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PRESS RELEASE

Wabag DDA in MOU with Porgera Mine for Fuel Assistance

PORT MORESBY, 22 October 2019, 0900HRS: A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Porgera mine operator Barrick (Niugini) Limited ("BNL"), and the Wabag District Development Authority (WDDA).

BNL Country Director Dr Ila Temu and Wabag Member of Parliament (MP) and State Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources, Dr Tom Lino, signed the MOU in Port Moresby on 15 October, 2019.

Under the MOU, BNL will provide fuel assistance to the Authority currently undertaking a project to upgrade and properly establish the Wabag-Maramuni road as well as constructing and expanding other important roads in the district.

BNL has agreed under the MOU to provide fuel for the next six (6) months on roadworks machinery being used to construct and upgrade the roads.

Dr Temu pointed out the importance of infrastructure such as roads and bridges, adding that roads were critical for service delivery and transportation for people in the districts and the country as a whole.

He said the fuel support was in recognition of the progress that the WDDA has made under the leadership of the Wabag MP.

Dr Lino was grateful for the fuel assistance and said the support will greatly assist the WDDA to complete roadworks on the remaining roads in Wabag District, that were currently under construction.

He said the Wabag-Maramuni road was a very important infrastructure that linked the isolated people of Maramuni to the Enga Provincial capital Wabag.

He said currently the WDDA was constructing five (5) new roads and has already completed two (2) new ones, also within the district.

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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 4,500 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.



Dr Temu (left) and Dr Lino (right) with the MOU, being assisted by BNL Lawyer Collin Mark.

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