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EXPLORATION NEWS FLASH

November 28, 1989

TULSEQUAH CHIEF

PROPERTY: Tulsequah Chief, NTS 104K12E

COMMODITIES: Cu, Pb, Zn, Au, Ag

ACCESS: At present - helicopter only from
Atlin or Juneau.
- gravel airstrip close to property
future - barge/65 km E of Juneau

OWNER: Redfern Resources (40%)
Cominco Ltd. (60%)

OPERATOR: Cominco

CORPORATE LINKS: Contacts - John Greig, Pres. - Redfern
Bill Wolfe, Expl'n Manager - Cominco
- also private placement of shares to Teck Corp.

DEVELOPMENT REGION: North Coast

EXPLORATION BUDGET: 1989 - \$1.8 million 1990 - est. +\$2 million

EXPLORATION STATUS: 1989 program completed - 10 widely spaced
underground drill holes totalling 4877 metres and
a 170 metre cross-cut drive from the 5400 level.
Camp winterized for early resumption of work in
1990.
- to include exploration drifting a further 600 ft
along the 5400 level to the north, and continued
deep drilling of the system

CLAIM STATUS: Past producer (1951 to 1957): 94,257 oz Au, 3.4 m oz Ag
+ Cu, Pb, Zn from ~ 1 m tons ore

MDRP STAGE: None

MINFILE NUMBER: MI 104K-002

NEWS ITEM New geologic reserve (Redfern): 5.8 m tons grading
1.6% Cu, 1.31% Pb, 7.03% Zn, 0.08 oz/ton Au, 2.93 oz/ton
Ag - more than double last year's figure (i.e. tremendous
success of 1989 deep drilling program.) 19 drill
intercepts in massive sulphides, ranging from 6 ft to 62
ft true thickness, have tested the deposit to a depth of
about 1650 ft below the last mine level (5200 level) and
intermittently over a strike length of approx. 1400 feet.
The average mineralization width is 20 ft. Mineralization
is open. Grades appear to be increasing with depth.

- ISSUES:**
- significant acid rock (mine) generation potential
 - mode of access i.e. barge, road, etc.
 - potential fisheries conflict (Taku River salmon fishery)
 - potential native land claims
 - annual devastation (flooding) by self-dumping Tulsequah glacier ('jokulhlaup')

REMARKS/IMPLICATIONS:

- company threshold of 5 million tons of reserves exceeded; potential for 10 million?
- new, deep mineralization is 'outwards' from old workings, i.e. will necessitate expense of new shaft.
- acid rock (mine) drainage potential problem could set precedence in B.C. and actually affect future financing capability (esp. Redfern) and eventually make project uneconomic (needs close work between Ministries of Environment and Mines and companies).

MINISTRY CONTACT: Tom Schroeter
Senior Regional Geologist
Vancouver
660-2812

TS:JB

_____ **CONFIDENTIAL** _____

**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

7-1920

TGB → Tul. Chief

NEWS RELEASE**Environmental Assessment Office****Information Bulletin****March 13, 1998****Tulsequah Chief Mine Project Referred to Ministers for Decision**

VICTORIA - The Environmental Assessment Office has completed a review of the proposal from Redfern Resources Ltd. to re-open an inactive mine located on the Tulsequah River, 100 kilometres south of Atlin.

Redfern's application for a project approval certificate was referred today to the ministers of environment, lands and parks and energy, mines and northern development. The ministers will now consider their decision to approve the project in principle, reject it, or to refer it to stage three of the process. If approved by ministers, detailed plans would be required for several permits including those under the *Mines Act*, the *Forest Act* and *Forest Practices Code Act* the *Water Act* and the *Waste Management Act*.

A review of the project began in September 1994 and was completed in early March 1998.

B.C.'s environmental assessment process is designed to identify impacts of development proposals and determine whether the project is capable of avoiding, minimizing or mitigating adverse effects. The overall review of the project was comprehensive in assessing potential impacts.

The review process for Tulsequah Chief mine proposal involved First Nations, federal, provincial and local governments as well as U.S. federal, and Alaskan and Yukon agencies. Extensive public consultation was also conducted by Redfern and the Environmental Assessment Office.

