



TO ALL EXPLORATION AND MINING COMPANIES PUSHING FOR THE SEA BED MINING ON BAGABAG ISLAND IN MADANG PROVINCE

This is to inform the Government of PNG and Nautilus Minerals Corporation Ltd that the 2,000 plus people of Bagabag and surrounding outer islands in Madang Province are **ABSOLUTELY** against undersea mining.

We have **NOT** been **CONSULTED NOR** given **OUR CONSENT** for the operation of this mine.

We will **NOT ALLOW** this mine to destroy our marine ecosystem which we depend on for our survival and will take appropriate action to protect our way of life, our resources, and future generations.

For 50,000 years, the people of PNG have lived a subsistence life style in harmony with our natural environment. We have the right to determine our own destiny and at its own pace. Development in PNG should take place at its own pace, and not be imposed by multinational corporations who see our resources as profits, and the PNG government should put the interests and dreams of the people of PNG before that of outside interests.

WE KNOW THAT:

- 1) Nautilus has **NO** experience in sea bed mining. Our ocean is **NOT** a training ground for this company.
- 2) The Marine Ecologist with the United States Environmental Defence Office raises questions in regards to the parties involved in this operation as per the company's media article on 23rd May 2007. Of special concern are the unknown impacts that nutrient rich water may have on our precious and life giving coral ecosystems.
- 3) There are concerns in regards to the volcanic activity in the area. The operation of the mine in a highly volcanic area is of great concern to the safety of villagers.
- 4) Recently the Tolukuma has been dumping waste and destroying the Auga and Angabanga rivers in Central province. Land based mines are not adequately controlled, and have set a precedent for ocean mining that must be corrected.
- 5) From experience in Bougainville, Ok Tedi and Pogera, the **NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF MINING ON COMMUNITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT OUT-WEIGHS THE LIMITED AND DISPROPORTIONATE ECONOMIC BENEFITS.**
- 6) We are subsistence farmers; we have the right to **CONTROL OUR OWN DEVELOPMENT.** We had **ENOUGH OF BEING CONTROLLED BY OUTSIDERS.**

Where will we live if there is going to be a disaster by the mine?
Does the government and MRDC have safety plans in place for us?

We are experiencing a global problem of global warming and rise in sea level, why create another problem?

WE CALL ON THE GOVERNMENT OF MADANG AS WELL AS THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OUR CONCERNS SERIOUSLY INTO CONSIDERATION. WE DEMAND THE GOVERNMENT TO EXECUTE PROPER CONSULTATION PROCESSES.

We the mouth piece of the entire Bagabag Islanders are:

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Paul Daing Director

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Rev. Kinim Siloi-ELC

PNG Bagabag Community Development Association