

DON'T MINE US OUT OF EXISTENCE

A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT
IS A HUMAN RIGHT

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



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Dear Chairperson,

I am very concerned about the permission granted to the Orissa government's Mining Corporation and Sterlite Industries India Ltd (a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources) to mine bauxite in the Niyamgiri Hills. This project threatens the way of life of the Dongria Kondh, a protected adivasi community. Niyamgiri is sacred and central to their identity, beliefs and traditional way of life. The mine could also impair their rights to water, food, health and work. Yet the Orissa government failed to obtain the Dongria Kondh's free, prior and informed consent – which international standards oblige them to do.

I urge you to:

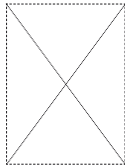
- withdraw permission to mine in the Niyamgiri Hills.
- thoroughly assess the human rights and environmental impacts of this project in genuine and open consultation with the Dongria Kondh.
- ensure that any proposed development or use of Dongria Kondh land is done **only** with their consent.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____



Chairperson

National Environmental Appellate Authority

J.L. Nehru Stadium

Gate No. 31, Lodi Road

New Delhi 110003

India

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Image: Mai Pusika, one of the many people from the Dongria Kondh community whose way of life will be threatened if the bauxite mine in the Niyamgiri Hills goes ahead, June 2008. © Sanjit Das/Amnesty International

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