

To: President Hu Jintao

**OPEN LETTER REQUESTING CHINA TO HALT DESTRUCTION  
OF VILLAGES OPPOSED TO CHINA'S MYITSONE DAM IN  
BURMA**

May 26, 2010

His Excellency President Hu Jintao  
Zhongnanhai, Xichengqu, Beijing  
People's Republic of China  
cc. Mr. Lu Qizhou  
President China Power Investment Corporation (CPI)

Dear President Hu,

On behalf of communities suffering from the Myitsone Dam project in Kachin State, we appeal to you to immediately halt the forced relocation and destruction of the villages of those opposed to this project by China's state-owned *China Power Investment Corporation*. The construction of this dam is against the will of local people and violates China's own dam construction guidelines as well as international standards.

Recently Burma's military government has ordered over 1,000 civilians from our capital Myitkyina to forcibly relocate all the residents of Tanghpri, the main village at the dam site, before the end of May 2010. If villagers refuse to leave, these civilians have been ordered to immediately tear down Tanghpri's houses, schools and churches.

These brave Tanghpri villagers, who have been peacefully resisting illegal orders to leave their homes and farms, are not only defending their lands, but also Kachin State's most treasured cultural landmark, the Myitsone confluence, and Burma's main waterway, the Irrawaddy River. If the dam goes ahead, not only will 15,000 villagers lose their homes upstream, but millions downstream will face reduced water flows affecting fishing, farming, shipping and other vital economic activities. All of the profits from the dam will simply enrich Burma's military government, while your country will receive the electricity.

By forcing Kachin State residents to destroy Tanghpri, Burma's military government is cruelly forcing our people to destroy their very heritage and economic lifeline. China should not be complicit in this extreme form of collective punishment against people peacefully protecting their lands.

We have previously sent letters to CPI requesting a halt to the Myitsone project as it was clear CPI would be unable to follow its own Corporate Social Responsibility standards as well as China's *Nine Principles on Encouraging and Standardizing Foreign Investment*.

The order by Burma's military government to destroy the village of Tanghpri again proves it is not possible to build this dam according to China's own laws and standards.

We therefore appeal to China to halt the Myitsone Dam project.

Yours sincerely,

KDNG

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