The Tulsequah Chief mine would provide about 200 full-time jobs and additional work for 60 contract haulers during the mines' expected nine-year life, plus an estimated 700,000 person/hours of employment during construction. There would be substantial economic benefits to the local and provincial economy.

Alaska has a legitimate interest in the potential salmon habitat impacts of this project. These impacts have received proper consideration.

30

Norm Ringstad
EAO Project Assessment Director.
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<http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca>

Jacque Pleasants
Communications Officer
(250) 356-2737

Environmental Assessment Office**BACKGROUNDER****Tulsequah Chief Mine -- Project Review Process**

The review process for the Tulsequah Chief mine proposal has taken place over the past 40 months, and has involved the federal and provincial government, First Nations as well as Alaskan and Yukon government agencies, and extensive consultation with a wide variety of local, provincial and international stakeholders.

Issues and concerns of local residents, the Taku River Tlingits First Nations, various government agencies and the State of Alaska have been identified and addressed through the following process:

- November 1994** Redfern Resources Ltd. brought forward a proposal to re-open the former Tulsequah Chief underground mine which had been operated by Cominco Ltd. in the 1950s, and transport ore by barge to the Pacific Ocean via the Tulsequah/Taku River system.
- Nov. 94 - June 95** Redfern's proposal was considered under the former *Mine Development Assessment Act*, including:
-- a key stakeholder meeting and four open houses in Atlin, B.C., Whitehorse, Yukon, and Juneau, Alaska.
-- Three application review workshops -- one on a range of issues, and follow up workshops specifically on acid rock drainage and wildlife.
- June 30, 1995** Consideration of the project was moved to B.C.'s new environmental assessment process which was designed to identify significant potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of development proposals and make a strategic level determination whether the project is capable of avoiding, minimizing or mitigating adverse environmental impacts.
- July 1995** Project committee workshop in Smithers, and proponent open house in Atlin to update public and seek direction from Atlin Advisory Planning Commission.
- February 1996** The final project report specifications were released.
- December 1996** The project report was submitted and reviewed by the project committee.

- January 1997 Project report deficiencies were confirmed by the project committee and acceptance was withheld.
- July 4, 1997 Redfern submitted an amended project report which included an alternative system for transporting ore from the mine by road through Atlin and the Yukon to Skagway, Alaska.
- August 1, 1997 The amended project report accepted for review.
- Set. 8 - Nov. 6, 1997 Public comment period on project report.
- Nov. 97 - March 98 Project committee review and conclusions.
- December 15, 1997 The final issues resolution tracking report was provided to project committee members.
- Jan. - Feb. 1998 A series of full committee and sub-committee meetings took place to resolve outstanding issues.
- January 21, 1998 Original deadline for referral to ministers.
The deadline was extended to allow for further discussions to achieve more consensus on resolution of issues
- March 13, 1998 Referral to ministers

In all, the Tulsequah Chief Project Committee met eight times to consider this proposal since it was transitioned from the *Mine Development Assessment Act* in June 1995. The subcommittee examining acid rock drainage, metal leaching and water quality has met four times. The subcommittee considering cumulative effects has met three times.

Next Steps

The ministers of environment, lands and parks and energy, mines and northern development have 45 days to decide whether to accept the project and issue an approval certificate, reject the project, or submit it to the next phase of environment assessment.

If approved by the ministers, the proponent must gather more detailed information and prepare detailed plans which would be required for permits under the *Mines Act*, the *Water Act* and the *Waste Management Act*.



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Visit our website for information about the environmental assessment process and projects under review at:
<http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca>

Tel: 250/386-7479
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Facsimile Cover Sheet

Date:	March 19, 1998
To:	Tom Schroeter
Organization:	
Fax:	604-775-0313
From:	Susan Ellis (for Tanya Howes)
Phone:	387-2076
Fax:	
Original to follow?:	no

Comments:

Please see attached News Release.

