

November 29, 2023

Mr. Michael Wright
Executive Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Thiess
Level 5, 179 Grey Street
South Bank QLD 4101
Australia

CC: Mr. Shankar Gopalan
Group Executive - Strategy, Sustainability & Safety, Thiess
Level 5, 179 Grey Street
South Bank QLD 4101
Australia

SENT VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

RE: Summary of findings for upcoming report on the environmental and human rights impacts of the nickel industry in Indonesia

Dear Mr. Wright and Mr. Gopalan,

I am writing on behalf of Climate Rights International, a U.S.-based NGO that conducts research and advocacy on the human rights dimensions of the climate crisis. For the past several months, we have been carrying out research for a report that we plan to publish on the human and environmental impacts associated with nickel mining and smelting at and near the Indonesia Weda Bay Industrial Park (IWIP).

Based on more than forty interviews with community members, our research finds that nickel mining in Central and East Halmahera, North Maluku and nickel smelting at IWIP are threatening the rights of local people, harming the local environment, and contributing to the climate crisis. Community members told Climate Rights International that their lands have been taken by nickel companies, they were not able to fairly negotiate land sales, and Indigenous Peoples have been denied their legal right to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC). In addition, pollution from industrial activities is threatening critical freshwater resources and the ecosystems that people depend on for their traditional livelihoods. Despite claims that nickel from this project is needed to power the electric vehicle transition, massive deforestation and coal use at IWIP are directly contributing to the climate crisis, making this project a climate bomb.


It is our understanding that Thiess holds contracts with PT Weda Bay Nickel and PT Halmahera Sukses Mineral to support mining activities in North Maluku.

We want to ensure that our report accurately reflects the views, policies, and practices of relevant authorities and companies, and we hope that you or your representatives will respond to the following questions, outlined below. Any responses will be reflected in our reporting as

appropriate, and we may publish your responses at our discretion and when appropriate, either in full or in part.

Questions:

1. Can you please provide a detailed description of Thiess' operations in North Maluku, including contracted activities, number and type of equipment, and geographic area of operations?
2. According to an announcement made by Thiess on August 31, 2023, its contract with PT Halmahera Sukses Mineral will include hauling road construction. Please describe the role that Thiess will play in hauling road construction. Will this role in any way include land acquisition or other contact with local communities? If so, please elaborate.
3. It is our understanding that these contracts represent Thiess' first operations in Indonesia. Does Thiess plan to expand operations in Indonesia, in North Maluku or elsewhere? If so, where?
4. Have Thiess representatives come into contact with O'Hongana Manyawa people in Central Halmahera? If so, please provide information about those exchanges.
5. It is our understanding that in September 2023, the North Maluku Provincial Environmental Agency recommended that both PT Weda Bay Nickel and PT Halmahera Sukses Mineral halt mining operations due to water pollution of the Sagea River. Is Thiess operating within the Sagea River watershed? What steps is Thiess taking to ensure its operations do not contribute to water pollution, including pollution of the Sagea River?
6. How does Thiess ensure that its nickel mining activities in Halmahera do not contribute to human rights abuses, including harms to local communities' land rights and right to a healthy environment?
7. How does Thiess ensure that its activities do not contribute to environmental harms, including deforestation, degradation of water resources, erosion, and other forms of pollution?
8. It is our understanding that Thiess has committed to use new diesel trucks that are in line with European emission standards, according to its March 16, 2023 project announcement. Are these vehicles currently being used in North Maluku? Please describe the equipment used by Thiess in Halmahera, including information about the greenhouse gas emissions, sources of power, and energy requirements of that machinery.
9. What steps, if any is Thiess taking to transition its fleet to electric vehicles?

Please provide your responses in writing. Your responses can only be considered for inclusion in our report if we receive them by December 20, 2023. Please reply at , copying

██████████. In addition, please include any other materials, statistics, and/or information you think may be relevant.

I also welcome the opportunity to speak with you or your representatives. Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like to arrange a meeting or video conference.

Sincerely,

Brad Adams

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Adams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Executive Director, Climate Rights International

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