



February 4, 2016

Regional District of Central Kootenays  
Box 590  
202 Lakeside Dr.  
Nelson, B.C.  
V1L 5R4

Attn: Andy Davidoff C/o Planning Department

**Re: Atco Wood Products, Development Area R (Granite & Glade Creek) Proposed Development**

Dear Mr. Davidoff,

Thank you for your letter sent January 28, 2016. The comments from the Glade Irrigation District (GID) and Glade Watershed Protection Committee (GWPC) regarding Atco Wood Products (Atco) harvesting proposal in the Glade Creek Community Watershed (GCW) and Granite Creek operation area were well presented. We have reviewed these comments and would like to offer further insight into the development process.

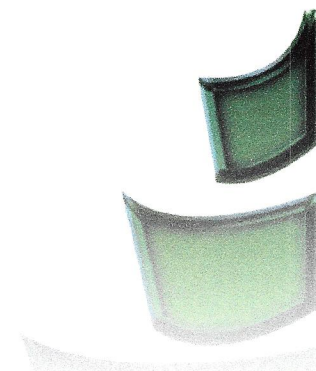
In regard to proposed cutblock R10, located within the GCW, no activities will commence until it has gone through the public referral process. It has always been Atco intention to wait until Kim Green, PGeo., PhD. of, Apex Geoscience Consultants Ltd, completes her independent and comprehensive Hydrogeomorphic Assessment Report of Glade Creek; presents her findings; and to allow time for the Glade community to comment before final development plans are drafted. This process will allow a reasonable amount of time for the GID and the GWPC to review the report and consult with their own experts before proceeding with road and cutting permit applications.

Please note, for clarification purpose, the Granite Creek operating area (blocks R01 to R09, identified in the RDCK referral letter) is not located within the GCW and/or another community or domestic watershed. Consequently, our proposed development for that area will not in any way contaminate, impact, or compromise the potability of the GCW, any other community or domestic watershed and any other water licensees' drinking water source. Natural resource values such as water, riparian areas, fish habitat, and so on will be managed according to the objectives set in the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and its Regulations and in accordance with Atco approved Forest Stewardship Plan. For these reasons, Atco may proceed in the near future with road and cutting permit applications for blocks R01 to R09.

Atco welcomes the creation of a Watershed Advisory Committee. Perhaps the revival of the Glade Creek Technical Committee, constituted in March 1993 to allow for discussions of concerns regarding Atco Lumber's harvesting proposal at the time could benefit everyone.

Atco is happy to provide any relevant documentation to help demonstrate their commitment to promoting sound forest stewardship decision making. We have attached a copy of the Glade Creek Hydrogeomorphic Assessment Report for you to review prior to the February 17, 2016 meeting scheduled with the Glade Community.

Atco employs well qualified and community conscious consultants to supplement its decision making process. Kim Green PGeo., PhD is one of the most experienced and well qualified hydrologists in this area and works independently from Atco and Kalesnikoff. Her recommendations are always made objectively and ethically and are



P.O. Box 460 Fruitvale, BC V0G 1L0  
Main Office: P 250 / 367.9441 F 250/367.6210  
Direct Line : P 250 / 367.2523 F 250/367.6210  
Email: alex.saumure@atcowoodproducts.com

derived from sound science. For this reason, Atco and Kalesnikoff have chosen her to complete the Glade Creek Assessment.

Atco and Kalesnikoff will not comment on any cost-sharing of future assessments until after all parties have a chance to review Kim Green's report and hear her presentation on February 17, 2016.

Although Atco has previously stated the company's intentions in the referral process, we would be happy to provide digital format of that information. As far as road and harvest plan documents are concerned, these can't be supplied at this time as they have not been completed. Additionally, these documents will include any significant alteration and/or input from the Glade community.

As mentioned by Mr. Rasmussen in his letter dated November 19, 2015, the Glade operating area is part of the working forest in British Columbia. Its classification as a community watershed requires forest professionals to identify and account for watershed values such as sensitive sites where no harvesting and road building should take place when developing harvesting plan. It is our duty to be diligent and ensure that our activities won't increase the risk and/or adversely impact the watershed when developing harvesting prescriptions and road building plans.

Atco has not been notified of any ongoing section 29 investigation by Interior Health. As per Renee Ansel CIPHI (C) Environmental Health Officer email dated January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, a documented request for such an investigation must be made to Interior Health. Atco will provide any relevant documentation as requested by Interior Health.

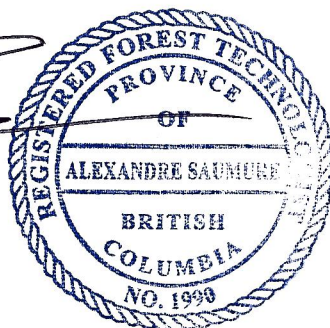
In conclusion, the letter written November 19, 2015 by Paul M. Rasmussen, Regional Executive Director, to the GWPC identifies important points that should remain in context; B.C. Forests on Crown land are governed by FRPA and its Regulations. Additionally, forest professionals such as ourselves are part of the Association of B.C. Forest Professionals, are bounded by the Foresters Act of B.C. and by a Code of Ethics which clearly states the responsibility of a member to the public. A Forest Professional is professionally responsible and accountable for their work. The professional association demands practicing due diligence and good stewardship of forest land. Finally, Atco is committed to follow all due processes (legislated and approved procedures).

We look forward to furthering our discussion with you and the Glade Community at our schedule meeting on February 17, 2016.

Yours truly,



Alex Saumure, RFT  
Development Technician



AS/as



Ron Ozanne, RPF  
Forestry Manager

RO/ro