



August 12, 2022

Ref: 117049

Chris Zimmer and Co-signers  
Alaska Campaign Director  
and  
William C. Patric  
Executive Director  
Rivers Without Borders

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Dear Chris Zimmer, William Patric and Co-signers:

Thank you for your July 28, 2022 letter and August 3, 2022 email addressed to Premier John Horgan and Minister of Energy, Mines and Low-Carbon Innovation, Bruce Ralston, regarding your collective support for the closure and reclamation of Tulsequah Chief Mine. A copy of your email and supporting documentation has been forwarded to my office, and I am pleased to respond.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work in collaboration with Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) towards a long-term approach to the reclamation and closure of Tulsequah Chief Mine. Addressing the concerns associated with this site is a priority and you are correct in pointing out the technical complexity and challenges with remediation.

As you are aware, West Face Capital, Chieftain Metals Inc.'s (Chieftain) primary secured creditor, did not file materials in the Ontario Superior court to seek to appoint a receiver by the court mandated deadline of August 11, 2022. The Province's position is that this concludes the receivership process.

Chieftain is a company incorporated in Ontario and it continues to retain its assets and interests. The process for the dissolution of Chieftain has been stayed by the Ontario Superior court until after October 2022.

The Province remains committed to holding past and present owners of Tulsequah Chief Mine accountable. The Province will also continue to keep US state and federal governments, environmental non-government organizations (ENGOS), and other interested parties informed at an appropriate level to ensure continued transparency.

I would also like to take this opportunity to update you on the ongoing interim reclamation activities at Tulsequah Chief Mine as initially outlined in the [2020 Conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan](#). For the third consecutive summer field season, interim reclamation works are being conducted in collaboration with the TRTFN and the Atlin Taku Economic Limited Partnership, the economic arm of the TRTFN.

Works occurring in the 2022 field season are consistent with previous years and include:

- continuing building and repairing stream crossings and bridges;
- airstrip erosion protection;
- continuation of a water quality annual on-site monitoring program; and
- implementing year 3 of the 5-year water quality and aquatic effects program in the Tulsequah River, which will support and inform further reclamation plan development for the Tulsequah Chief Mine.

For the second year, Teck Resources Limited has voluntarily provided funding for this work (\$1.575M in 2021 and \$1.685M in 2022).

Thank you for your email and advocacy concerning the Taku River watershed.

Sincerely,



Tania Demchuk  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division

CC: Rodger Thorlakson, Lands Manager, Taku River Tlingit First Nation