

## Nicoll, Sara ENV:EX

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**From:** Minister, ENV ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 12, 2014 9:12 AM  
**To:** Correspondence Unit ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to Minister Polak - EnviroAssessment - FINAL 1  
**Attachments:** Letter to Minister Polak - EnviroAssessment - FINAL 1.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**From:** Polak.MLA, Mary [<mailto:Mary.Polak.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2014 1:46 PM  
**To:** Minister, ENV ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to Minister Polak - EnviroAssessment - FINAL 1

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**From:** Garna Feregotto [<mailto:GFeregotto@ktunaxa.org>]  
**Sent:** April 17, 2014 1:58 PM  
**To:** Polak.MLA, Mary  
**Cc:** Jim Whitehead; Marty Williams; [ubcic@ubcic.bc.ca](mailto:ubcic@ubcic.bc.ca); [executive.assistant@bcafn.ca](mailto:executive.assistant@bcafn.ca); [kbolton@fns.bc.ca](mailto:kbolton@fns.bc.ca); Anne Jimmie; Jason Louie; Bea Stevens; Codie Andrew; Jim Whitehead; Anne Jimmie; Bob Luke; Jason Louie; Lorne Shovar; Lorne Shovar  
**Subject:** Letter to Minister Polak - EnviroAssessment - FINAL 1

Please see attached letter from Kathryn Teneese, Chair of the Ktunaxa Nation Council.

Thank you,

*Garna Feregotto*  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Ktunaxa Kinbasket Treaty Council  
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**KTUNAXA**  
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April 17, 2014

The Honourable Mary Polak  
Minister of Environment  
PO Box 9041 STN PROV GOV'T  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Re: Changes to Environmental Assessment Act

Minister Polak,

I am writing to you today to commend your government's decision to rescind its recent decision to exempt sweet gas plants and all-season ski resorts from the environmental assessment process.

As you are aware, the Ktunaxa Nation has vigorously opposed the development of the Jumbo Glacier Resort since its inception. The resort would be built in Qat'muk, an area of spiritual importance to Ktunaxa people.

As you are also aware, Jumbo Glacier Resort's Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) expires this year and cannot be further renewed under the current legislation. The EAC issued for Jumbo Glacier Resort clearly sets out 195 legally-binding conditions that the developer must meet in order for the resort development to proceed. I trust that the rescinding of the Order in Council obligates the developer of Jumbo Glacier Resort to meet all the conditions of its current EAC prior to the October 2014 'substantial commencement' deadline. I also trust that, should the Province decide in the future to amend the 'Reviewable Projects Regulation' to exclude all-season ski resorts, and the EAC for the Jumbo Glacier Resort project does expire, that all of the current certificate commitments will remain in force or the proponent will lose their right to develop the project.

The Transformative Change Accord, signed by the Province and the First Nations Leadership Council, called for the creation of a new, mutually beneficial relationship between the Province and First Nations in British Columbia based upon respect and understanding. Although the initial decision to amend the environmental assessment process was certainly a violation of the spirit and intent of the Transformative Change Accord, I hope we can continue to work together to further our goals of prosperity for First Nations and all citizens of British Columbia.

Taxa,

Kathryn Teneese  
Chair, Ktunaxa Nation

cc: First Nations Leadership Council  
Ktunaxa Nation Executive Council

*Takisq'nuuk*

*Lower Kootenay*

*St. Mary's*

*Tobacco Plains*



Reference: 290602

**OCT 01 2015**

Kathryn Teneese  
Chair  
Ktunaxa Nation Council  
7468 Mission Road  
Cranbrook BC V1C 7E5

Dear Ms. Teneese:

I am writing to thank you and your colleagues for meeting with me at the BC Cabinet-First Nations Leaders' Gathering on September 9, 2015, in Vancouver.

I am greatly encouraged by the success of the gathering. The Province and First Nations Leadership Council hosted the three-day event in which over 520 individuals participated, including First Nations leaders, Cabinet ministers, and deputy ministers. At the gathering, First Nations leaders had the opportunity to raise the issues and ideas that are important to their communities. A number of First Nations leaders expressed that they believe that we have made progress and that the gathering provided us a great opportunity to foster key relationships.

Thank you for articulating your concerns regarding ski resorts and possible changes to the Environmental Assessment process. As discussed, I confirmed that the Ktunaxa will be consulted going forward. Please contact my office at 250 387-1187 or by email at [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca) should any concerns arise in the future.

I enjoyed having the opportunity to meet with you to discuss these important matters. I believe that our relationship will provide a strong foundation as we move forward, in partnership, toward achieving reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Mary Polak  
Minister

cc: Kevin Jardine, Associate Deputy Minister, Environmental Assessment Office