

CHRONOLOGY OF ACID MINE DRAINAGE POLLUTION CLEANUP ORDERS AND INSPECTIONS FOR TULSEQUAH CHIEF AND BIG BULL AND COMPANY RESPONSES

- 1957: Cominco closes the Tulsequah Chief mine without cleanup of Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) or reclamation of the site.
- October 26, 1989: British Columbia (BC) issues pollution abatement order to Cominco for AMD at the Tulsequah Chief mine site. It requires a site survey and a cleanup plan. It was appealed and subsequently upheld.
- 1990-1992: Site investigations and a remediation plan done.
- 1990: BC first tests the Tulsequah Chief site in 1990, and finds “considerable acid generation,” adding that the water samples taken were “acutely toxic” to fish.
- May 1, 1990: Environmental Assessment filed by Cominco.
- November 1, 1990: Cominco files a report on Preliminary Environmental Evaluation of the Tulsequah Chief site.
- August 1, 1991: Cominco files report for Preliminary Plans for Control of AMD and Alternative Abandonment Plans for Tulsequah Chief by Redfern.
- October 1, 1991: Redfern files report on Site Reconnaissance and Preliminary Acid Generation Control and Site Rehabilitation Plan.
- 1992: Redfern Resources (now Redcorp Ventures, Ltd.) proposes to re-open the Tulsequah Chief mine.
- July 1, 1992: Cominco files report on Mine Site Assessment and Options for Rehabilitation for AMD Abatement
- January 28, 1993: BC issues a pollution abatement order to Redfern for the Tulsequah Chief. Periodic monitoring reports are required.
- Undated and unsigned memo on Site Remediation-Progress to Date says Redfern has deposited \$1.15 million into an escrow account for mine rehabilitation and that the SRK consultants rehabilitation plan satisfies the terms of the original abatement order. Also says that a reduction of 70-80% of the pollution would probably be sufficient.
- April 21, 1994: Monitoring report received by BC.
- 1998-2003: BC officials retest the Tulsequah Chief site five times. BC takes no meaningful action to enforce clean-up
- 1998: Environment Canada (EC) issues warning letters to Redfern about the AMD problem at both its Tulsequah Chief and Big Bull mine sites.
- 1999: Redfern attempts a fix at the Tulsequah Chief with limestone dams and a disposal field.
- July 12, 2002: EC issues Inspector’s Directions under the Fisheries Act for Big Bull and Tulsequah Chief sites, ordering Redfern to stop toxic mine drainage from entering the Tulsequah River by September 30, 2003. The company then plugged some holes and diverted water flows.
- Fall 2003: EC inspects Tulsequah Chief and finds the attempted fixes aren’t adequate. At Big Bull EC finds significantly less surface water, but toxicity of discharge had not changed.

- October 2003: Canadian federal investigators visit Redfern's Tulsequah Chief and Big Bull mine sites and finds that "none of the measures undertaken by Redfern had significantly reduced the acutely lethal toxicity of the ARD [Acid Rock Drainage] discharges from the two mine sites."
- October 22, 2003: Redfern requests extension of the federal Inspector's Directions until June 30, 2005.
- November 27, 2003: Final remediation report from Redfern received by EC.
- May 12, 2004: Both Inspector's Directions (for Big Bull and Tulsequah Chief) extended until June 30, 2005 with requirement for monthly monitoring reports from Redfern.
- May 28, 2004: Bruce Rawson, representing Redfern, wrote to EC with a list of concerns for a June 1 meeting and primary was Redfern's claims that EC's enforcement actions do not recognize the constraints of the site or Redfern's limited financial Resources.
- July 2004: EC conducts on site inspection.
- July 2005: Redfern installs treatment plant at Tulsequah Chief site. President Terry Chandler says in order to build a better treatment system, the company needs a road into the site and money to run a treatment plant, things that can only be done if the mine is reopened.
- September 2005: EC inspects Tulsequah Chief site and treatment plant.
- 2006: EC and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans deny all requests for information on AMD and cleanup from Rivers Without Borders.
- 2007: BC officials provide no useful information in response to repeated phone, email and letter requests for information on the status of cleanup and AMD pollution.
- May 2, 2007: Redcorp officials deny written and verbal requests for information on the status of cleanup efforts and AMD pollution from Rivers Without Borders.