

**Evans, Megan J EAO:EX**

**From:** Daviswade@aol.com  
**Sent:** Mon, January 8, 2007 4:47 PM  
**To:** EAOINFO EAO:EX  
**Subject:** 30200-20/MTKLAPPAN - 16 No Subject

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Dear Ms. Currie:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the formulation of the terms of reference by which the Klappan site may be assessed.

I have lived in the Stikine for thirty years. Mine is a shallow history compared to that of my many Tahltan friends. Still it is the place that my children were raised, the land that defined their lives and forged their characters. Our home and lodge on Ealue Lake will be destroyed as a commercial venture should this mining company, an enterprise no older than my dog, be allowed to expropriate the Ealue Lake road.

I would urge you in considering this issue, in formulating your terms of reference, to ask a number of questions and make these questions and their answers public, broadcast to the entire Canadian nation. How do men who know nothing of the land, who have no stories, whose families have never known the joy of a Stikine morning, or the pain of the passing of a revered elder, secure the right to violate all that we who live there hold dear?

These men of Fortune Minerals are not miners, they are speculators who have secured for a modest fee the rights to a holding that they simply intend, if lucky, to pass on the next highest bidder. But this holding lies at the heart of a place sacred to a dozen First Nations, the point of origin of four of Canada's most beautiful and significant salmon rivers. There is no mention in your initial formulation that would suggest the obvious, that there is something profoundly unseemly, indecent in the conceit of this proposal, the notion that these schemers could be empowered to violate a place that is held so dear in the mystic memory of so many people.

I want to know the government's position, and I swear I have the means to hold it accountable. Should you ignore the voices of the elders, these heroic men and women who have invested their lives in that valley, in favour of this contemptible assemblage of stock schemers the Canadian people will know.

They have no inherent right to destroy our land. Should they do so, what will be the measure of our compensation? I don't refer to money, though that is the one language they comprehend. I want to know through your investigative process how our government assesses value. What are the economic measures? What should Fortune Minerals pay up front for the right to destroy the headwaters of four of British Columbia's most celebrated rivers? Surely this cost must be factored into your analysis and investigative reach.

with best wishes.

Wade Davis