

May 26, 1992

3853 West 14th Avenue  
Vancouver, B. C. V6R 2X1

President Patricio Aylwin  
Palacio de la Moneda  
Santiago, Chile

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ARLH...

Dear Mr. President: RE: BIO\_BIO DAM AND  
Pehuenche people

I am writing to beg you to find means, other than the building of the Bio-Bio dam to provide energy for your people. The building of this dam will affect the cultural survival of your Pehuenche people and farmers. It will also affect the unique and diverse river ecology, and in the event of an earthquake, would be a disaster to those in that region.

I have written to the World Bank about other dams, and I am appalled that, with all the money they spend on dams, they do not investigate the possibility of other sources of energy which would not require the resettlement of the indigenous people, not destroy the plant and animal species and the fish habitat.

I beg of you that you will immediately do the following:

1. recognize and enforce the Pehuenche people's rights to determine the use of their lands
2. disclose all relevant information, including economic feasibility studies, environmental and social assessments for all six Bio-Bio dams, to any member of the public that requests the information.
3. to recognize the rights of all those affected to a hearing, to sue, protect their land, their water, and their forest ecosystems from irresponsible and unjust expropriation, and to otherwise hold the proponents liable for their actions
4. halt ALL WORK ON THE BIO\_BIO DAMS
5. compensate all Bio-Bio residents whose land, forests and livestock have been destroyed by work to date.

I beg that you will look to others sources of energy..solar, wind; and conservation of natural resources to use as an alternative to this proposal of the daming of the Bio-Bio.

I hope you will consider my requests.

Sincerely and respectfully,

*Elaine Clemens*