



To: Heather Draper, Dow Jones Newswires
Re: Statement by EARTHWORKS' President, Stephen D'Esposito
October 20, 2004

EARTHWORKS has repeatedly called for due process, in accordance with Indonesian law and international human rights standards, to be followed in the police investigation into the pollution of Buyat Bay.

EARTHWORKS has also urged the Indonesian authorities to respect the rights of local communities and civil society organizations to engage in peaceful advocacy to safeguard human rights, public health and the environment.

The most significant issue remains the protection of the community and environment in Buyat Bay. The critical task at hand is to determine the causes of health problems in Buyat, provide the necessary healthcare and treatment, and safeguard the community from further harm. We ask that the ongoing assessments be allowed to continue independently and without interference.

Stephen D'Esposito

CEO and President
EARTHWORKS

Cc: Wayne Murdy, Newmont Mining Corp.