



TŚILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Tsilhqot'in Nation Responds to Extension of Environmental Assessment Certificate

Tsilhqot'in Territory, BC (January 15, 2015): The Tsilhqot'in National Government is disappointed by the extension of the Environmental Assessment Certificate for Taseko Mines Ltd.'s New Prosperity Mine but maintains that this project can never proceed. The Gold-Copper mine in question has been rejected twice by the Federal Government with numerous concerns voiced by independent panels and provincial and federal experts. The proposed project is within a proven Tsilhqot'in Rights area and adjacent to the declared Tsilhqot'in Title Lands.

Quotes:

Chief Joe Alphonse, Tribal Chairman of the Tsilhqot'in National Government and Chief of Tl'etinqox:

"No matter what, this project is dead. The Tsilhqot'in are the only First Nation in Canada that have proven Aboriginal title in the courts. The extension of this certificate should be illegal. Denying this extension would have shown respect in regards to our Title negotiations with the Province."

Chief Roger William, Chief of Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government:

"The path of least conflict has always been through reconciliation and Aboriginal Title. This has been confirmed through the declaration of Title to the Tsilhqot'in. Industry, government and First Nations need to work together to ensure that our lands are protected for future generations. The New Prosperity project has failed twice at providing this assurance to all interest groups."

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