



Tsuut'ina Nation T.U.S. Consultation
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November 6th, 2020

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Pacific & Yukon Region
757 West Hastings Street
Suite 210A
Vancouver, BC
V6C-3M2

Attention: Janet Shaw, Senior Crown Consultation Analyst

Re: Tsuut'ina Nation Comments – Castle Project

Diyi Dzinisi Guja,

In regards to the Castle Project, the Tsuut'ina Nation has concerns which can be included in the "Summary of Issues" that will be sent to the proponent.

Tsuut'ina has a partiality to the mountains and what is there, our identity of fearlessness and perseverance came from our oral stories. It is told that our warriors were known to be fearless and despite being outnumbered they would prevail, it was said if you saw a warrior with dark green arrow tip, a knife or spearhead to avoid them. The arrow tips, knives or spearheads were made from obsidian rock and which may come from the mountains which requires we respect the mountains and all that is there.

We have concerns of the water, not only the quality but the ability to support natural nearby ecosystems and the lowland areas. Is there water shortage due to climate change. There are cumulative impacts that need to be monitored. We would recommend there be regular water testing not only at the site location itself, but upstream and downstream of the project as well. Has there been any baseline samples taken prior to the project commencement? Protection of water is of the utmost importance.

There are more projects coming into the mountains, as it is, there are less and less "areas of solitude" for our spiritual Elders. They are encountering hikers, ATVs, traffic, noise and generally more human activity. Projects like these do impact our ability to conduct our most

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sacred ceremonies. Some consideration needs to be to set aside quiet spaces or areas of solitude for our people to conduct their traditional practices undisturbed on the lands that our ancestors have used.

In closing, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments and we appreciate notification of the next steps if the Agency determines a federal impact assessment is required.

Siiyisgaas!

<Original signed by>

Violet M. Meguinis
Tsuut'ina Nation Consultation Director

C.C. Chief Roy Whitney
Monica Onespot, Executive Director
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