

Subject: RE: Nickel Supply Chain Inquiry
Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 7:52:55 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Kevin Kelly
To: Brad Adams, Krista Shennum
Attachments: image001[8].png

Brad:

We appreciate the sharing of your report findings, and your interest in our responsible sourcing practices and commitment to transparency. At present, we do not have any direct mining contracts with Nickel mines in Indonesia, including in the Weda Bay Industrial Park region. We have comprehensive language in our CHRB disclosure, Human Rights policy, and Supplier Code of Conduct that covers our commitment to responsible sourcing practices. These policies outline our expectations for ourselves and our suppliers to adhere to ethical practices throughout their operations.

Our expectations of suppliers are reflected in our Supplier Code of Conduct:

- Suppliers will continually strive to protect communities and environment that surround them.
- Suppliers will follow applicable local, national, and international environmental laws.
- Suppliers will continually stive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Suppliers shall establish time-bound emission reduction goals and shall strive to obtain approved science-based targets that are at a minimum aligned with GM's Supplier Sustainability Partnership Pledge.
- Suppliers are expected to understand and act consistent with GM's approach to integrity, responsible sourcing and supply chain management.
- GM expects that its suppliers will cascade similar expectations through their own supply chains.

In the event of nonconformance with our Supplier Code of Conduct, we work with our suppliers through training and direct engagement to enable them to responsibly manage human rights.

Thanks,
Kevin

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Kevin M. Kelly (he/him/his)
Senior Director
GM Corporate News Relations



April 12, 2024

Ms. Kristen Siemen

Vice President of Sustainable Workplaces and Chief Sustainability Officer, General Motors



Dear Ms. Siemen,

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. We recently published a 124-page report, “Nickel Unearthed: The Human and Climate Costs of Indonesia’s Nickel Industry,” that documents the human and environmental impacts associated with nickel mining and smelting at and near the Indonesia Weda Bay Industrial Park (IWIP), a large nickel processing complex in North Maluku.

As you are likely aware, Indonesia is the world’s largest producer of nickel, providing roughly 55 percent of global nickel supplies in 2023. As a major producer of electric vehicles, many of which use nickel as a key battery component, I am writing to share our report findings with you and ask questions about your mineral sourcing and due diligence policies and practices.

Key Findings

Based on more than forty interviews with community members, our report finds that nickel mining in Central and East Halmahera, North Maluku and nickel processing 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 some were intimidated into selling their lands by members of the police or military who acted on behalf of companies. Indigenous Peoples have been denied their 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 drinking water and traditional livelihoods.

Despite claims that nickel from this project is needed to power the electric vehicle transition, massive deforestation and captive coal use at IWIP are directly contributing to the climate crisis, making this project a carbon bomb. Once fully operational, IWIP will be home to twelve new captive coal plants, totaling 3.78 gigawatts of coal capacity, which is more coal than used by Spain or Brazil in a year.

The report is attached to this email and can also be found on our website: <https://cri.org/reports/nickel-unearthed>. Our report has also been featured in international media outlets, including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, South China Morning Post, Al Jazeera, and Reuters.

Questions

We hope that you or your representatives will respond to the following questions, outlined below. Any responses may be reflected in our future reporting on the critical mineral supply chains and due diligence practices of electric vehicle companies, as appropriate. We may publish your responses at our discretion and when appropriate, either in full or in part.

Regarding supply chain mapping:

1. Has GM mapped out its critical mineral supply chain back to the mine level? If so, please provide information, including names and locations, of all mines along GM's battery supply chain.
2. Has GM mapped out all of the critical mineral smelters/refineries in its supply chain? If so, please provide information, including names and locations, of all mines along GM's battery supply chain.
3. Does GM source nickel from Indonesia, either directly from nickel mining and processing companies or indirectly through its suppliers? If so, please provide information about the sources of GM's Indonesian nickel.
4. Please provide a list of countries from which GM sources each of the following minerals: nickel, lithium, cobalt, manganese, and graphite.
5. Has GM made any agreements to directly source nickel or other critical minerals directly from mining companies or mineral processing companies? If so, please provide information about those agreements.
6. Please provide information, including names and locations, of all electric vehicle battery manufacturers that GM sources from, including the names and locations of battery manufacturing facilities.

Regarding corporate due diligence:

3. How does GM ensure that the mining and smelting of critical minerals, including nickel, used in its electric vehicles does not contribute to human rights and environmental abuses? What due diligence measures is GM taking to monitor and/or prevent abuses?
4. What steps does GM take to investigate and act on allegations of environmental and/or human rights abuse in its supply chain?
5. Has GM undertaken any steps, including but not limited to audits, to investigate the environmental and human rights impact of the critical minerals it sources? If yes, please describe those steps and the results of the investigations.
6. Does GM have a grievance mechanism that can be used by communities impacted by critical mineral mining and smelting to report human rights and/or environmental abuses? If yes, how often is the mechanism used? How does GM make impacted communities aware of the mechanism and ensure that it is accessible and available to those communities?
7. Our investigation found that open pit nickel mining in Indonesia, including in Central and East Halmahera, has led to high levels of deforestation. Does GM account for greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation for mining in its Scope 3 emissions calculations? If not, why not?
8. Has GM made any commitments to reduce or eliminate fossil fuels in its supply chain? If yes, please provide us with any relevant documentation. Does GM have any other climate goals or commitments? If so, please provide documentation of those commitments.
9. Has GM made any commitments on human rights, including on Indigenous Peoples' right to exercise free, prior, and informed consent? Does GM have any requirements on human rights for its suppliers? If yes, please provide documentation of those commitments.

Please provide your responses in writing to adams@cri.org, copying kshennum@cri.org. 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

Executive Director, Climate Rights International



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