





Klahoose First Nation Box 9 Squirrel Cove Mansons Landing, BC VOP 1K0 Canada

March 20, 2009

Watershed Watch Salmon Society

Save our Rivers

Sunshine Coast Conservation Association

Western Canada Wilderness Committee

BC Citizens for Public Power

COPE 378

Dear Independent Power Opponents;

Your organizations continue to engage in well organized, well funded and predetermined campaigns against run-of-river projects. These campaigns have recently increased in both their intensity and visibility.

On behalf of First Nations throughout this Province, on whose traditional territories most of these run of river developments are occurring, we find your complete and total failure to consult with First Nations on these matters to be offensive and contrary to the Supreme Court of Canada's clearly articulated decisions. From our perspective and as historical stewards of these lands, your unwillingness to consult with us and predetermined opposition to these projects amounts to a modern form of ecocolonialism. Your approach, and your position, leaves us with no option other than to vigorously oppose your actions.

Contrary to the misinformation that you have spread, and the predetermined passing of judgment that you have articulated, the First Nations upon whose traditional territories these projects involve exercise our belief and our right to undertake and participate in

proper environmental review by different levels of government. To pass judgment on such projects in advance of due process and due diligence clearly demonstrates the political motivation and lack of integrity with which you are conducting your activities and your opposition.

This behaviour can best be represented by the following:

- 1. Your organizations and representatives have entered our territories without notice or consultation, to film and then disseminate inaccurate and misleading information;
- 2. Your organizations and representatives have heckled our elders at public forums;
- 3. Your organizations and representatives have, out of neglect, disrespect or incompetence, failed to give our leadership or our people proper "Notice" of meetings you have held, most of which have been "stacked" by biased representatives who do not even live in the affected communities and do not speak for those communities.

Make no mistake, our Nations have and will conduct our own vigorous environmental reviews - both within the processes of other levels of government as well as our own. We recognize that there are important environmental questions to be answered, which to date we feel do not preclude this project advancing forward.

We have been struck by the profound ignorance, paternalistic behaviour and outright dismissal of our rights and title by your organizations, their leaders and their representatives.

At a minimum we expect your organizations to collectively agree to:

- 1. immediately recognize our rights and title and not enter our territories without due notice and consideration;
- withdraw your uninformed opposition to this project in the absence of due process;
- 3. abide by the ultimate decision of the First Nations with respect to such projects;
- 4. cease perpetuating myths and falsehoods about run of river developments and the Plutonic project and stop generating needless fear and intimidation in both aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities;
- 5. agree to a civil and respectful dialogue with our Nations, based on mutual respect, due process and factual representations.

Please forward this notice throughout your organizations, leaders and funders. Further, we expect a prompt written response from each organization. We note that a previous letter was sent to many of your organizations by the Sechelt Indian Band and the Western Wilderness Committee has agreed to meet with the Sechelt Indian Band. A meeting should take place with all organizations in the near future. We will not discuss these matters with you until such time as a basic form of respect and acknowledgement occurs.

Klahoose First Nation

shíshálh Nation

Meet Chan ferchan

Chief Garry Feschuk

Councilor Tom Paul

Councilor Robert loe

Councitor Jordan Douie

Councilor Wesley Jeffiles

cc.

Honourable Blair Lekstrom, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, BC

Honourable Mike DeJong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, BC

Honourable Barry Penner, Minister of the Environment, BC Environmental Assessment Office Local Members of the BC Legislative Assembly