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30250-20/Garibaldi 05-06

April 21, 2008

Bob Gaglardi, Chairman
Mike Esler, President and CEO
Garibaldi at Squamish Inc.
310 – 1755 West Broadway
Vancouver BC V6J 4S5

Dear Mr. Gaglardi and Mr Esler:

Re: Suspension of the Application Review for the Garibaldi at Squamish Project

When the timeline for the review of the Application for an environmental assessment certificate for the Garibaldi at Squamish Project (Project) was resumed on February 18, 2008, I identified that a number of issues needed further discussion. The resumption of the review process allowed further assessment of the Project Application and Addenda by the Working Group, with the objective of determining if the information and procedures contained in those documents enabled a determination that the adverse impacts from the Project could be mitigated or minimized to an appropriate level. Additional public input was also sought on the new information contained in the Addenda.

As the EAO worked to conclude the review process, it was clear that multiple issues raised by the Working Group and during the public review period remained unresolved. The approach being taken relied heavily on future commitments, particularly with respect to the critical issues of water supply and demand, and potential for impacts on fish and fish habitat. Most Working Group members saw the 'move forward process' on water supply as a valuable approach for future dialogue and resolution of issues and were willing to engage in further discussion on it; however, those discussions have not alleviated concerns about providing a clear understanding of the impacts of the Project as proposed in the Application. The primary reason for this continues to be a lack of information to support the impact assessment.

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My April 15, 2008 letter to you identified that the 180 day period for review of the Project Application may be suspended where the proponent requests such, or where the EAO determines that additional information is needed to complete the review. This is described in Section 24(2) of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. You have indicated to me that Garibaldi at Squamish Inc. is not prepared to request a suspension of the timeline.

As the Project Assessment Director for the Project, the Executive Director of the EAO has delegated certain powers and duties to me including the power under Section 24(2) of the Act. I therefore have decided to suspend the time limit for completion of the Project review, based on the need for further information to adequately assess the impacts of the Project. This suspension is effective as of April 21, 2008.

A specific list of information requirements that will need to be satisfied before I am prepared to resume the environmental assessment review process for the Project will be provided in a separate letter. The information is needed to address issues and concerns identified by the EAO, the Working Group, and through the public review period; my assessment of the adequacy of the information submitted will take these issues and concerns into account. During the suspension period, EAO will continue to work with Garibaldi at Squamish Inc. representatives, the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts and members of the Working Group to review and provide comments on the Project and to assist you in fulfilling the outstanding information requirements so that the review of the Project Application can be completed.

A further public review period will be required once all the outstanding information requirements have been fulfilled.

Should you have any questions relating to this letter, please feel free to contact me by phone at (250) 387-1447 or by email at graeme.mclaren@gov.bc.ca.

Yours truly,



Graeme McLaren
Project Assessment Director

cc: Terry Pratt, Manager Major Projects
Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts