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Weekly

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**ENERGY AND MINERALS DIVISION**  
**REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING October 22, 1999**

**ISSUES UPDATE**

Linguist  
884915

**First Nations:**

- Referral letters will be sent next week to four First Nations seeking comment on a proposed sale of petroleum and natural gas rights in the Hat Creek area. (PLA)
- Started research on oil and gas tenure revenues related to the Fort Nelson Indian Reserve to meet an information request from the Prophet River Band. (PLA)

**Land Use Planning:**

- Agreement regarding referrals for the Chikamin and Linguist Mineral/Wildlife Resource Management areas is in the final stages of completion. This releases approximately 9,400 hectares from the previous 16,000 hectare Tweedsmuir Recreation Area for mineral exploration/development. MEM is committed to enhanced referrals with BC Parks and remains the final decision-making authority. BC Parks executive are doing a final review prior to signing. (Mines)
- **Notes prepared for DM Aboriginal and Land Use Meeting on October 28. (Will DM attend?)**
- **Land Use Workshop planned for Regional staff, ADM and DM in Kamloops on October 27/28.**

**Legislation/Regulations:**

- Whistler - an expanded table of contents for an MOU has been drafted to guide the working relationship between MEM and the Resort Municipality of Whistler regarding the permitting and regulation of mining operations that may have an impact on the recreational experiences that support the community. (Mines)
- **Mining industry representatives were introduced to the process developed for issuance of special use permits for off site access to exploration sites. The industry rejected the process because they want a single window, or at least a process front-ended by MEM. Fred Hermann will lead a process to address these concerns. (Mines)**
- Draft Request For Legislation prepared on lease tenure and administration issues for OGI 2. (PLA)
- Prepared first draft of information letter on pipeline expropriation procedures and have forwarded it to the Oil and Gas Commission for review and comment. (PLA)

**Mapping:**

- **MapPlace:** Some usage statistics: clients from at least 61 countries have accessed the site which provides information on geology, MINFILE, and assessment reports and claims. Average data transfer per day is 2,300 requests; the total for the past three years has been 1,240,000 requests. (GSB)
- **Natural Hazards:** Staff made presentations on GSB's natural hazards programs (e.g., evidence of old earthquakes, earthquake hazard mapping, landslide potential mapping, terrain stability classification, and web-based map library) for a delegation from Norway studying a broad range management issues for natural hazards. (GSB)
- **Victoria Geoscapes Project:** At the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC convention in Victoria, staff made presentations (geology of Southern Vancouver Island and evidence of old earthquakes of Southwest BC) and led a field trip in the Victoria region to show the local geology; how it is mapped to show the relative hazard from earthquakes; and the special engineering used in public structures to respond to the risk of hazards. These sessions were open to the public, and approximately 20 local teachers attended on their professional development day. (GSB)