

200149

Legislative Office:

East Annex, Parliament Buildings
 Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4
 Phone: 250 952-7270
 Fax: 250 387-9100

Constituency Office:

10 - 7300 Vedder Road
 Chilliwack, B.C. V2R 4G6
 Phone: 604 858-5299
 Fax: 604 858-5290
 website: www.lauriethronessmla.ca
 e-mail: laurie.throness.mla@leg.bc.ca



**Province of
 British Columbia
 Legislative Assembly**



Laurie Throness, M.L.A.
 Chilliwack-Hope

MINISTER'S OFFICE - REC.
 MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

JAN 10 2013

Min Reply L.

CLIFFE

January 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Polak
 Minister of the Environment
 Legislative Buildings
 Victoria, BC
 V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

I am enclosing pictures taken of the Fraser River at the District of Hope on December 29, which are self-explanatory.

There is some kind of residue floating on the water that apparently has been appearing for years along the banks of the Fraser. Although some have surmised that it comes from as far away as Prince George, I wonder if it would be possible for residue to wash that far down the river. A source nearer to Hope suggests itself.

I am wondering if your staff has encountered this before, if its source has been documented, if the material is toxic in any way, and if any steps have been taken to mitigate what is a visual issue, even if not an environmental one.

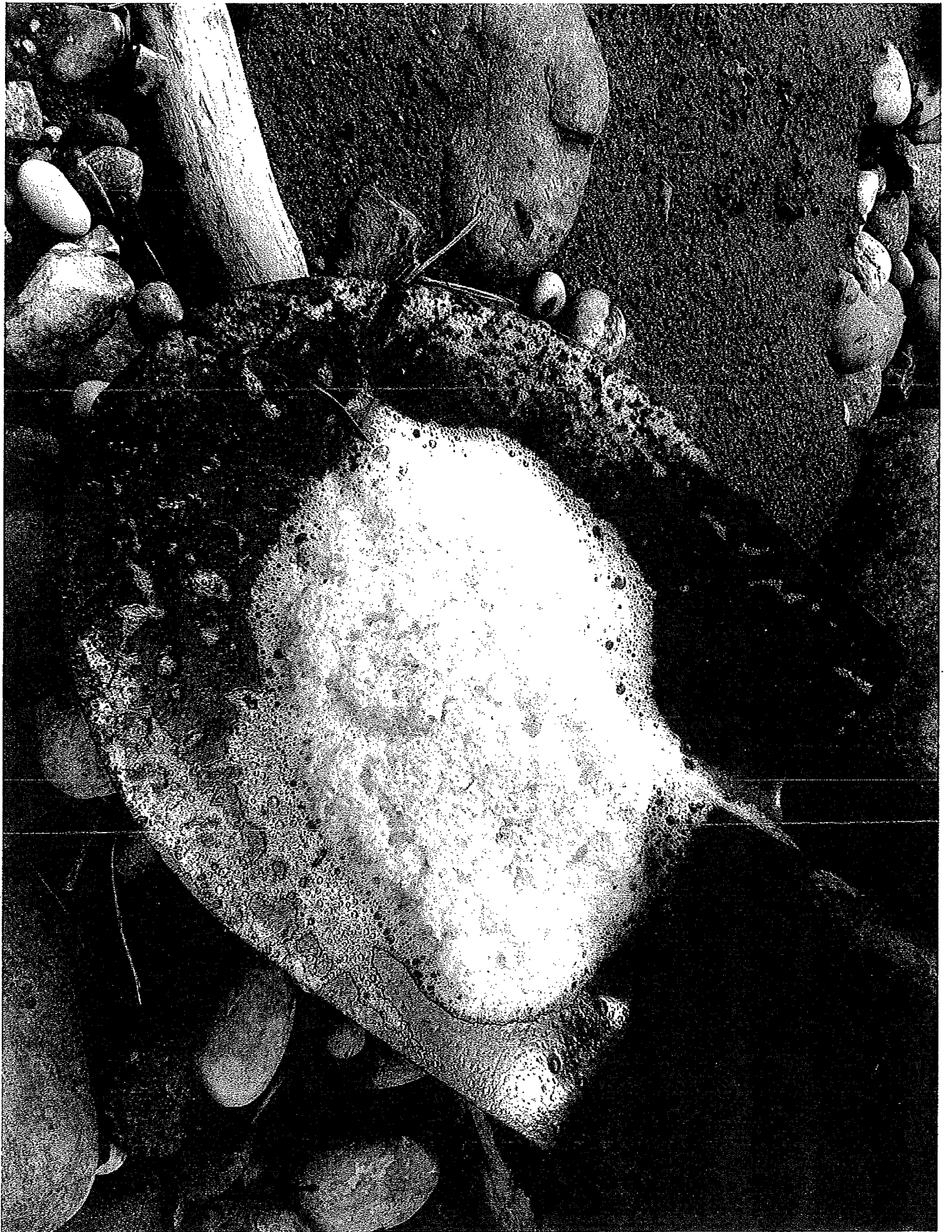
Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Throness

