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889015

TONY KNOWLES  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

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February 4, 1998

Ms. Peggy Wilcox  
419 Sixth Street, #328  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Ms. Wilcox:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the proposed Tulsequah Chief mine project along the Taku River in British Columbia (B.C.). I appreciate the many Alaskans, including fishermen, conservationists, and Taku property owners who have contacted me to express concerns about the effect of the mine on our fisheries and water quality.

My Administration requires resource development projects be based on a "doing it right" philosophy or not be done at all. Doing it right is based on the principles of sound science, prudent management based on conservation, and a responsive public process which brings Alaskans to the table.

I share the concerns of many that this proposal may cause harm to Alaskans by damaging valuable Taku River salmon runs. The Taku's resources are fundamental to subsistence, sport, and commercial fishers, as well as Southeast communities. Past experience brings into question B.C.'s ability to undertake resource development while doing it right and protecting salmon habitat. Alaska needs reassurance critical issues regarding the resource values of this river are fully addressed. The Departments of Fish and Game and Environmental Conservation, and fishing groups have all examined the Tulsequah proposal and raised serious concerns about the development's impacts on fisheries.

Alaskans have expressed frustrations to me that although we will see little economic benefit from the mine and may bear the brunt of negative impacts of the project, we have limited opportunities to influence its development. In fact, although Alaska does not issue permits for the mine, we've taken an active role in reviewing the proposal. State agencies have been involved in the B.C. assessment of this project since 1994.

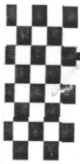
At the Project Committee recently held in Canada, the State of Alaska once again raised concerns about the project. At this meeting, the committee did not approve the project as expected, but decided to continue its review. However, we still expect a decision on whether to proceed or not will soon be made. At this time, we do not feel our "doing it right" principles have been fully addressed, and we hope the Canadians do not grant a certificate to the project until they are addressed.

If the Project Committee makes a recommendation which does not resolve our concerns, I intend to explore other options, including a possible appeal to the International Joint Commission, to protect Alaska's resources and jobs.

Thank you again for contacting me regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,  
*Tony Knowles*  
Tony Knowles  
Governor

Same group that alienated Windy Craggy



# ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Date: 3/20/98

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### TELECOPY COVER PAGE

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**NOTE NEW ADDRESS & PHONE #**  
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FROM: Name: STEVE BORELL Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

RE: Grou's letter

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*Steve Borell*

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