

Bute Inlet Commercial Water Bottling Applications

Numbered company 0879144 BC Ltd., with principle(s) connected to the mining industry, is applying for Licence of Occupations for Commercial Water Bottling at 7 sites in Bute Inlet.

Friends of Bute Inlet has concerns about ecological impacts of large-scale water extractions and increased industrial activity at Bute Inlet. Environmental assessments and cumulative impact studies are not required; and we need more than industry self-monitoring for remote industrial activities in BC.

Friends of Bute Inlet also decries the local-global social impacts of commercializing water, and we have concerns about possible NAFTA repercussions.

- If these and other pending water applications are approved, annual water extraction (for sale to global markets) from Bute Inlet would be 183.6 million gallons, with industrial activity at nearly every creek and river.
 - In Jervis, Toba, Bute, and Knight Inlets there are between 40 and 55 streams with licenses or applications for water extraction filed by 0879144 BC Ltd. principles or applicants associated with that company.
 - Environmental impacts associated with water removal are unknown. Each of the Bute applications is for 24,750 gallons per day, just below the amount that constitutes NAFTA “bulk water export”. Applications are not subject to BC environmental assessment.
 - Strathcona Regional District and other local governments oppose these and other Commercial Water Bottling applications. Final decisions are made elsewhere.
 - Manufacture of every one-litre plastic water bottle uses 3 litres of water and ¼ litre of oil.
 - Promoting bottled water mocks BC’s “green” image and contradicts its carbon-reduction legislation. Worldwide, governments are banning bottled water. Over 90% of used bottles are littered or land-filled, where they take thousands of years to decompose. BC can do better.
 - Bottled water licenses effectively privatize water at a time when there is a global movement to keep water for the public good and to declare access to water a human right.
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- Check www.ButeInlet.net for new-news and updates!