



commission for environmental impact assessment

Ministerio del Ambiente
República del Ecuador
Av. Amazonas Eloy Alfaro
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your reference
550 DAI/MA

your letter of
30 March 2001

our reference
045-026/Sh/lw

subject
Advisory Review of the Environmental
Impact Study for the OCP pipeline in
Ecuador

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Utrecht,
10 May 2001

By letter dated 30th March 2001, you invited the Commission for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to advise on an Environmental Impact Assessment Report of the OCP pipeline in Ecuador.

It is my pleasure to submit herewith the advice prepared by a working group of the Commission for EIA. Representing the working group, I would like to draw your attention to the issues mentioned below.

The Commission appreciated the open heartedness encountered during the discussions it had with representatives of the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Energy and Mines, ENTRIX and OCP. The critical remarks in this review advice must be considered as an intent to contribute to the effort of improving EIS and EMP quality.

In case the Ministry of Environment decides to request ENTRIX to provide additional information on certain aspects of the EIS, the recommendations of the Commission made in paragraph 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5 could be included. The EIS would thus gain in quality and public transparency. The remarks made by the Commission in the remaining paragraphs could be taken into account at a later stage, notably during detailed design or at EMP-implementation. The EMP could even be attached integrally to the environmental licence, thus making additional conditions unnecessary.

One of the objectives of the site visit was to perform in as much as possible a *joint* review with the Ecuadorian competent authorities to mutually benefit from an exchange of EIA-expertise and experience. The Commission found this a very positive experience. Therefore the Commission would like to invite especially the Ministry of Environment to provide its feedback on this matter.

At the debriefing session at the Ministry of Environment, the Commission was informed that the Ministry would prepare an overview of EIA-needs in which the Commission possibly

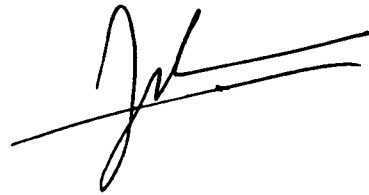
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could provide assistance, either in relation to follow-up activities of the OCP project or in relation to other projects or activities to enhance EIA-understanding or to promote capacity building in the field of EIA. The Commission would very much welcome future co-operation with the Ministry of Environment, subject to discussion with and approval by the Netherlands Embassy.

At its return to the Netherlands, the Commission received additional questions from the Ministry of Environment on a document which was prepared by Acción Ecológica and on the southern route. The Commission decided to include an appendix 10 in its advisory review addressing these questions.

The Commission appreciates to be informed about the use that is made of this advice.



J.W. Kroon

Chairman of the working group on
review of the EIA-report for the
OCP pipeline, Ecuador

cc.

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