

COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT

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March 7, 2022

Sent by Email: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Katrine Conroy, Minister Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development

Dear Minister Conroy:

Re: Request for Enhanced Public Notification

At its February 17, 2022 Regular Board meeting, the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) Board passed the following motion:

THAT: The Board Chair write a letter to the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource, and Rural Development and copy Tolko requesting the Ministry take steps to ensure residents receive sufficient notification from the logging contractor when explosives are scheduled to be detonated in their area.

The CSRD Board is concerned by the lack of suitable public notification when blasting occurs during the creation of forestry logging roads. The notification obligation is limited to a sign posted at the base of the logging road warning passersby the area is an active worksite and blasting is in progress. Residents are not provided appropriate notice to prepare and safeguard their families and, in many cases, livestock that may be panicked by the loud explosive sounds.

We ask the Ministry to re-examine the current notification requirements and consider implementing additional measures to ensure the public are adequately informed about blasting operations.

Yours truly,

COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT

Per:

Kevin Flynn Chair

KF/cr

Tolko Industries Ltd. CC:

CSRD Electoral Area D Director, Rene Talbot