

Inside S v a l b a r d

a necessity of preserving coal mining industry.

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Series of mountains emerged along the west coast and east coast of the archipelago. Presenting seams of sediments. Sincerely revealed how earth process going. Those mountainous landscape creates basin-shaped from the west towards east. In the center, laid precious natural resources that might worth to dig out. Coal, the most abundance mineral in the world that formed during warm and organic-rich tertiary periode, approximately 65 millions years ago.

Since American mineral surveyor named John Munroe Longyear found coal in Longyearbyen, where now is known as administrative town, Svalbard has transformed into new place of civilization. Coal mining industries established by Russian and some of it sold to Norwegian company. Svalbard seemingly turned into mining industrial area on a vulnerable area in Arctic. Many foreigner fly in and out as commuter, start to built up new society inside the island. But unlike wildlife living there, those dynamic commuter rarely consider Svalbard as a 'home' where they belong. Therefore, the spirit inside Svalbard is all about utilize the island without seeing the consequences.

Svalbard coal mining industry gradually contribute promising aspect for the country. The increasing demand of coal let Svalbard coal mining industry to develop. Most of it production were sent to Germany, which somehow lead Svalbard into important coal supplier. This fact placed Norway to 7th rank of the most coal exporter in Europe. The recognition of Norway, particularly Svalbard, from its coal apparently strengthened Norway as the powerful owner over the island. The productivity itself create special attention from the countries around polar arctic, which now been busy regarding to the shipping by searoute. However, government in mainland already put so much money to maintain Svalbard in terms of geopolitics. The amount of coal resource contained inside its island is not sufficient to create national revenue. **If so, do we still need to keep mining industry only necessarily to show existence over the Europe?**

Environment

Coal production at Svea, 40 km southern Longyearbyen, will be phased out in as the coal resource starts to runs dry. At the same time, government are initiating new mining in Lunckefjell, near Svea, in order to export coal to market. **Planning new coal mining would be strikingly inconsistent with Norway's high-profile international climate policy positions.** Carbon elements contained in coal trigger global warming from its CO₂ waste. Fly ash and toxic coming from coal mining process disturbing wildlife and ecosystem surround it. Moreover, coal mining industry always bring big dispute against environmentalist and bussiness man in terms of melting ice around artic polar. That sensitive area suppose to be clean and uncontaminated, but at the same time have many mineral resource that worth to dig out. Fortunately, Norway already established restricted area for preserving wildlife and environment, prohibit mining industry and other activities which may disrupt nature in certain area. The improvement of mining technology also able to manage wastes resulting less harmful waste. Other thing, few amount of coal resource from Svalbard comparing to other vast resources in China and USA coincidentally contribut less environment impact. In short, the level of "greed" by Norway is balanced by its responsibility.

Svalbard as an attractive places for everyone.

The location, wilderness, and geologic conditions of Svalbard has offered interesting places for scholars to investigate the island. As Svalbard Treaty point out, some countries signed the treaty are allowed to commenced their research center in Svalbard. Since then, Svalbard has been recognized as research center area. Lately, Norway's government has signed up Pyramiden, the abandoned ex-mining site, to UNESCO as a heritage site, that may create domestic income by its tourism.

Another interesting thing, Norway has been trusted internationally as a peaceful country. For instance, Global Seed Bank that preserve seeds (including endangered one) from all over the world was entrusted to be build in Svalbard. It was not only necessarily about permafrost ground that will conserve the seeds. But it was more about the safety that Norway, particularly Svalbard, has offerd. Demilitarized status that mentioned in Svalbard Treaty guarantee the security, and will always keeps away war and demolition inside the island. Eventually, those situations lead Svalbard as an internationally important, and eventually investment may boost then bring Norway into prosperous country.

Initially, coal mining industry in Svalbard has made people to explore another new opportunity on the island. It seems that tourism, education, wild life preservation, research, and technology in this area is driven by the coal mining industry. Even the other industries are developing rapidly, the coal mining industry will still be the **core business in Svalbard**. Norway will use Svalbard as a profit centre especially for coal mining and perhaps oil/gas. However, the other industries are still used as a supporting subject in terms of developing process of Svalbard.

SPECULATING SVALBARD

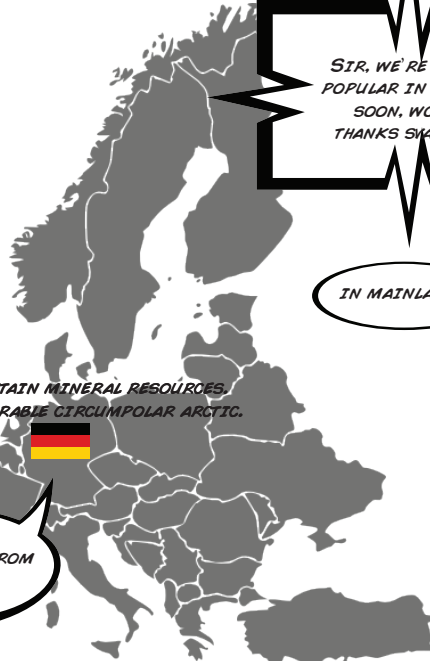
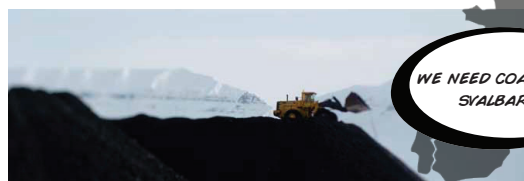
AS A NECESSITY OF PRESERVING COAL MINING INDUSTRY



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SIR, WE'RE NOW SO POPULAR IN EUROPE.. SOON, WORLD! THANKS SVALBARD..

SVALBARD ALREADY SO LAYISH. ITS COAL PRODUCTION WAY BEHIND USA, THE BIGGEST ONE.

IN MAINLAND...



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