

Bond, Nancy L EAO:EX

From: Ellen Burt [lnburt13@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2007 2:14 PM
To: Glacier Howser Public Comments EAO:EX
Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, ENV ENV:EX; Evans.MLA, Corky LASS:EX; Atamanenko.A@parl.gc.ca
Subject: Glacier/Howser Hydroelectric Project
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Environmental Assessment Office	

Argenta, B.C.
Aug 15, '07

To Garry Alexander
 Project Assessment Director
 Environmental Assessment Office
Glacier.Howser@gov.bc.ca

Dear Sir: I am writing to expressive my concerns re: the Glacier/Howser Hydroelectric Project. I have lived on the North end of Kootenay Lake for 40 years and have hiked extensively in the area affected by the proposed project. My chief concerns are wildlife destruction, destruction of old growth forests, private control of BC waterways, and invasion by noxious weeds.

Grizzly populations are threatened in BC due especially to fragmentation. The proposed electric line would fragment a largely in tact grizzly population which we cannot afford to loose. Wolverines too are threatened by development. A road up Suck creek would jeopardize the lower Howser Mountain Goat herd. Although mountain goats are not listed as a threatened species, I have observed a definite decline in the local herds. Diverting water from Glacier and Howser Creek will destroy the Bull Trout population, another threatened species. If the Jumbo Glacier Resort is approved the effects on these vulnerable species will be exasperated.

The transmission line, seismic lines and flooding will permanently deforest hundreds of acres of forest, including some old growth in the Duncan and a designated endangered forest in Stockdale Creek. The development will inevitably bring noxious weeds to the wilderness, including alpine areas, which are ecologically very sensitive. Private control of our waterways risks the environment further; our water is a precious public resource. I am concerned about the risk to Glacier and Howser Creeks and surrounding environment due to the deposit of waste rock along the creeks.

The only possible mitigation for this project that I can think of would be moving the project to the East Kootenays were the wilderness habitat is already more fractured and the alpine does not have to be crossed. Refusal of the Jumbo Glacier Project would be essential in mitigating the effects of any hydroelectric project.

Sincerely,
 Ellen Burt
 Land Co-Op

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