encl.

cc: s.22





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**Province of
British Columbia**
Legislative Assembly



Laurie Throness, M.L.A.
Chilliwack-Hope

January 8, 2014

Honourable Mary Polak
Minister of the Environment
Legislative Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

MINISTER'S OFFICE - RECEIVED			
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT			
JAN 15 2014			
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ugh

Dear Minister:

I have been approached by a constituent who is concerned about the environment; and in particular, the environmental threat posed by the 2006 sinking of the BC Ferries vessel Queen of the North.

Although we know that there is an ongoing environmental monitoring program following this incident, he is wondering what was done with the fuel on board the vessel, the fuel carried by passenger vehicles, and other toxic materials such as car batteries that were on the vessel when it went down.

He would also like to know what mitigations will be undertaken in the future; including lifting the vessel.

Thank you for your attention to these important questions.

Sincerely,

Laurie Throness

cc: s.22
BC Ferries

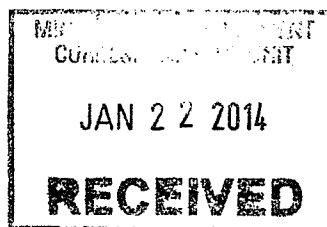
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Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly

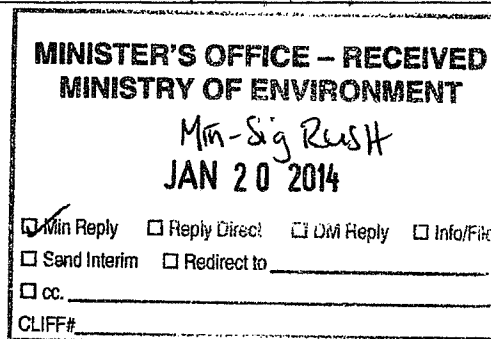


Laurie Throness, M.L.A.
Chilliwack-Hope

PP-PPM

January 13, 2014

Honourable Mary Polak
Minister of the Environment, and
Minister Responsible for BC Parks
Legislative Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4



Dear Minister:

Re: Royalties from Ski Operations

It has come to my attention that a review of the Ministry's Ski Hill Policy is impending. I am interested in this review because the viability of one of the three ski hills permitted by your Ministry, namely Manning Park, is in my riding.

As you know, Manning Park declared bankruptcy in the recent past, and a new operator has since taken over the existing permit to operate the ski hill. The permit will continue in force for more than two decades into the future, but it is my concern that unless changes are made to current policy, Manning Park could once again become economically non-viable.

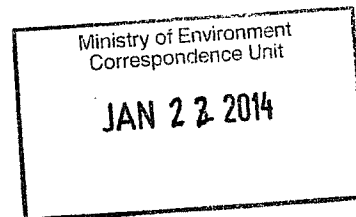
I would note that ski resorts granted tenure by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations pay royalties to the Crown on the basis of a narrow list of items. However, royalties paid to the Crown under the permit granted by BC Parks are based on a much broader list of revenue sources.

This situation could place my constituent at a competitive disadvantage with other ski resorts in the Province. I would question the fairness of the current arrangement, ask that it in particular be reviewed, and would lend my support for equality between them by reducing the list of BC Park's revenue sources to that enjoyed by ski operations governed by FLNRO.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Throness



cc: Hon. Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations