

Appendix 4.7-N

KPHE Letters

AJAX PROJECT

**Environmental Assessment Certificate Application / Environmental Impact Statement
for a Comprehensive Study**

Feb. 27, 2014

Dr. Jill Calder
C/o Royal Inland Hospital
311 Columbia Street
Kamloops BC, V2C 2T1

Dear Dr. Calder,

I am writing to you to confirm that we share your concern about the quality of air in Kamloops, most importantly, the relationship between air quality and the health of our neighbours, families and employees. We also respect your efforts to raise public awareness about this important topic. The purpose of this letter is in hope that we can agree on the facts about local air quality and work together.

As you know, the Ajax leadership team and many of the project's workers live here. Our families and friends are here as well so like you, we will do whatever possible to protect our environment and safeguard human health.

Our environmental team is dedicating a great deal of focus and resources to ensure that, as a renewed industrial activity in Kamloops, we not only comply with all air quality regulations but we set the highest standards related to avoidance, mitigation and monitoring of air quality. We will employ the most current science-based air quality monitoring systems and we will use the most advanced technology available to either eliminate or minimize any effect of our operations may have on local air quality.

Your passion about the future of the air quality is commendable, and we are committed to answering the questions that you have raised.

Thank you for affirming in your recent presentation at TRU your belief that people are entitled to information based in fact and science. We agree. We understand this can be a very complex science, which makes it challenging for individuals and organizations to make informed decisions.

Dr. Jill Calder
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As a physician, you play an important role in helping others determine what matters most to their health and well-being. With that in mind, and in the spirit of full disclosure, I want to assure you there will not be a smelter. It is not part of the proposed Ajax Mine project, at any stage. While we understand others have made that charge and you simply echoed their statements, please know that any suggestion about a smelter causes needless fear that is of no benefit to our community.

Again, we are reaching out to you in the spirit of achieving our mutual goals of a fact-based discussion and a healthy Kamloops. As we gather the facts and science-based answers to the questions that have been raised about our project, we ask for your patience as we complete these studies and analysis.

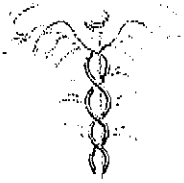
At the same time, we hope all citizens of Kamloops, including health advocates like you, will partner with us to ensure air quality stewardship in this community.

With that in mind, we would like to arrange for the health and environment experts who are conducting studies on Ajax to convene with you and your Kamloops Physicians for a Health Environment colleagues for a conversation regarding our ongoing research and its scope.

We welcome your input and look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

Yves Lacasse
External Affairs Manager



Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment Society

Our Mission: Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment is dedicated to protecting the health and well-being of the citizens of Kamloops by promoting health education and science-based interventions that result in maintaining and improving the environment.

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April 2, 2014

**Yves Lacasse, External Affairs Manager
KGHM International, Ajax Project
200 – 124 Seymour Street, Kamloops BC V2C 2E1
T: 778-471-8122 F: 778-471-1551**

Dear Mr. Lacasse:

This correspondence is in response to your February 27, 2014 letter offering to convene a meeting between Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment Society (KPHEs) and your health and environment experts who are conducting studies on KGHM/Ajax. I trust you received my interim response letter March 11, 2014 explaining the need to review the invitation with our group.

I consulted with the executive and working groups within KPHEs during the week of March 17–21 and provide you our group consensus regarding the format and focus if we meet. KPHEs wishes to clarify that this would be a dialogue between competing sides of the issue and should not to be interpreted by KGHM or the public as KPHEs supporting the proposal. We view the meeting as an opportunity to share the literature we have reviewed which has lead us to conclude the project should not go forward.

In order to have a meaningful discussion about health issues related to KGHM Ajax, we ask for:

1. Materials to discuss in written format
2. Rationale for choice of contaminants to be measured and included in dispersion models
3. Representativeness of on-site meteorological stations and data collected
4. Statements of uncertainty in PM 10, and PM 2.5 dispersion calculations
5. Measurement and modeling methodology for soil contaminants
6. Population baseline studies for contaminants measured and included in models
7. Population studies intended post implementation

The consensus of our group is that any meetings will be in a public forum style – open to the public to observe the questions, answers, and discussion. We would not be adverse to a moderated format, reserving participation until a moderator agreeable to both parties is chosen.

We appreciate your invitation to have a fact-based discussion with the health of Kamloops citizens in mind. We understand that you have an intention to wait until your studies are completed. We understand that model results are based on assumptions and approximations and suffer from both limitations of the model and limitations in the quality of the data inputs. We would expect your experts to clearly address these issues. We would like to see an itemized list of these “studies” presented, as well as dates when they will be released to the public, and a statement for each item whether it is a field measurement study or model scenario.

We also wish to discuss the current levels of airborne particulate matter in Kamloops, already over accepted air quality goals, as we have serious concerns over the presence of another industry so large and so close to our population. We have the NPRI database entries for the annual PM 2.5 emissions for Highland Valley Copper (HVC) and New Gold/New Afton. We would expect your experts to provide information on what the emissions of PM 2.5 from the KPHM/Ajax mine will be in relation to those of HVC and New Gold.

