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PRESS RELEASE

PJV distributes fuel and gen sets in earthquake relief assistance

PORT MORESBY, 05 JUNE, 2018, 1300HRS: Porgera Joint Venture (PJV) has donated a total of 28,800 litres of diesel to organisations and institutions in Porgera valley, since March.

Valued at K76,320 (excluding logistic cost), PJV started the fuel donation on 14 March up to 1 June.

Following the 7.5 magnitude earthquake of 26 February, Porgera valley was left in the dark and the mine operation affected, as the earthquake also damaged the PJV Power Station in Hides, Hela Province.

Under the Company's relief assistance, it also provided, for temporary use, 11 portable 3.0kVA generators to a number of critical service providers, including Paiam Police Station.

PJV will continue the relief assistance until such time electricity is fully restored to Porgera valley, when the generators will also be returned.

Annually, PJV supplies about 4 megawatt electricity free of charge (FOC) to Porgera Valley, which amounts to an estimated US\$2.5 million.

Manager Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Operations and Governance Graeme Nielsen said the company's assistance was to ensure critical services continued to operate.

"While the Porgera community didn't receive any significant damage, they are without power and will be for the foreseeable future.

"Our efforts have focused on acquiring portable generators and fuel to ensure critical services such as schools, medical facilities and bank are able to continue operating," he said.

Bank of South Pacific (BSP) Limited Paiam branch and the Porgera District Hospital receive fuel fortnightly, with BSP getting 1,000L while the hospital 2,000L.

BSP Manager – Network, Mary Koi said on a weekly basis, the bank used about 700L of diesel which was purchased locally.

"The assistance given to us by PJV is highly appreciated and we feel that we are a valued service provider in the valley. It's wonderful to see this caring behaviour in this time of disaster," she said.

PJV has also assisted schools with 200L of fuel monthly. The schools were: Paiam Primary, Paiam International, Paiam Secondary, Porgera Lutheran Primary, and Porgera Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) Centre.

Organisations that received 200L of fuel monthly were Porgera Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Anglicare and Porgera Development Authority (PDA), while Paiam Bakery receives 1,000L fortnightly.

Apart from Police that received a generator, the other recipients were Porgera Urban Clinic, PDA, Seventh-Day Adventist (SDA) Church, Porgera Christian Apostolic Fellowship (CAF), Porgera District Court House and the Magistrate's residence, Paiam Catholic Church, Porgera District Administration Office, Special Mining Lease (SML) Children Investment Trust office, and the Paiam United Church Ipili Circuit.

The generators were accompanied by 25 metre extension cords and 200L of fuel.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Porgera Gold Mine in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, is operated by Barrick (Niugini) Limited ("BNL") – through an equal partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group Company Limited – which owns 95 percent participating interest in the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The remaining 5% in PJV is owned by Mineral Resource Enga (MRE) Limited – a consortium consisting of the Enga Provincial Government and the Porgera landowners.

The Porgera Mine employs over 2,500 Papua New Guineans, and over the life of the mine has produced more than 20 million ounces of gold and contributed approximately 10% of PNG's total annual exports.



PJV Community Development Senior Officer Peter Tumun (left) and colleagues with staffs of Porgera Urban Clinic with a generator.



Drums of fuel being delivered to BSP Paiam Branch.



Porgera District court staffs with a drum of diesel fuel.



PJV staff Alila Tanaka (left) with some members of the United church Ipili circuit and a generator.

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