



LITTLE BLACK BEAR'S BAND

PO Box 40
Goodeve, Saskatchewan
S0A 1C0

Tel 1.306.334.2269
Fax 1.306.334.2721

Office of the Chief

Wednesday, July 7, 2010

Jim Prentice, MP
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Mr. Prentice,
Lakes in Canada are being reclassified as "tailings impoundment areas" which exempts them from the protections of the Fisheries Act allowing metal mining companies to dump toxins into them.

A BC-based mining company, Taseko, has applied to drain Fish Lake for waste rock storage, and to use Fish Creek and Little Fish Lake as tailings impoundment areas for the Prosperity Mine, a gold-copper mining project. This would contaminate the salmon-bearing Taseko River and eventually the Chilcotin River, which empties into the Fraser River.

The Tshilqot'in Nation has hunted and fished in the area for many generations. They oppose the project and are preparing a legal challenge to defend their traditional rights.

I urge you to protect this important watershed by amending the Fisheries Act and stopping the destruction of all lakes and rivers by metal mining companies in Canada.

Sincerely,

Chief Perry Bellegarde
Little Black Bear's Band