



TŜILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

253 – 4th Avenue North - Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T4 - Phone (250) 392-3918 - Fax (250) 398-5798

PRESS RELEASE

Tsilhqot'in Nation, Federal Court moves forward with two Judicial Reviews

Tsilhqot'in Territory, BC (May 11, 2015): The Tsilhqot'in National Government supports the Federal Court's decision to move forward with two judicial reviews rather than granting the request of Taseko Mines Limited (TML) to restart its litigation as a full trial proceeding. Both judicial reviews relate to the rejection of TML's proposed New Prosperity Mine.

The Federal Court's decision to proceed by way of judicial review, rather than the much lengthier trial process, means that a resolution of TML's allegations will come within months rather than years. As a party to this case, the Tsilhqot'in National Government strongly believes the allegations against the Federal Government lack merit and look forward to seeing TML in the court room again in order to end this decade long battle.

TML's application for the Prosperity Project has been drawn out for years, acting as an example for how *not* to proceed with resource development. Keeping First Nations engaged within a consent model is the only way to ensure projects will be approved and continue into the future.

Quotes:

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

"TML trying to convert both judicial reviews into a trial was them gasping for air as their project drowns in Federal rejections and faulty plans. It says a lot that this company tried to delay the hearing of its own court proceedings by years. The allegations against the Federal Government are a last ditch effort. The Tsilhqot'in Nation agrees with the courts that the two judicial reviews should be dealt with separately and in a timely manner. We all know the truth to TML's allegations – I just hope TML's investors do as well."

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

"This was the right decision. We're looking forward to getting this matter to court so that we can put an end to TML's allegations once and for all. The protection of our sacred sites comes first and foremost to the people of Xeni Gwet'in. We will stand our ground with integrity and honesty in this fight against unsound mining plans and practices."

Media Contact:

Myanna Desaulniers
Communication Coordinator
Tsilhqot'in National Government
778-836-0122