



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
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CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Seventy-Ninth Annual Tribal Assembly
April 9-12, 2014
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA/ 14-29

Title: Negative Effects of Canadian Transboundary Mining

By: Ketchikan Tlingit and Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 29,000 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, Pebble Mine has dominated attention about mining in Alaska, however, along the Southeast Alaska and Northwest British Columbia (BC) border we are facing several "Pebble's" in BC that are raising major concerns from the tribes, fisherman, local business and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, BC is in the midst of a major mining boom in this transboundary region; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska communities are downstream from the major mining projects and there are negative impacts and risks to Alaskans from these mining projects with no economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, this development is happening under Canadian laws and regulations that have been significantly weakened over the past few years; and

WHEREAS, the Canadian and BC mine permitting processes do not have the water and salmon protection regulations we have in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, concerns are focused on potential damage to water quality, salmon, hooligan, wildlife, recreation, livelihoods, customary and traditional activities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed mines include Tulsequah Chief, Galore Creed, Red Chris, Schaft Creek and the one that is most worrisome is the huge Kerr-Sulphurets-Mitchell (KSM) project; and

WHEREAS, KSM is located in the headwaters of the Unuk and Nass rivers, both major salmon rivers. The hooligan run on the Unuk is an important customary and traditional fishery, but the runs are down; and

WHEREAS, KSM is massive, several open pits, an underground mine, huge tailings dams to contain billions of tons of acid mine pollution generating rock, seven huge water treatment plants, and has a need to treat about 120,000 gallons of water a minute; and

WHEREAS, the mine is proposed to operate for 50 years, but the tailings dump sites will need to be monitored for acid mine drainage for centuries; and

WHEREAS, nothing is more fundamental than the food we eat and nothing is more important than the salmon, hooligan, deer, moose and other food we harvest from the land.

WHEREAS, KSM threatens our food security and our customary and traditional use of the Unuk River area. This mine is an unacceptable risk and we need help to stop it; and

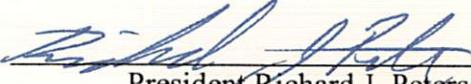
WHEREAS, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska is working with other tribes, conservation groups, commercial fishermen, and community leaders to educate citizens and leaders about the threats posed by KSM and what we can all do to help protect our water, fish, and way of life.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seventy-Ninth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened in Juneau, Alaska on April 9-12, 2014, hereby requests Congress, the White House, and the Department of State to engage directly with the Canadian government on British Columbia's proposed mines to protect the health and productivity of Southeast Alaska's waters and lands downstream from proposed mines to ensure they are not damaged by development upstream.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that affected tribal governments be consulted with and represented in any policy discussion related to impact to United States waters and communities per the Executive Order 13175.

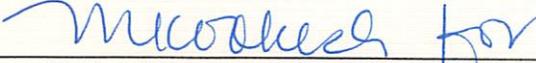
ADOPTED this 12th day of April 2014, by the Seventy-Ninth Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Jolene Edenshaw