



May 4, 2009

His Excellency Elmi Obsieh Wais
Ministere de l'Habitat, de l'Urbanisme, de l'Environnement
et de l'Amenagement du Territoire
BP 2091
Djibouti-Republique de Djibouti

Dear Mr. Minister:

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is considering providing consent to ECP Africa Fund II's investment in Salt Investment SAZF, a salt production facility near Lake Assal in Djibouti. OPIC is an agency of the United States Government with a mandate to encourage and support U.S. private sector investments in developing countries and emerging economies. All OPIC-supported projects must be economically and environmentally sound.

OPIC is required by U.S. law to notify appropriate governmental authorities of investments under consideration for OPIC assistance that have the potential to pose significant consequences for the environment. The project that is the subject of this notification involves salt production from Lake Assal.

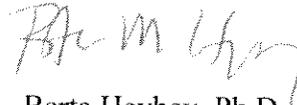
OPIC also is required by U.S. law to provide your government with information about standards and guidelines that have been developed by international organizations and by federal environmental regulatory authorities of the United States and that are applicable to such investments. OPIC applies guidelines and standards established by the World Bank Group and other similar international organizations. OPIC has enclosed these guidelines.

According to the documentation submitted by the project company, the key areas of concern are related to the construction of infrastructure needed for salt extraction and export. We understand that the project design was selected to avoid impacts on the environment. The salt production facility will use internationally accepted environmental management practices to mitigate potential impacts to acceptable levels. Based on the information provided by the project company, this project does not appear to pose significant hazards to the environment, public health or safety.

We understand, of course, that the project will be subject to the laws of the Republic of Djibouti with regard to protection of the environment, public health and safety.

If you have any questions about OPIC's environmental assessment of this project, you may contact OPIC's Director of Environmental Affairs at the above address.

Respectfully yours,



Berta Heybey, Ph.D.

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Enclosures: International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards, General Environmental, Health and Safety, Waste Management, and Water and Sanitation Guidelines; the World Health Organization's Guidelines for Safe Use of Wastewater, Excreta and Greywater; United States 40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 415.160 through 415.166 Subpart P - Sodium Chloride Production Subcategory.