Yours truly,

Dr. Jill Calder on behalf of
Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment Society

April 16, 2014

Dr. Jill Calder

c/o Royal Inland Hospital

311 Columbia Street

Kamloops BC, V2C 2T1

Dear Dr. Calder,

Thank you for your response regarding our invitation to meet to discuss your concerns about our Ajax Project. We have carefully considered your requests and while we might disagree about the form of the proposed meeting, we believe we can provide the kind of information you seek.

Our hope in meeting now, in private and before the independent studies have finished, is to gain a better sense of the direction you feel we should take as we research and review the important health and air quality issues as part of the government-mandated environmental assessment process.

We would like to join with you and your colleagues to gain your insight concerning the kinds of studies you see as necessary as the Ajax Project works its way through this rigorous process. We believe that such a preliminary conversation is best undertaken in an environment that fosters meaningful, frank discussion and debate.

We feel it may be too early to have such a discussion in a public setting, as there is little in the way of tangible results from our ongoing studies to present. We have held six larger public meetings over the last few years, as well as more than a dozen small group meetings (and the small group meetings continue). While larger public forums have been and will again be appropriate as our studies are complete, today we feel they will result in more heat than light, more spectacle than substance.

We look forward to participating in open public forums as key milestones are reached (such as the completion of our studies), but we don't believe it would provide a productive climate for technical discussions at this time. It is also important to note that practical consultation in a non-public setting allows our consultants the opportunity to ask and answer questions without concern of any risk to the government-mandated environmental assessment processes.

Please know, we are not looking for support for the project from your group; instead we are looking for insight and advice.

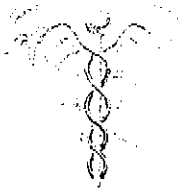
It would be worthwhile to talk about air quality in Kamloops, especially about the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) data. Right now we are not able to provide comparable data on emission quantities for the Ajax Project. This work is not yet complete.

We are interested, however, in your insights regarding the NPRI data and how these numbers should be interpreted. We can describe to you how we intend to utilize the data. Again, your insights into these matters could help our experts as they model and weigh the effects of the Ajax Project and propose possible mitigations.

We want to consult and work with your group to ultimately provide the public the kind of information it needs as Ajax is weighed and considered. We look forward to hearing from you again regarding our invitation for in-depth and private discussions about these important topics in advance of a public forum.

Sincerely,

Yves Lacasse



Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment Society

Our Mission: Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment is dedicated to protecting the health and well-being of the citizens of Kamloops by promoting health education and science-based interventions that result in maintaining and improving the environment.

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April 22, 2014

Yves Lacasse, External Affairs Manager
KGHM International, Ajax Project
200 – 124 Seymour Street, Kamloops BC V2C 2E1
T: 778-471-8122 F: 778-471-1551

Dear Mr. Lacasse:

This correspondence is in response to your April 16, 2014 letter offering to convene a meeting between Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment Society (KPHEs) “in private, and before the independent studies have finished . . .”

As you know we requested to meet in a public and open forum when you have data available. You have indicated “Our hope in meeting now, in private and before the independent studies have finished, is to gain a better sense of the direction you feel we should take . . .” This has not really addressed our objectives outlined in our previous letter of April 2, 2014. You have access to the same monitoring data as we do, and a future public forum will be an opportunity to compare interpretations.

We agree that the lack of objective information in prior forums may have resulted in “more heat than light”. Where we seem to disagree is over the existence of facts, already available in the literature, that are applicable to this project.

For these reasons we do not feel it would be a productive exercise to meet under the conditions you have outlined. As we have previously stated, we look forward to an open forum when the conditions we have requested can be met.

Yours truly,

Dr. Jill Calder on behalf of
Kamloops Physicians for a Healthy Environment Society

June 10, 2014

Dr. Jill Calder
Kamloops Physicians for a
Healthy Environment Society
c/o 311 Columbia Street
Kamloops, BC V2C 2T1

Dear Dr. Calder:

As you are aware, our company made a public announcement on May 29th to inform the community of some significant changes to our mine plan. Those changes come as a result of input we have received from the community. Our efforts to build the best possible project, one that is safe, socially and environmentally responsible, are ongoing, which is the reason why I am reaching out to you again.

We are committed to working with everyone in the community, including you and your colleagues. While our previous exchanges indicate that we may disagree on the forum, our experts continue to want to meet with you and your KPHE colleagues. We remain interested in KPHE's input into our ongoing environmental and health studies.

As we expressed in our previous offers, we want the best science and we strongly believe that your input and expertise could help not only our project but the entire community. Once again, I would like to invite you and your colleagues to meet, in a private setting, our consulting experts to discuss our ongoing studies. As we have said in the past, we believe there will be a time for public discussion but would like this exercise in collaboration to take place in a more conducive setting.

In the interim, I would like to inform you about our Open Houses on June 24th and 25th at the Coast Kamloops Conference Centre, and invite you and your colleagues to attend to learn more about the new Ajax Project site plan. I would be happy to set aside some private for your group to meet with our staff.

Sincerely,

Yves Lacasse
External Affairs Manager
KGHM International - Ajax Project