## APPEAL TO STOP CONSTRUCTION OF IRRAWADDY/MYITSONE DAM IN KACHIN STATE, MYANMAR

January 17, 2010

## Premier Wen Jiabao,

Office of the Prime Minister, State Council Ximen Fuyou Street, Zhongnanhai West Gate, Xicheng District, Beijing People's Republic of China Postcode 100017

Dear Premier Wen Jiabao,

We, the Overseas Kachin Community, are writing to appeal to your Excellency to help advise the China Power Investment Corporation to strongly *reconsider* the pending construction of the Myitsone dam to be located in the Kachin State of Myanmar.

We seek your help to encourage the China Power Investment Corporation to realize the goals of promoting a conservation culture — ecological civilization [生态文明建设] in China and her humble adjacent neighbors, in this case, the Kachin State of Myanmar, as read out by President Hu Jintao in 2009 during the Meeting Marking the 30th Anniversary of Reform and Opening Up of China. We strongly applaud the environmental sensitivity beyond borders initiative put forth by China in this speech.

The China Power Investment Corporation is building a 50-storey high dam at our Irrawaddy River in Myanmar in order to provide electricity for China. While this will increase the availability of energy supply and therefore promote the possibility of enhanced monetary economic opportunities, it will seriously wash away the bases of life for millions of people and for generations, too, in the Kachin State, for the following reasons:

- 1. This dam will flood and destroy the confluence of the Mali and N'mai rivers, one of the most significant ecological and cultural heritage sites for the Kachin people and an important landmark for all of Myanmar.
- 2. Millions of people will be negatively affected downstream and 15,000 will be immediately displaced upstream. People will lose their homes, lands, and natural resource base.
- 3. The Myitsone dam site is less than 100 km from the earthquake prone Sagaing *fault line*. In the case of an earthquake, resulting dam breakage or unnatural flood surges would be disastrous to millions of people living along the Irrawaddy, especially the people living in Myitkyina, the capital city of Kachin State.

Our people in Kachin State have already publicly stated their objections about the dam to the Myanmar government but these objections have been, unfortunately, ignored. Now we, the people of Kachin State and Myanmar, appeal to you to help prevent this potential man-made catastrophe from taking shape.

Sincerely,

The Overseas Kachin Community

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| No | Name | Signature | Residence |
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温家宝先生 中华人民共和国国务院总理 北京市西城区府右街中南海西门 国务院总理办公室 邮编: 100017

尊贵的温家宝总理阁下:

## 停止在缅甸克钦邦兴建伊洛瓦底/ 莫貌水坝 (Irrawaddy/ Myitsone Dam) 请愿书

我们这群身处缅甸境外的克钦族撰写此信的目的,是为了向尊贵的总理阁下请愿。 我们恳请尊贵的总理阁下,劝谕中国电力投资集团公司慎重考虑暂停在我国克钦邦 莫貌地区兴建伊洛瓦底/ 莫貌水坝(Irrawaddy/ Myitsone Dam)。

我们恳请尊贵的总理阁下,向中国电力投资集团公司做出宣导,使之响应贵国国家主席,尊贵的胡锦涛主席先生,在纪念贵国改革开放 30 周年大会上的重要讲话中所提到建设生态文明的精神,为构建中国以及其邻国——缅甸之社会主义和谐社会做出贡献。

就此,我们就胡锦涛主席先生在此讲话中提到的跨国界环境问题的敏感性上,表示强烈的赞同。希望贵国企业在实施"走出去"海外开放战略的当儿,也能响应和贯彻胡锦涛主席先生的此次重要讲话内容,为了建设并保护生态文明慎重考虑暂停在我国克钦邦莫貌地区兴建水坝。

据悉,中国电力投资集团公司将在克钦邦莫貌地区的伊洛瓦底江上游兴建一座五十层楼高的大型水坝,并将水坝发出的电力传输到贵国。虽然这会缓解贵国能源供应不足的情况,并且促进我国的经济发展,但是此项工程将会直接威胁到世代居住在克钦邦数百万人民的日常生活,并使得后代子孙为此工程付出严重的代价:

- 一、兴建此水坝预计将会影响 Mali 和 N'mai 河的河道交叉点,破坏当地的生态环境。预计会被淹没的,包括身为克钦邦和缅甸的文化发源地,莫貌。
- 二、居住在下游的数百万人民将会遭受生态环境破坏之苦。此外,水坝的建立 将迫使处在工程地点的约一万五千户家庭离乡背井。人们将失去赖以生存 的家园,土地和天然资源。

三、坝址距离地震活跃带距离地震活跃带,实皆断层线仅百余公里。水坝的破 裂或是不寻常的泄洪,都将给在下游沿江地区的数百万人民,尤其是克钦 邦首府密支那市带来预想不到的灾难。

克钦邦人民已经为此工程,公开地向缅甸政府表达了反对的意见。但是遗憾的是, 我邦人民的反对意见被我国政府忽视。故此,我们在此恳求尊贵的总理阁下以及贵 国政府,聆听我们卑微的声音,协助防止这种人为灾难的形成。

> 缅甸海外克钦社区 谨启 二零一零年一月十七日

附: 反对兴建水坝签名书