

7010 Glacier Gulch Rd.,
Smithers,
British Columbia,
V0J 2N2
4 June 2008.

Mr. A. de Groot,
Chairperson, Community Resources Board,
Box 577,
Smithers.
British Columbia, V0J 2N0.

Dear Mr. de Groot.

Re: Thompson Creek Metals' (Blue Pearl Mining) Davidson Mine Proposal.

As you know Thompson Creek Metals is proposing to build a mine in the Kathlyn Creek, Glacier Gulch watersheds, adjacent to the Twin Falls tourist area, on the side of Hudson Bay mountain facing the Smithers airport. The CRB is connected directly to this proposal through the BVL RMP which specifically mentions legal objectives for the Glacier Gulch management zone, water quality in the Kathlyn Creek drainage and the viewscape on the front of Hudson Bay Mountain (see BVL RMP objectives, sub unit 10-1).

Our experience in representing our concerns about the Davidson proposal to all levels of government and the company via public meetings, government agencies and the Public Liaison Committee (PLC) for the Davidson proposal, has driven us to the conclusion that our concerns will only be fully evaluated and addressed through an independent panel review process conducted by the federal government.

In part this conclusion arise from the fact that the aspects of concern (eg water, socio economic- tourism etc) for the Davidson proposal are highly interconnected. For example an alternate or change in location for the mine could significantly change impacts on water, viewscape and tourism. Thus to address water concerns, for example, a review will need to access cumulative effects, alternative ways of completing the project, social economic effects etc. All these aspects are either partly or not covered by the provincial review process. Most certainly their link to water is only weakly covered in the provincial review. These aspects are covered in the federal review but will only be fully addressed in an independent panel review. However it seems likely that a panel level review will not be triggered automatically for this proposal but will be considered if there is public concern or uncertainty in the degree of environmental impact. We feel both are satisfied.

We have therefore joined forces with Hudson Bay Mountain Neighbourhoods and the Lake Kathlyn Protection Society (who also sit on the PLC) to ask the federal government for an independent panel review of the Davidson proposal.

We suggest that the CRB will have difficulty fulfilling its mandate through the expected proposal review process. We are writing this letter to ask that you join our joint effort in seeking an independent panel review for the Davidson proposal by writing a letter to Nathan Cullen and/or Minister J. Baird, Minister for Environment Canada, asking that Minister Baird authorize a full independent panel review for the Davidson proposal.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)
John Knight, Kathy Wilkie,
for Glacier Gulch Water Group.

Further information:

For information on Federal review processes: Sections 3.3 and 3.2.2 of “How to determine if the act applies” available at www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca.

Nathan Cullen,
MP Skeena Bulkley Valley
Box 4914,
Smithers,
BC V0J 2N0
info@nathancullen.ca

The Hon. Mr. J. Baird,
Minister for the Environment,
Environment Canada,
Les Terrasseus de la Chaudiere,
10 Wellington St., 28th Floor.
Gatineau,
Quebec.
K1A 0H3