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NO. 237 (1993) DECEMBER 10, 1993

## George Cross News Letter

"Reliable Reporting"

WESTERN CANADIAN INVESTMENTS
MINISTRY UP ENERGY MENTS
AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES & PETROLEUM RESOURCES

GOVERNMENT APPROVES - Hon. Anne Edwards, Energy and Mines
MT. MILLIGAN PROJECT Minister, reports a combined mine
development and energy project

certificate has been issued to **PLACER DOME INC.** [PDG-V,T,M] for the Mt. Milligan copper/gold project which could create of jobs in northern B.C. The certificate was granted after a provincial and federal technical review with extensive public and First Nations' consultation and full co-operation from the company. It sets the environmental and

public interest conditions the company must adhere to should the project go ahead.

Placer Dome's development schedule is on hold due to market conditions. The Mt. Milligan proposal is for a \$440,000,000 capital cost, 60,000 tonne-per-day open pit copper/gold project about 90 km northeast of Fort St. James. The proposed Rainbow Road, connecting the project with the Omineca Access Road and Fort St. James, would be the primary transportation route. Ore concentrates would be transported to Prince Rupert for shipment to offshore markets.

The mine development certificate includes provision for the establishment of a public liaison committee comprised of local public and resource interest groups, First Nations, key government agencies and the company, to provide ongoing communication opportunities as the project is developed. Placer Dome would also participate with the Nak'azdli and McLeod Lake Bands in an Aboriginal liaison committee to implement the company's commitments that local First Nations benefit from the project. The study of Aboriginal communities included the McLeod Lake, Nak'azdli, Fraser Lake, Stellaquo and Stony Creek Bands and the Tl'azt'en Nation. It included socio-economic conditions, employment, labor income, and community impacts. The community impact assessment addressed the environmental, trapline and related issues identified by the Bands. (SEE GCNL NO.236, 9Dec93, P.2 FOR OTHER MINISTRY INFORMATION)

93N 194