

UK coalition members

ABColumbia
Action Aid
Amnesty International UK
Burma Campaign
CAFOD
Campaign Against Arms Trade
CARE International UK
Christian Aid
Ecumenical Council for
Corporate Responsibility
Engineers Against Poverty
Global Poverty Project
Global Witness
Natural Resource Governance
Institute
The ONE Campaign
OpenCorporates
Open Knowledge Foundation
Open Society Foundations
Oxfam Great Britain
Peru Support Group
Progressio
Save the Children UK
Scottish Catholic International
Aid Fund
Tearfund
Transparency International UK
United Nations Association of
the UK
World Vision International

Margot James MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Small Business, Consumers and
Corporate Responsibility
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

17 February 2017

Dear Ms James

Extractive industry transparency

As UK members of the global Publish What You Pay (PWYP) civil society coalition, we write to request a meeting with you to discuss the Government's leadership on extractives (oil, gas and mining) transparency and to seek your assurance that Government commitment to the UK Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 remains strong.

UK Government leadership has been crucial in establishing a global extractives transparency standard through the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). We particularly value the effective collaboration of your Department, which has a track record of working internationally to achieve progress in this field.

The recent vote by US legislators to "disapprove" the rule implementing Section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act is retrogressive. The Securities and Exchange Commission must still promulgate a new rule, and our US colleagues are committed to ensuring the United States remains on course to implement the global standard.

The first year of mandatory extractive company country-by-country and project-by-project reporting in the UK has been a success in making host governments more accountable to their citizens, with no evidence of competitive burdens on, or harm to, companies. We will contribute to your Department's review of the Regulations, which can send a strong signal to other governments about the importance of greater openness in the sector.

Continuing UK leadership of this agenda in the context of "Global Britain" requires a forward-looking review of the Regulations, reaffirmation of the value of these disclosures, and progressing commodities trading transparency around the sale of oil, gas and minerals.

We look forward to hearing from you on the Government's leadership and continued commitment to a strong global extractive industry transparency standard.

Please also let us know when we might meet with you to discuss these matters by replying via Miles Litvinoff, Publish What You Pay UK Coordinator (mlitvinoff@pwpuk.org; 01442 825060; 07984 720103).

Yours sincerely



Robert Barrington
Executive Director
Transparency International UK



Simon Taylor
Founder Director
Global Witness



Daniel Kaufmann
President and CEO
Natural Resource Governance Institute



Saira O'Mallie
UK Director (Interim)
The ONE Campaign



Neil Thorns
Director of Advocacy
CAFOD



Chris Taggart
Chief Executive and Co-Founder
OpenCorporates



Rosemary Thorp
Vice-President
Peru Support Group



John Arnold
Executive Director
Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility



Kenneth Boyce
Head of Private Sector
Christian Aid



Miles Litvinoff
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