

September 22, 1992

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Reber,

What is written in the following pages should help you acquire your your land in the fastest, cheapest and most expeditious manner possible. This letter is of a confidential nature.

Although our company is a solely Canadian owned company and we have lived for the past twenty years in the province of British Columbia, my wife and I are both American citizens. We have been very active over this period in procuring land, both leasing and buying. There is basically only one way to do it. The Canadian bureaucratic system is enough to drive a sane man crazy! But you had better try and follow it or they will keep throwing stumbling blocks and delays in your path, and you never will achieve your goals.

I am going to try to put these suggestions out to you in some type of order. I think perhaps one of the main problems is the difference in the use of words. In your letter you used the word "license". And most assuredly you will need a license or permit; but before you get your license you will have to have land to apply that license to. Or if you try to supercede procedure by a private member's bill through parliament, it will take you a minimum of five years to get the bill drawn up because there is proper legislation in effect at present to handle your needs.

1- Lease the land under existing laws. I would suggest a 25 year lease and if you can prove a benefit to Canada, this ~~license~~<sup>lease</sup> could be as low as a dollar a year. Your license would follow immediately. The advantages of leasing land:

- a) If there is a change in government, the new government cannot kick you off.
- b) If Indian land claims and Indian self-government come to the Queen Charlottes, they cannot kick you off.

You will note I have enclosed several maps. From time to time I am going to make certain statements with reference to them.

As to the Tow Hill site, I would forget it completely for the following reasons:

1- You would be right in the middle of a major recreation area. You would have vacationers with their campers, all-terrain vehicles, fishermen and hunters wandering through the area constantly during the summer and more than just occasionally other times of the year. And you can't stop them due to the location of the river.

2- There is a main salmon spawning river running through the middle of that land. You will be stopped cold by federal fisheries, provincial fisheries and by the

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Haida Nation, who have a 50% say concerning all fishery related rivers and creeks. The land can be part of their up-coming land claims.

I have sent you a more detailed map of the Port Clements site with your overlay on top. Please do not take offense at my changing the location of this grid. This was done to save you many thousands of dollars in road construction costs, removing it from Kumdis Creek and keeping it out of Coho Creek, which are both salmon spawning streams. You will not have a big hassel with any department of fisheries and you can restrict the property from trespassing. The gray shaded area on the map marked A. L. R. is Agricultural Land Reserve. I have placed the line on that boundry because that is much more expensive land than you would need to lease. You will notice a green "cut line" The timber to the west of that line has been removed. There is still a small stand of cedar within the area designated to the east of that line. This really should present no problem and can be worked out at this end quite simply. You will note on the map "GP" on a circle three miles southwest of the Port Clements road. This is an existing gravel pit that could furnish any necessary gravel for your road and result in a tremendous financial saving in hauling time and cost.

The majority of your property is within a blue dash/dot line to the west. This area is known as a TFL (Timber Farm License.) This license and lease is controlled by MacMillan-Bloedel, the largest logging corporation in B. C. Now, this can most certainly work to your advantage. Mac-Blo has been under environmental pressure for several years on the Queen Charlottes. Their public image has been almost totally destroyed. For them to be able to release this practically worthless timber holding for a scientific and environmental project such as yours would be on TV and carried by the printed media. Their gain would actually be two-fold: All the excellent publicity, and the right to petition the government for the amount of land they let you have for an equal amount with good timber on it.

In returning to your letter, sir, I feel there is a much easier way to accomplish your ends. In the province of B. C. we have what is known as an Ombudsman. This office has more power than the actual ministries themselves. There is no fee for this service but their office can pick up the phone and co-ordinate four or five ministries in a matter of an hour, which would take you or me months or years, going through the usual channels. Our company has used this service on a couple of occasions and most certainly can recommend it as the most efficient and speedy method of accomplishing an objective. With eighteen months wasted already, perhaps another method of operation might prove more effective. If I might suggest the Canadian prescribed manner to approach the Ombudsman:

1- Your project: How will it profit the environment? How will it benefit

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Canada? the Queen Charlottes, the world? In other words, what can your project do to improve life and/or increase knowledge for the future of mankind. What credit can Canada get for helping you with your project.

2- As you are a world-renown scientist, a little bit about your accomplishments to date might be helpful.

3- You mentioned you had U.S. financing. This should be clarified whether this would be a U.S. project, your own project, or a Canadian project. The U.S. and Canada entered into a Free Trade Agreement a couple years ago. There have been hundreds of thousands of jobs lost in Canada as a result of the agreement. Doing business with the U.S. is certainly not high on anybody's priority list in the province of B. C. at the moment.

4- Antoehr thing that should be explained is the amount of work (surveyor, land preparation, poles, wiring, construction, road building) that will result, since the Queen Charlottes desperately could use this type of employment and all these skills, equipment, and machinery are available right here on the islands by competent bidding contractors.

5- I would make a big to-do out of moving your site to the west so you are not interfering with Kumdis Creek and that you most certainly don't want to do any damage to the environment. As an added suggestion, you might refer to the islands as "Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands" since the Haida Nation will most certainly be contacted. This will earn you some initial respect for your project with the Haida Nation.

6- There is a Canadian - U.S. listening post, built during the cold war and before the communication satellites were launched. It is very large and very powerful, located on North Beach east of Masset. Would the function of these two facilities (yours and their's) interfere with one another?

7- Last, but certainly not least. You are in Tasmania, thousands of miles from the Charlottes. Time is of the essence due to the lunar cycles. Preliminary work must be done as expeditiously as possible. Therefore, your only recourse would appear to be help from the Ombudsman's office. A beginning contact would be:

Mr. T. M. Gardiner, Senior Ombudsman Officer

Office of the Ombudsman

8 Bastion Square

Victoria, B. C. V8W 1H9

Mr. Reber, I most certainly have not wanted to be in any way offensive or opinionated in my statements, but I have learned the past 20 years that it is much easier to have the bureaucratic system work with you than against you. My grandfather kept reminding me, "If you want to catch flies, a teaspoon of honey does a much better

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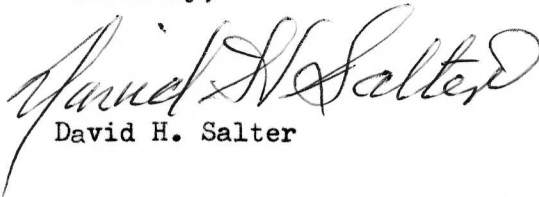
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job than a keg full of vinegar."

Again, referring back to your letter of September 8, your statement "I am going over his (Yardley's) head." When you go to the Ombudsman, you are going over everybody's head.

I hope these suggestions may be of some help to you. Please feel free to either call or write if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David H. Salter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David H. Salter