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**Minutes for the Special meeting of the Glenorchy Community Association,
regarding Mining consents for Whakaari Conservation area, held on the 21st
March 2019 at 6pm in the Glenorchy Hall**

Committee: Will McBeth, Robert Bakhuis, Danelle Jones,, Mark Hasselman

Present: Peter Speight, Mrs Speight, Anita Slood, Georgie Robertson, Shelley Guy, Rosemary Farmer, Genevieve Aitken, Bob Grubb, Tony Pink, Donna Joyner, Ian Kirkland, Ruth-Ann Anderson, Niki Gladding, Trish Fraser, Tom Tusher, Paul Fraser, Jessie Boucher, Kirsty Pope, Debbi Brainerd, Katherine Schuitemaker, Mike Spencer, Bruce Farmer, Amanda Hasselman

Apologies: John Glover, Sam De Reeper, Naomi Coates

Chairman's introduction and welcome.

Danelle chaired the meeting. Danelle opened the meeting by thanking all those who attended, Introduced the item for the meeting, Mining exploration consent granted by QLDC and DOC for NZ Tungsten Mining Ltd, on Whakaari Conservation area. We chose to have this special meeting for 3 main reasons;

- to raise community awareness
- to get ahold of community concerns - we want to hear from you
- to find out what else we need to know and how we can make our voice heard

Danelle listed the documents concerned

- Department of conservation consent
- QLDC Consent
- EVIDENCE OF GARY GRAY 21 APRIL 2016
- Correspondence from Ian Bayliss, QLDC

A link to the documents to be set up on the community webpage

The consent is for 3 to 5 years of exploration drilling up at Whakaari, to a depth of up to 250m. If the next step were pursued it would mean mining with mine shaft openings of 5m x 5m

Jessie. Who and what is the exploration for.

Dannelle. New Zealand Tungsten Mining Ltd, for Tungsten and Gold

Mrs Speight. Only 30% of the company is owned by Gary Gray, the rest is in overseas ownership

Tony. Where at Whakaari?

Niki. All around the place but the majority is focused around the old mining sites

Tom. Mostly near the battery and all of it visible from Glenorchy

Danelle. Concerns we have;



- Drilling would be right above our town water source.
- We are concerned that we were not informed.
- the sites appear to be right above the aquifer.
- Potential noise issues
- Work camps up at Whakaari
- Effects on Recreation at Whakaari

Jessie. If the consent has already been issued, do we have any power to stop it?

Danelle. No, unless we go through Judicial review, which has a cost

Niki. looking at the potential problems down the track, it would be good to intervene now

Tom. Stood up to give some more background.

Heard about the granting of the consent through the newspapers (even though is the closest Neighbour), proceeded to contact lawyers and then met with the Mayor. Jim (Boult) said he was not aware of the application/consent until Toms email about it. there are 4 steps DOC goes through with regard to historical mining rights, the 4th step is granting mining activity which is the most difficult step to get through. This application should not have even been consent. notes no adjoining neighbour which is not correct. the Farm and the public are affected.

Don't know why they are doing it as have made it clear to them will never give them access to use the Judah road. Have taken legal advice and Government cannot force access up the road.

The consent is flawed in multiple ways. They have been given flight permission from 6am to 10pm, which is outside of the airstrip management plan. According to Nick from Heli Glenorchy (Tom relays) the company had not approached them recently.

Danelle. Have spoken to Sonya about this and after this consent, HeliGy have looked further and have noticed they are listed in many more consents that they were not aware of.

Tom. If the mining company make changes we have the right to push back. a flawed consent was granted. Lawyers advice is that we cannot overturn it unless we use Judicial review which could be \$50k to \$100k, and there is a time frame/limit. We need to convey that we do not want it. Flawed process. insist the community is notified and the planners must communicate with us. Worried that we could be dealing with another "Milford Tunnel" like issue.

The reasons for making it non-notified is not right.

Log. Could a JD process put a hold on the consent?

Tom. Would not stop the activity until it is seen in court, which could be a 2 year wait with the current backlog. the consent is only valid for 2 years

Log. So the JD track is a pointless exercise

Tom. By the time it is heard in court it would be done

Log. can we hamstring them at the airport



Tom. there are only 2 licenced companies at the airstrip, we need to keep it restricted to 2 licences to have some control over helicopter access

Danelle. Another concern is the District plan. the company have appealed against a DP decision and are going through mediation with QLDC. we can't get information on that.

