

Page 1 of 4 to/à Page 2 of 4

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS
AND RECONCILIATION
BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: May. 12, 2014
Ref. No. 34429

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable John Rustad

II **ISSUE:**

First Nation LNG land interests in Prince Rupert and Terrace areas

III **BACKGROUND:**



A key interest for the 5 Tsimshian First Nations with asserted interests in Prince Rupert area is the transfer of ownership of Crown lands as an accommodation for the impacts of LNG development. The primary driver behind this interest is the desire to use land ownership to secure First Nation participation in the LNG opportunity. In some cases, there is also an interest in securing land to address cultural or community interests with the LNG environment providing a context to address these interests in an expedited manner. Regardless of the motivation, however, there is a very strong expectation from these First Nations that lands will form a key part of agreements with the Province that secure their support for LNG development.

IV **DISCUSSION:**

The land situation in the Prince Rupert area is faced with a number of complications.
s.13; s.16

At this time, the negotiations team is working to develop benefits packages to address the interests of all 5 First Nations. Land options (outlined on the attached maps) are being included in this consideration but before any proposals can be tabled with the

First Nations, it will first be necessary to confirm mandates and clarify what options government will support for First Nations' land ownership in the context of LNG development.

V CONCLUSION:

The negotiations team will continue to develop agreement options, including land in prince Rupert and Terrace. Engagement with line agencies on interest identification and review will be required but may be complicated in government direction on First Nations land ownership is not clarified in the very near future.

Attachment: 2 maps – Tsimshian First Nation Land Interests.

Robert Leece, Senior Negotiator, 250 387-3216, File path