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Number of pages including cover: 4

TBS - Tul. Chief

**BRITISH
COLUMBIA****NEWS RELEASE****Environmental Assessment Office**March 19, 1998
For Immediate Release**Province Gives Conditional Approval for Tulsequah Chief Mine**

VICTORIA -- A \$150-million project to reopen the inactive Tulsequah Chief mine in northwestern B.C. has been approved under B.C.'s Environmental Assessment Act, Energy, and Mines Minister Dan Miller and Environment, Lands and Parks Minister Cathy McGregor said today.

The ministers have signed a project certificate which gives Redfern Resources Ltd. approval in principle to reopen the underground base and precious metal mine on the Tulsequah River approximately 120 kilometres southwest of Atlin, and to build an access road to Atlin to transport ore from the mine to the port of Skagway, Alaska.

This approval process also meets the requirements of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act under the Canada - British Columbia Agreement for Environmental Assessment Co-operation.

"Encouraging investments in sustainable development projects is a cornerstone of our northern development strategy," said Miller. "The Tulsequah Chief mine will make significant contributions to the local and provincial economy."

The Tulsequah Chief mine is expected to produce 2500 tonnes of ore per day with a permanent workforce of about 250 people. A further 300 person years of employment will be created during the construction phase.

"This project has undergone more than three years of extensive review by a broad-based committee which included representatives of local, provincial, federal and U.S. government agencies, and First Nations," said McGregor. "I am confident that this project can be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner, and that all the potential impact issues have been addressed."

B.C.'s environmental assessment process is designed to identify significant potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of development proposals and make a strategic level determination whether the project is capable of avoiding, minimizing or mitigating adverse environmental impacts.

more . . .

Key issues raised during the review included:

- potential water contamination from the mine site;
- potential water quality (siltation) problems from construction and operation of the access road, and
- the impacts of building and operating an access road on land uses, particularly wildlife values.

As part of the review, all key issues were addressed. Comprehensive follow-up and monitoring programs along with mitigation and access management plans were developed to address potential water run-off and road access controls.

The review report indicated that Redfern has met all the requirements for a project review, and that potential environmental impacts can be managed effectively with the project design proposed, but recommended that final project approval should be conditional on more detailed information and analysis at the permitting stage. Redfern will require permits under the *Mines Act*, the *Water Act* and the *Waste Management Act*.

-30-

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GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Facsimile Cover Sheet

Date: March 20, 1998
From: Norm Ringstad
Project Assessment Director

Pages including this
cover page: 3

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David Fisher	250-615-3919
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Saul Schneider	604-946-7022
Steve Sheehan	604-666-7463
Jim Yardley	250-847-7603
Tom Schroeter	604-775-0313

Comments

Please find following the News Release for the Tulsequah Chief Mine.

FAXED

Fax Cover Sheet

DATE: Mar 20/98 TIME: 11:00am
TO: Dick Swainbank
Alaska Division of Trade & Development
Fairbanks, Alaska
PHONE: _____ FAX: 907-451-3053

FROM: Tom Schroeter PHONE: _____
FAX: 604-775.0313

RE: TULSEQUAH CHIEF
CC: _____

Number of pages including cover sheet: 3

REMARKS:

Urgent For Your Review Reply ASAP Please Comment

Message

Dick - good to see & chat with you (as usual) at the PDA last week. Think you'll be interested in this recent release. In Toronto, you asked me for specifics on "Flow/Bed Load Adsorbed cations(?)" (from EAO reports). It may take another week to get (time) - Do you still want/need?
Tom.

FAXED

Fax Cover Sheet

DATE: Mar. 20/98 TIME: 11:00am

TO: Steven Bayell
Alaska Miners Assn., Inc.
Anchorage, Alaska

PHONE: _____ FAX: (907) 278-7997

FROM: Tom Schroeter PHONE: _____
FAX: 604-775.0313

RE: TULSEQUAH CHIEF!

CC: _____
3

Number of pages including cover sheet: _____

REMARKS:

Urgent For Your Review Reply ASAP Please Comment

Message

Steve — Good news!
Cheers,
V



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

TGS → Tul. Chief

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
019
May 21, 1999

Ministry of Energy and Mines
Ministry of Forests

**SPECIAL-USE PERMIT ISSUED TO REDFERN RESOURCES
— Permit authorizes planning work for road to Tulsequah Chief mine —**

VICTORIA—A special-use permit for a road to the Tulsequah Chief mine has been issued to Redfern Resources, giving the company approval to begin required environmental, safety and aboriginal impact studies, Energy and Mines Minister Dan Miller and Forests Minister David Zirnheld said today.



The special-use permit, which outlines a series of conditions Redfern must meet before receiving approval to build the road, builds upon requirements in the Forest Practices Code. The permit authorizes the use of a designated right of way for the purpose of building a road, but does not authorize road construction or other land disturbance.

“This special-use permit marks another step in the right direction for Redfern,” said Miller. “This is a significant economic initiative for the North, so this is excellent news for all British Columbians, particularly residents of the Atlin area.

“We have been and will continue working with the Taku River Tlingit First Nation throughout this process to make sure their interests are respected in the development of the Tulsequah Chief mine. The Ministry of Forests took great care during the preparation of the permit to consider the Taku River Tlingit, and the government will continue to do so through the remainder of the reviews and approvals.”

The company qualified to apply for a special-use permit for the road once it received Environmental Assessment Office approval for the project. While further data collection is required for some sections to ensure harm done by the road is minimized, Redfern can proceed to the layout and design stage for about 80 per cent of the road with the information it has. The Ministry of Forests must approve road and bridge layout and design for all sections of the road before construction starts.

“This special-use permit is truly a team effort — Forest Ministry staff has worked hard with other ministries and agencies to determine the possible impacts this road will have on the various forest resources, including timber, wildlife, fish and water,” said Zirnheld. “Once Redfern has demonstrated that the conditions of the permit and the Forest Practices Code have been met, the district manager will examine the layout and design plans for the road, and if they are acceptable, Redfern will be able to start building.”

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Both Environmental Assessment and the special-use permit call for a comprehensive environmental supervision program to be undertaken by Redfern. In addition, at the road construction stage, enforcement arrangements must be in place on site to ensure compliance with the special-use permit and relevant statutes.

Before opening the Tulsequah Chief mine, Redfern Resources must obtain a mine permit, a licence to cut timber and water management permits and approvals from the provincial government.

- 30 -

(Backgrounder)

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Ministry of Energy and Mines
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Guenter Stahl
District Manager
Bulkley/Cassiar Forest District
Ministry of Forests
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Special Use Permit

A special-use permit (SUP) is issued to authorize the use of Crown land in a provincial forest for a number of ancillary purposes, one of which is construction and maintenance of a road, including construction and maintenance of bridges and other drainage structures. The SUP ensures proper management and conservation of all forest resources throughout the life of the activity, from planning to start of construction to deactivation.

When assessing an application for a SUP, the Ministry of Forests' district manager considers historical and cultural values as well as the wildlife and fish habitat values that may be affected by the activity. The district manager determines the requirements of a SUP with assistance from other agencies, including the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and must sign off detailed design and layout plans prior to the start of construction.

Redfern Resources was able to apply for a SUP for the road to the Tulsequah Chief mine site once the mine project received Environmental Assessment Office approval. The SUP outlines a number of studies that must be completed before road construction can begin. These include:

- a plan for in-stream work in Shazah Creek;
- an avalanche mitigation and control safety plan;
- detailed geotechnical prescriptions for areas of potentially unstable terrain;
- identification of opportunities for road realignment to protect grizzly bear habitat and to avoid a high-avalanche area in Nakonake and areas of potentially unstable terrain;
- further consideration of a heritage trail and an aboriginal impact assessment on that section; and
- further assessment of aboriginal impacts at any camp locations.

In addition, all requirements under the Forest Practices Code, the Environmental Assessment approval and other statutes must be met by Redfern before the Ministry of Forests district manager provides approval to launch construction. In order to comply with these regulations, Redfern will:

- initiate a comprehensive environmental supervision program;
- implement an access management plan, which requires gates to be set up and controlled by Redfern to ensure an adequate level of control over poaching and unacceptable hunting levels; and
- deactivate the road when the mine is shut down.

Government agencies, including the Ministries of Forests, Energy and Mines and Environment, Lands and Parks, will have enforcement staff on site to ensure compliance with these requirements during and after road construction.

