

April 12, 1992

Mr. Enrique Iglesias
President, Inter-American
Development Bank
1300 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20577

REPUBLICA DE CHILE					
PRESIDENCIA					
REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO					
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M.T.O.	<input type="checkbox"/>	EDEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	J.R.A.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Dear Mr. Iglesias:

I am writing in response to the possible funding of the Pangué Dam project in Chile by the Inter-American Development Bank. The funding of this project is deeply troubling to me because of the flagrant humanitarian and environmental problems that would result from the completion of this dam on the Bio Bio River. I feel that the Inter-American Development Bank is overlooking the strong negative impact that the Pangué dam would have upon the peoples, innumerable species of animals and the environment as a whole in the region of the proposed dam.

The Inter-American Development Bank is completely disregarding the livelihood of the Pehuenche people inhabiting the region, whose migratory and traditional patterns would be destroyed. Certain vital portions of the invaluable Araucaria forests, which sustain this population, would be decimated by the construction of the Pangué dam. The Bio Bio River is an invaluable resource to our earth as a whole, and most importantly to the Pehuenche people. As a result, it is imperative that Endesa attain the informed consent of the people who would be directly affected by this project before proceeding any further with the Pangué Dam.

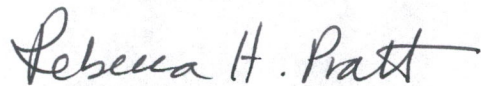
The damages done to numerous species of animals in the Bio Bio region as a direct result of poor development has already proven fatal. There are no longer any long-eared Andean deer (huemul), nor are there any surviving miniature deer (pudo). Fourteen species of fish and amphibians, birdlife and mammals such as the puma and wild cat have no chance of survival if the Inter-American Development Bank funds this project.

Not only would the proposed Pangué dam potentially kill off the only remaining Mapuche Indian society, as well as much of the wildlife in the Bio Bio region, but it is very short-sighted of the Inter-American Development Bank to believe that the volcanic activity in the region would

even make it potentially logical from a hydro-electric prospective. The volcanically active Callaqui Volcano looming just above the proposed dam site, as well as several other highly unstable volcanoes in the immediate region propose a threat to the entire proposed six-dam project on the Bio Bio River. Early siltation of the river would ensure a short lifespan of the dam as well. It seems very unwise to tamper with and disrupt the natural environment when the longevity and worthiness of the dam project is itself in question.

Instead of promoting and funding such a shortsighted and environmentally ignorant project, the Inter-American Development Bank should set an example for the world and **reject Endesa's plans** for the Pangué Dam. The wave of the future is to embrace projects that promote socially and environmentally sound alternatives, such as **conservation and less costly energy efficiency**. By accepting the loan application for the Pangué Dam project you will not only be informing the world of your immoral, backward views with regard to the environment and human nature, but you will set a terribly destructive precedent for the future of our world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca H. Pratt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Rebecca H. Pratt

April 12, 1992

Mr. Lewis Preston
President
World Bank
1818 H St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20433

Dear Mr. Preston:

I am writing in response to the possible funding of the Pangué Dam project in Chile by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) sector of the World Bank. The funding of this project is deeply troubling to me because of the flagrant humanitarian and environmental problems that would result from the completion of this dam on the Bio Bio River. I feel that the IFC is overlooking the strong negative impact that the Pangué dam would have upon the peoples, innumerable species of animals and the environment as a whole in the region of the proposed dam.

The IFC is completely disregarding the livelihood of the Pehuenche people inhabiting the region, whose migratory and traditional patterns would be destroyed. Certain vital portions of the invaluable Araucaria forests, which sustain this population, would be decimated by the construction of the Pangué dam. The Bio Bio River is an invaluable resource to our earth as a whole, and most importantly to the Pehuenche people. As a result, it is imperative that Endesa attain the informed consent of the people who would be directly affected by this project before proceeding with the Pangué Dam.

The damages done to numerous species of animals in the Bio Bio region as a direct result of poor development has already proven fatal. There are no longer any long-eared Andean deer (huemul), nor are there any surviving miniature deer (pudo). Fourteen species of fish and amphibians, birdlife and mammals such as the puma and wild cat have no chance of survival if the World Bank funds this project.

Not only would the proposed Pangué dam potentially kill off the only remaining Mapuche Indian society, as well as much of the wildlife in the Bio Bio region, but it is very short-sighted of the IFC to believe that the volcanic activity in the region would even make it potentially logical from

a hydro-electric prospective. The volcanically active Callaquien Volcano looming just above the proposed dam site, as well as several other highly unstable volcanoes in the immediate region propose a threat to the entire proposed six-dam project on the Bio Bio River. Early siltation of the river would ensure a short lifespan of the dam as well. It seems very unwise to tamper with and disrupt the natural environment when the longevity and worthiness of the dam project is itself in question.

Instead of promoting and funding such a shortsighted and environmentally ignorant project, the World Bank should set an example for the world and **reject Endesa's plans** for the Pangué Dam. The wave of the future is to embrace projects that promote socially and environmentally sound alternatives, such as **conservation and less costly energy efficiency**. By accepting the loan application for the Pangué Dam project you will not only be informing the world of your immoral, backward views with regard to the environment and human nature, but you will set a terribly destructive precedent for the future of our world.

Sincerely,

Rebecca H Pratt

Rebecca H. Pratt

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