Bruce. Believe they are going through to the environment court and appealing the DP conditions. Appealing to go to "modern" mining techniques and larger tunnels. over 40,000 m2 of waste will be dumped as an effect of the mining. Bruce has had a lifetime of mining across the world and when read the permit to prospect, believe that QLDC should have consulted. The conditions seem reasonable. can only challenge on facts.

Bruce. Concern that they got the licence saying they support the heritage values, but now they are in a mediation appeal trying to change the district plan. Trying to change the DP wording from "small scale" to "Modern Mining methods"

Niki. The DP appeal was notified and went through, we missed it

Huss. Council has 1000 appeals to the DP, this was just one, notified amongst all of them. The consent is just for exploration, the problem is with the potential next step. they haven't applied for mining yet.

Tom. we would have to assume they have plans to mine

Niki. MBIE would be wanting it. there is political pressure.

Danelle. there would be a consideration for the economic value of mining, which could override the community view.

Bruce. the permit is for Tungsten, Gold and all other elements.

Tony. appears that QLDC have not followed process, can we push that

Tom. they know that but will never admit it. Just need to pound away and push that they keep us involved.

Amanda. what was Doc's role

Will. have heard that there was nothing standing out that could allow them to prevent permission

Amanda. Should contact the minister, would be good to flag the issue

Will. Unlikely that the recreation values would be affected by the exploration

Niki. The water supply is a real concern. the planners didn't even know about the town water supply

Log. QLDC just can't overturn a granted consent.



Niki. Injunction may be possible.

Will. Where do ORC get involved.

Niki. everything in the consent is under current permitted activities, so no monitoring or conditions have been set.

The site should be on the HALE register. the ORC route hasn't been tapped out yet, could maybe stop them there.

Bruce. they have a prospecting consent which went under the radar. now their change to the DP is going under the radar. now in mediation under the environment court. Gy is not going to let them off the hook, should do a series of injunctions. Mining world wide has been stopped by injunctions. Get them starved out

Niki. Has gone past mediation and is now in the court. concerned that the court wont have all the information so late in the piece. suggest we apply to section 274 of the resource management act, May be able to influence decisions.

Mediation is between Council and NZ Tungsten Mining Ltd, the details of the mediation have been labeled confidential

Bruce. The Judge will always take time to rule, an injunction will highlight our concern. ask to delay ruling until our concerns have been heard, need to tell council they are out of line

Huss. Tom and the community went through a long Tenure review and heritage process to protect those lands

Danelle, our concerns are

- effects on recreation
- Effects on our water catchment
- The council processes involved
- effects on the hard won Public conservation land
- distrumance of existing contaminated lands
- lack of prescribed Monitoring and enforcement

Should query the ORC consent requirements

Option of judicial review - Could take too long to get heard in the court and would cost too much

Option of Injunctions - Higher workload but lower cost (injunctions against DP changes)

Push issue with the Mayor and council, use media to attract attention and push for OIA's

Niki. Also lodge a 274 to join the DP discussion

Trish. Involve the conservation minister.

Two things to challenge - the exploration consent and the DP change submissions



Huss. May be easier to interfere with the DP changes than to challenge the consent

Katherine. Should have a vote that the GCA is concerned and opposes

Trish. Could GCA formally request that HeliGy refuse to do the mining work
Will. No, would have to have a conversation first

Danelle. Time to move the motion.

Motion: *that the GCA is opposed to commercial mining in the Bucklerburn / Whakaari area and is concerned that :-*

- 1. New Zealand Tungsten Mining Ltd have been granted permits and a non notified consent by DOC and QLDC for drilling operations without any input whatsoever from the community;*
- 2. New Zealand Tungsten Mining Ltd are expending significant sums on mineral exploration and challenges to the proposed District Plan to make the planning regime more mining friendly and reduce the proposed protection afforded to the Whakaari Heritage Landscape - eg in the District Plan **"Insert a new policy: Identify the location and extent of existing or pre-existing mineral resources in the region and encourage future mining activity to be carried out in these locations"***
- 3. The large scale mining operations intended by New Zealand Mining Ltd are a complete mismatch with the Future Vision for Glenorchy set out in our Community Plan and*
- 4. Mining operations in this area would significantly compromise the integrity of our water supply.*

The GCA is instructed to make representations with DOC, the ORC and QLDC at the highest levels to register these concerns as a first step to ensuring operations as described by New Zealand Tungsten Mining Ltd do not occur."

Jones/Bakhuis

All attendees agreed

Danelle. Next step - by the next GCA meeting we will be keen to get more understanding passed on from experts around the community. ask for those experts to provide briefing notes for the meeting

End
19:10

