

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Response to Tuanda Claims**

**PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA – THURSDAY 09 JULY, 2020:** Barrick (Niugini) Limited, the operator of the Porgera Mine in Enga, Papua New Guinea, notes that it is aware of a claim lodged by members of the Tuanda Clan raising allegations of environmental impacts and economic losses, but believes that these allegations are unfounded and entirely without merit.

The Company intends to contest the claim.

The Company notes that the Porgera Mine has always operated in compliance with the conditions of its environmental permits and the laws of Papua New Guinea, and has never received any notice of non-compliance from PNG regulators.

The Mine relies on world-class science, government regulations and stakeholder engagement to inform its environmental practices. The Company conducts a variety of environmental audits and independent assessments of impacts, many of which are performed by third-parties. These audits verify that management systems are adequate to ensure performance commitments are achieved, and that the operations are in compliance with government regulations and internal standards.

The Company notes that environmental management practices at the Mine were studied and approved by the Government prior to the grant of the Special Mining Lease. The PNG Conservation and Environmental Protection Authority (CEPA) has carried out regular audits of the Mine and has always found it to be in compliance with its permits.

The Company further notes that is has always paid appropriate land-use compensation payments for lands that are required for mining operations, as required by the relevant laws of Papua New Guinea.

In regards to the current status of the Mine, and related judicial review proceedings in the National Court, the Company notes that the mine remains in a care and maintenance mode, and that legal proceedings remain ongoing.

As the matter remains before the courts, the Company cannot provide further comment at this time.

## >ENDS<

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The Porgera mine is a joint venture between Barrick and the Zijin Mining Group, which each owns 47.5%, with the remaining 5% interest held by Mineral Resources Enga (owned equally by Porgera Special Mining Lease landowners and the Enga Provincial Government). The mine is operated by Barrick Niugini Limited ("BNL").