

## *5 Nations*

Fort Connelly First Nation ~ Gitxsan House of Nii Kyap ~ Kwadacha First Nation  
Takla Lake First Nation ~ Tsay Keh Dene First Nation

♦ Mailing Address: 200-1460 Sixth Avenue, Prince George, B.C. V2L 3N2 Facsimile:  
250-562-8206 ♦

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November 9, 2004

Ken Stowe  
President and CEO  
Northgate Minerals Corp.  
18 King St. East  
Suite 1602  
Toronto, Ont.  
M5C 1C4

VIA FACSIMILE: 416 363 6392

Dear Mr. Stowe,

### **Re: Support for Sustainable Development**

The 5 Nations have made a final decision to oppose the use of Duncan/Amazay Lake as a site for mine tailings and waste rock because of the enormous and irreversible damage it will cause to the lake and surrounding environment. The use of this lake as a waste area for your proposed Kemess North mining project was unanimously rejected. This decision was directed by the Chiefs and grassroots membership.

Yesterday, after a lengthy discussion with representatives from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office, and the Ministry of Energy and Mines it was brought to the attention of the Chiefs that government and Northgate are still uncertain if this lake could be used for your project. During your initial meeting in Prince George on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council office the Chiefs clearly stated their opposition to the destruction of their lake. We have been asked to set the record straight that the unanimous decision is to protect this highly valued area – Duncan/Amazay Lake cannot be used as a tailings and waste rock alternative.

With the above said, the 5 Nations are agreeable to review the other 15 options that you propose in your documentation. The 5 Nations commit to participate as a government in the proposed tripartite panel review and work with the federal and provincial governments to draft the terms of reference for the project.

The 5 Nations are not opposed to economic development within their territories provided it is achieved in a sustainable manner that accommodates their concerns and interests. Opportunities still exist to continue discussions on the Consultation and Accommodation Procedures – General Provisions that we anticipate will lead to a document to guide all present and future development in their territories. We foresee that a mutually beneficial relationship will result from these continued discussions.

We await your written response to us in a timely manner.

Yours truly,

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Justa Monk, Spokesperson

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Fred Patrick, Bear Lake People

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Rena Benson, Gitxsan House of Nii Kyap

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Chief Emil McCook, Kwadacha First Nation

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Chief Janet West, Takla Lake First Nation

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Chief Johnny Pierre, Tsay Keh Dene First Nation

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Grand Chief Edward John and Dave Porter, First Nations Summit  
Hon. Stephane Dion, Federal Minister of Environment  
Hon. Geoff Regan, Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans  
Hon. Richard Neufeld, Provincial Minister of Energy and Mines  
Hon. George Abbott, Provincial Minister of Sustainable Resource Management  
Hon. Bill Barisoff, Provincial Minister of Water Land and Air Protection  
BC First Nations  
Bob Connelly, President, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
Joan Hesketh, Deputy Minister, BC Environmental Assessment Office

Sheila Wynn, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy and Mines