

# SEABRIDGE GOLD

May 14, 2017

SkeenaWild Conservation Trust  
103-4622 Grieg Avenue,  
Terrace, BC V8G 1M9

**Attention:** Greg Knox,  
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Knox:

**Re: Inaccurate Information Regarding the KSM Project Posted on the SkeenaWild Website**

The new mining section of the Skeena Wild website (<https://skeenawild.org/issues/mining>) references the KSM project in two inaccurate ways.

Firstly, the website states, “there is currently no effective waste water treatment for removing selenium from contaminated water.” As I have told you before, this is not true. In 2015, Seabridge successfully completed a pilot plant evaluation of a new process for the removal of selenium from waters in northwest BC. The pilot plant was constructed and operated by independent BioteQ Environmental Technologies, Inc. using their Selen-IX™ treatment technology. This selenium treatment technology was able to reduce selenium concentrations to 1 ppb in water extracted from the KSM project site and thus, satisfied a key legally binding condition of the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate which Seabridge received for the KSM Project on July 30, 2014. The KSM Se treatment information was shared with the public, including Alaskans in 2015.

Secondly, the website states SkeenaWild “drafted a metal mining briefing note highlighting concern with KSM and lack of treatment technology for Selenium.” However, Mr. Price’s report, to which you are referring, was discounted during the KSM Project environmental assessment based on the independent review completed by Dr. Chris Kennedy, a water toxicologist from Simon Fraser University. The regulators accepted Dr. Kennedy’s assessment.

As you are very aware, and as I reference twice above, the KSM Project underwent a joint BC-Canada environmental assessment as mandated by the BC Environmental Assessment Act and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (1992) respectively.

The Canadian Minister of the Environment, in her decision statement approving KSM, concluded “*The project is not likely to cause adverse environmental effects as defined in the former Act (referring to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 1991), taking into account the implementation of mitigation measures described in the report*” and “*the mitigation measures and follow up programs described in the Report are appropriate for the project.*” This approval was

granted only following a thorough independent review of the KSM's environmental impact statement which described the potential residual effects associated with the project on all valued ecosystem components, including water quality and quantity, in accordance and as defined by the former Act. A regional cumulative effects assessment and alternative analyses were also completed, as required by CEAA (and BC). The Minister, in making her decision, relied upon a Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency scientific report which stated, "*The agency has concluded that no significant adverse impacts on water quality, water quantity, fish, or human health are expected on the Alaskan side of the Unuk River.*" This concluding statement also holds true for the Bell Irving watershed in which the Tailings Management Facility (TMF) is located.

Your continued perpetuation of false information about the KSM Project is concerning and Seabridge requests you immediately stop posting inaccurate information. If you wish to discuss the project and what we are doing to protect water and aquatic life in greater detail and learn accurate facts about the Project, I am available.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brent Murphy".

Brent Murphy, P. Geo., MSc.,  
Vice President Environmental Affairs

RBM/MH/...