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STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

July 1, 2009

The Honorable Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia
P.O. Box 9041
Station Provincial Government
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1
CANADA

Dear Premier Campbell:

I wish to draw your attention to a situation at the inactive Tulsequah Chief Mine in northwestern British Columbia, near Juneau, Alaska. For decades the mine has been a source of pollution draining into the Taku River watershed, which hosts valuable fisheries on both sides of our border.

Redcorp Ventures, Ltd. and Redfern Resources, Ltd., the companies seeking to reopen the Tulsequah Chief Mine, were placed in receivership by the B.C. Supreme Court on May 29, 2009. This action effectively brought to an end the near-term prospects for reopening the mine and thereby eliminated the site's acid mine drainage (AMD), which has been ongoing since mine production ceased in the 1950s. In order to protect downstream water quality and assure the continued health of the valuable Taku River fisheries, the state of Alaska feels other means must be promptly implemented for remediating the Tulsequah Chief AMD drainage.

Enclosed is a letter from Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Tom Irwin providing more extensive information. Alaska stands ready to work with you and your staff to address the problem. I am confident that the close working relationships that have been established will provide a firm foundation for collaboration between our governments on how to remediate the Tulsequah Chief AMD discharge in as timely a manner as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Palin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Sarah Palin
Governor

Enclosure