

Independent Scientific Review
Finalized June 21, 2006

Scope:

Review OTML Proposals for a new set of environmental predictions.

Review and evaluate technical studies relating to matters of particular concern to communities including but not necessarily restricted to the following:

- The proposed strategies for the management of acid rock drainage (ARD)
- Existing and future sedimentation and associated flooding
- Existing and future ARD effects
- Physical and chemical changes in water quality and the implications in terms of drinking water, bathing and other forms of contact
- Physical and chemical changes in water quality and the implications for plants and animals that live in the rivers and associated areas
- Dieback and other impacts on food crops
- Decline in fish populations and fish species and other effects on fish
- Community health implications of impacts on the river systems
- Post-closure environmental and health issues, management and monitoring strategies and the method of implementing these strategies
- Non-river issues (e.g. highway dust/Kiunga Air Pollution)

Approach:

The approach will involve consultation, review of available information, preparation of briefing material and presentation of the findings of the review. This will include :

- Consultations with communities, women and children representatives, church representatives and NGOs to determine issues of particular concern and exchange information.
- Consult with OTML to access and discuss technical information
- Analyze available information in terms of the Guiding Questions in the Statement of work
- Consult with Expert colleagues as required
- Discuss issues arising from the technical review with OTML for clarification, further information and response
- Meet with the Department of Mines and Environment, PNGSDP, Provincial Government and Independent Observers to discuss issues and analysis
- Prepare Summary Briefing Papers including conclusions and possibilities
- Follow up meetings with communities