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From: On Behalf Of Dr. Roland M. Alcock

Sent: July 30, 2013 9:11 AM

To: Newprosperityreview [CEAA]

Subject: Save Fish Lake - Stop the New Prosperity Mine

New Prosperity Gold-Copper Mine Project Federal Review Panel Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

160 Elgin St., 22nd Floor

Ottawa, ON K1A 0H3

CC:

BC Premier Christy Clark

BC Leader of the Official Opposition Adrian Dix Federal Minister of Environment Peter Kent

RE: Save Fish Lake - Stop the New Prosperity Mine

Dear Review Panel Members,

I am writing in opposition to the New Prosperity Mine Proposal for the Fish Creek area of the Chilcotin. A massive open pit mine is completely inconsistent with all of the innate beauty, natural ecosystems and First Nation traditional land use values of the area.

Throughout North America and the world, open pit mines are notorious for the huge point source of pollution they cause and the unstable and leaking tailings ponds they leave behind. These tailings ponds will contain many heavy metal and other concentrates which have a poisonous and devastating effect on the natural environment. In this case, the leaching metal compounds will travel the rivers and water courses of the area and affect significant populations of fish, birds, deer, bears and people living throughout the region.

Any economic benefits gained will be purely transitory and again, the history of these so-called economic mining developments throughout the world is littered with former boom towns, ghost towns and abandoned mines and

infrastructure which pollute and endanger the regions in which they exist.

Long after the mining company concerned has departed, the tailings ponds continue to decay and leak and there is no one responsible to manage their impacts which continue far into the future. Often it is the children and grandchildren of the original "beneficiaries" and the taxpayers who are forced to bear the on-going cost of enduring the pollution and the costs of any mitigation and management efforts that may be attempted. Essentially these kinds of mine developments create a mortgage on the future which must be paid by successive generations forever.

Finally, the local Tsilhqot'in First Nations are totally against this mining development proposal. They know it is unsustainable and culturally and economically devastating to their way of life which has supported them in the area for thousands of years. Their rights to use the land in their traditional ways without the mining activity imposed human health dangers or game and wildlife impacts must be respected. It is unjust that this mine development is even being considered over their objections.

In summary, in view of the inevitable destructive and disruptive impacts this open pit mine development will have on the First Nations, the wildlife, the ecosystem and the natural beauty of the region, I urge you to reject this proposal outright.

Yours Sincerely  
Dr. Roland M. Alcock

This letter was created with the use of an online letter writing tool at [wildernesscommittee.org](http://wildernesscommittee.org)

**From:** Larry Andrews  
**Sent:** July 30, 2013 11:56 PM  
**To:** Michaud, Livain [CEAA]  
**Subject:** No Means No: Stop the "New Prosperity" Mine at Fish Lake

Dear Michaud,

Please turn down Taseko Mines Ltd.'s proposed "New Prosperity" gold and copper mine in the Cariboo-Chilcotin. By Taseko's own admission, this new proposed mine would be even more environmentally damaging than the original mine rejected by the federal government in November, 2010.

The current proposal would surround Fish Lake (Teztan Biny in Tsilhqot'in) with the second largest open pit gold and copper mine in Canada, closing it for 33 years and putting this important fish habitat at risk of contamination. Little Fish Lake would be destroyed. The many rivers and tributaries that flow from Fish Lake would face contamination risk including Fish Creek, the Taseko River, the Chilko River, the Chilcotin River and finally the Fraser River, fundamental to the life cycle of wild Pacific salmon. The project also threatens at-risk grizzly bear populations, as noted in the first federal environmental assessment.

The Tsilhqot'in National Government strongly opposes this proposal because it would contaminate critical traditional lands and waters and impact the cultural survival of the Tsilhqot'in people.

Fish Lake would never have been threatened in the first place were it not for an amendment to Canada's Fisheries Act in 2002 allowing natural lakes and creeks to be used as tailings ponds. I also urge the federal government to close this legislative loophole and protect our fish-bearing lakes once and for all.

Sincerely,  
Larry Andrews