2016.04.08
Subject: Reply to Bank Track mail dated 21 March, 2016.

Dear Mr. Ryan Brightwell

Please see below our reply in blue to your mail dated 21 March 2016.

Q1  Can the bank outline the due diligence process it has conducted to assess risks of actual or potential human rights impacts caused by Drummond?

As per our policies, we cannot refer to any specific transaction.

However as a signatory of Equator Principles (EP) Association, Mizuho ensures that the appropriate due diligence and assessment process has been undertaken for all projects falling within EP Scope. As stipulated in the EPs, we may require the client to complement its Assessment documentation with specific human rights due diligence addressing the social risks such as impacts on affected communities, land acquisition and involuntary resettlement, labor issues etc, if applicable.

In cases where any human rights violations are reported, we conduct appropriate inquiries and ensure that all the related parties are informed of such violations and appropriate next steps to resolve such cases are formulated.


Q2 Can the bank provide an overview of its response to the issues identified and its efforts to prevent and/or mitigate the adverse impacts outlined?

As per our policies, we cannot refer to any specific transaction.

As an Equator Principles Financial Institution (EPFI), we ensure that for all the issues (including the human rights issues) identified in the Assessment process as described in Question 1, appropriate management/mitigation plans are formulated by our clients. We include compliance with these environmental and social management plans in our loan documentation, any breach of which can then result in an event of default.

Also, in our internal checklists, we require front officer to inquire and fill in details related to human rights due diligence. At the time of deal initiation and/or during our periodic checks, front office needs to find out if there is any community unrest, NGO complaints, and negative media attention for/against the project and
needs to communicate it to the relevant departments including the Sustainable Development Office, Credit Department and the Corporate Communications Department. Based on the information provided, client is asked to prepare and implement appropriate preventive/mitigation plans; compliance with these plans is also incorporated in the loan documentation.

We conduct periodic checks for our existing products and services to ensure that the human rights are not being violated. In cases where human rights violations are found/reported, we make sure that all the related parties dealing with the transaction are made aware of the same, and appropriate inquiries and due diligence is conducted, as and if applicable.

For more information, please refer to:

Q3 Can the bank please provide an overview of any undertakings it has made to attain remedy for victims of the human rights violations in this case?

As per our policies, we cannot refer any details specific to our transaction.

In cases where such violations are reported, we conduct appropriate due diligence as outlined in our answers above.

Please be assured that we have taken all necessary steps like communicating with the relevant departments/teams/offices on receipt of this letter. We will be continuously following up on this.

We appreciate receiving this information from you, and in case of any new developments, please keep us posted.

***END***

Regards

Ryosuke Ueda
Sustainable Development Office
Global Project Finance Department
Mizuho Bank, Ltd