, and Community, Aboriginal and Women’s Services following referral from the Environmental Assessment Office. The project was also reviewed under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

This decision includes the further assessment that was ordered on April 19, on the areas where cut and cover tunnel construction technology is proposed – Hastings St. at Granville to the south side of Dunsmuir at Granville and along Cambie between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Ave.

The RAV proposal calls for a 19.5 km electric rail rapid transit line to connect central Richmond, Vancouver International Airport and downtown Vancouver, with 17 stations: four in Richmond, four on Sea Island and nine in Vancouver.

RAVCo and TransLink selected SNC Lavalin/Serco to design, build, operate and maintain the RAV line. The project is funded by the governments of Canada and British Columbia, TransLink and the Vancouver International Airport Authority.

- 2 -

Further information on the RAV project application and application supplement can be found on the Environmental Assessment Office website at [www.eao.gov.bc.ca/](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/) online.

-30-

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