Backgrounder

**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release
021
June 16, 2000

Ministry of Energy and Mines and
Ministry Responsible for Northern Development

B.C. PROPOSES PROCESS TO RESOLVE U.S. CONCERNS OVER MINE

VICTORIA – B.C. believes that U.S. and Alaskan concerns over the Tulsequah Chief mine can best be resolved on a bilateral basis rather than through referral to the International Joint Commission as proposed by the U.S., B.C. Energy and Mines Minister Dan Miller said today.

“The province has suggested a three-part strategy that would enhance future co-operation between Alaska and B.C.,” Miller said.

The proposal was tabled during this week’s discussions aimed at resolving issues surrounding the proposed Tulsequah Chief mine and the Taku River watershed. Discussions took place in Vancouver over three days of meetings between officials representing Canada, B.C., the U.S. and Alaska.

Under B.C.’s proposal:

- The U.S. would sit on B.C.’s northwest mine development review committee.
- The U.S. would take part in the provincial land-use planning process for the region.
- A state-province agreement would create joint mechanisms for ongoing environmental co-operation.

During the discussions, B.C. and Alaska agreed on the environmental and resource significance of the Taku River watershed and on the need for the highest environmental standards to be applied in considering any resource development. The U.S. has proposed sending the Taku watershed issues to the International Joint Commission, an independent body that may be called upon by the Canadian and U.S. governments to review transborder environmental issues.

“B.C.’s position is that there are other ways to deal with the U.S.’s concerns,” Miller said. “The mine proposal was subject to a rigorous, detailed environmental and socio-economic review, and a referral to the IJC would duplicate work that has already been done.”

The Tulsequah Chief mine has undergone a comprehensive three-year environmental assessment, which confirmed that the mine can be developed with no environmental harm to the U.S. or Canada. The project has been certified by the Canadian and B.C. governments to proceed with detailed design and permitting. The B.C. environmental standards being applied are among the best in North America.

- more -

YOS →
→ Tulsequah Chief

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Completed in March 1998, the federal-provincial environmental review of the Tulsequah Chief mine clearly indicated the mine would have no serious downstream effects.

"In fact, the mine's proponent, Redfern Resources, has agreed to pay to repair damage caused by mining activity in the 1950s, before environmental protection standards were as strict as they are today," Miller said. "The net effect of this reclamation work, which is dependent on the development of the new mine, would be to improve conditions dramatically downstream of the mine.

"However, recognizing that the U.S. – particularly the State of Alaska – continues to be concerned about the mine, B.C. has proposed a strategy for ongoing environmental co-operation along the B.C.-Alaska border.

"B.C. believes these proposals offer B.C. and Alaska a unique opportunity to put into place the means to co-operate on matters of resource planning and the environment, both for Tulsequah and over the longer term," Miller said.

In addition to discussions on the independent review, officials held a series of meetings to discuss detailed technical concerns identified by the U.S. over the Tulsequah Chief mine. At these meetings, B.C. officials noted that, under existing terms of B.C.'s permitting processes, further studies and design work will be required before construction of the mine project can proceed.

B.C. was encouraged by Alaska's commitment to further discussions on mechanisms for future co-operation and by the state's willingness to seek a compromise that would combine elements of each country's proposals. A followup meeting will be scheduled shortly.

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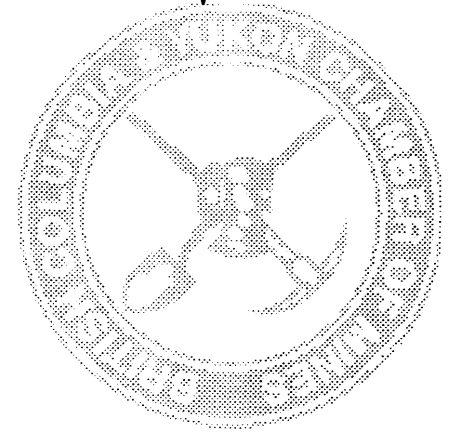
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For more information on the Ministry of Energy and Mines, visit our Web page at <http://www.gov.bc.ca/em/> on the Internet.

