



July 16, 2010

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister

**Re: Taseko Mines Ltd Proposed Prosperity Gold-Copper Mine**

The federally appointed Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) Panel, based on the overwhelming evidence brought forward during public hearings, recently concluded that a mine proposed by Taseko Mines Ltd would have “cumulative high and irreversible impacts” in a number of areas, including on the local Tsilhqot'in people and culture, and:

1. the false “Prosperity Lake” could not begin to meet Department of Fisheries and Oceans requirements for “no net loss”;
2. the impacts on blue-listed (endangered) grizzly bears would be cumulative and irreversible; and
3. navigation in the absence of effective mitigation measures would be significantly impacted.

In addition, from the economic perspective, we understand that an economic analysis carried out by the distinguished economist Dr. Marvin Shaffer of Simon Fraser University demonstrates that there will be **no net benefits to the province (British Columbia)**, but in fact net costs of at least \$20 million per year due in part to massive BC Hydro subsidies to Taseko for the project, and also to very significant highway maintenance costs that will be borne by the province, not to mention greenhouse gas offsets that will be required.

Canada's Unitarians and Universalists are a faith based community who hold the environment as sacred. Indeed one of our seven principles calls for respect for the independent web of life of all existence of which we are part. Accordingly, given the foregoing experts' conclusions we respectfully request that you instruct your staff to conform to the Review Panel s conclusions and **reject Taseko Mines Ltd.'s proposal.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Drake', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kalvin Drake  
President, Canadian Unitarian Council

cc: Hon. Michael Ignatieff, House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
Hon. Jack Layton, House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0A2  
Hon. Gilles Duceppe, House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2  
Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada, PO Box 997, Station B, Ottawa ON K1P 5R1