British Columbia & Yukon Chamber of Mines

NEWS RELEASE

www.chamberofmines.bc.ca



Mineral Exploration Sector Embraces Government's Decision to Approve the Tulsequah Chief Project

(Vancouver, B.C., Canada December 13, 2002) After 15 years of exploration, research and study, and an eight year environmental assessment review process, the new British Columbia Government issued a Project Approval Certificate for the Tulsequah Chief project today. The application to seek provincial government approval to reactivate development of the Tulsequah Chief mine was initially submitted in September 1994. This application represents the most exhaustive mine development review and permitting process ever undertaken in British Columbia.

Shari Gardiner, President of the BC & Yukon Chamber of Mines said "The mineral exploration sector has been eagerly awaiting a clear indication that investment in exploration and the subsequent discovery of mineral deposits can lead to the government approving the responsible development of mines in British Columbia."

During the review process, the Tulsequah Chief project endured dozens of government agency reviews, as well as countless community and public hearings in B.C., Yukon and Alaska. Based on the consultation process and government agency reviews, the application was amended in a sincere effort to accommodate all concerns. Additionally, the project overcame a legal challenge related to the initial issuance of the Project Approval Certificate in 1998.

Dan Jepsen, Executive Director of the Chamber said, "Annual investment in mineral exploration reached a historic low of \$25 million in 1999. Although there has been an improvement in exploration investment this year, it continues to be well below the annual investment of \$100 million required to sustain our sector. The Chamber fully supports Redfern Resources for their patience, persistence and quality of work in obtaining this important mine approval. This government decision is an important step toward creating a positive investment climate for mineral exploration investment and mine development in BC."

For further information or questions please contact the following:

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P: (604) 689-5271 (ext. 107) or (604) 818-7878

Shari Gardiner, P.Geo. President
British Columbia & Yukon Chamber of Mines
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NEWS RELEASE

TOS → Tul. Chief

For Immediate Release
2002SRM0044-001098
Dec. 13, 2002

Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management
Ministry of Energy and Mines

STRICT RULES KEY TO TULSEQUAH MINE APPROVAL

ATLIN – After careful consideration of the proposed Tulsequah Chief mine, a project approval certificate has been issued to Redfern Resources, Minister of Sustainable Resource Management Stan Hagen and Minister of Energy and Mines Richard Neufeld announced today.

The approval is subject to stringent conditions. The project is expected to bring a much-needed economic boost to northwestern B.C.

“Moving ahead with this mine will bring a variety of jobs to the area, while addressing First Nations and environmental considerations,” said Neufeld. “We made a New Era commitment to encourage mineral exploration to revitalize the province's mining industry. Approving this project is part of the plan.”

“This decision is about achieving balance and moving toward resolution and increased certainty for all concerned,” said Hagen. “It is based on serious consultation and accommodation of First Nation interests, more so than any previous resource decision in B.C.”

The current proposal is to develop a 2,250-tonne-per-day underground copper, lead, zinc, gold and silver mine at the old mine site. The company plans to invest \$148 million to develop the mine and upgrade the access road.

The construction phase is expected to create 300 new jobs. Another 260 direct and indirect jobs will be created for mining operations. The project will result in elimination of the acid rock drainage currently seeping from the old mine site.

“We have offered to the Taku River Tlingits that the province will work with them to develop a land use plan for the area,” Hagen said. “However, concluding a planning protocol with the Tlingits is not a precondition to the project approval.

“Comprehensive and detailed conditions will apply to protect the environment, to respond to the concerns the Taku River Tlingits have raised about the project and to foster economic and social well-being in the region.”

“We have taken considerable time...to review the implications associated with making a decision on the proposed Tulsequah Chief Mine Redevelopment Project,” the ministers write in their reasons for decision. “In addition to the interests of the Taku River Tlingits, the province must also bear Redfern’s interests in mind in considering the overall public interest of the people of British Columbia, both aboriginal and non-aboriginal.”

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Further information on the project and the full certificate and reasons for decision are on the Web at <http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/project/mining/tulsequa/home.htm>

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1 backgrounder(s) attached.

Visit the province's Web site at <http://www.gov.bc.ca/> for online information and services.

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