

Dear ECCR members, partners and friends

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Shell Corrib project – parish priests voice community opposition

Rosspport residents recently delivered a letter to the Irish Minister for Energy, Marine and Natural Resources signed by the three priests working in the parish. The letter states that 'The project as planned ... does not have consent from the community ... the majority of people in the parish are opposed to it.' It criticises Shells approach of seeking support through local sports sponsorship and a public relations drive, and indicates that possibilities for genuine dialogue have been closed down. A copy of the letter is posted at http://www.corribsos.com/uploads/parish_letter003.jpg (click on image to enlarge). Members may wish to raise concerns with senior management at Royal Dutch Shell Plc, Carel van Bylandtlaan 16, 2596 HR DEN HAAG, Postbus 162, 2501 AN DEN HAAG, The Netherlands.

ECCR South West Group launch meeting

A group of ECCR members are hoping to launch a South West group, with full support from the Board and team. A launch meeting will be held at Woodlands Christian Centre, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2AA, on Saturday 9 February from 11 am to 4 pm. Members, prospective members and others with an interest in corporate and investor responsibility are warmly invited to attend. The event will be free of charge and the format participatory. It is hoped to establish a group and draw up an initial programme of activity. Those interested are invited to contact ECCR's Church and Membership Relations Officer, Helen Boothroyd - helen.boothroyd@eccr.org.uk, tel. 016977 46567 - to register interest and for a programme when it becomes available.

New publications from ECCR corporate members and partners

A number of worthwhile and useful publications have recently been produced by ECCR members and partners:

- *Indigenous rights, indigenous wrongs: risks for the resource sectors*, from EIRIS; news release at <http://www.eiris.org/files/press%20releases/indigenouspeoplesoct07.pdf>; report at <http://www.eiris.org/files/research%20publications/seeriskindigenouspeoples.pdf>.
- *Fairtrade begins at home: Supermarkets and the effect on British farming livelihoods*, from the Church of England Ethical Investment Advisory Group, November 2007; news release at <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/news/pr10607.html>; report at <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/info/ethical/policystatements/fairtrade.pdf>; printed copies available from Amanda Young - amanda.young@ccla.co.uk.
- *Climate Change Theology: Beyond Stewardship?* from Christian Aid; available at <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/stoppoverty/climatechange/resources/Theology.aspx>.

- *Fund Manager Responsibility Survey*, from FairPensions ('75% of top 20 fund managers do not disclose responsible investor policies that address environmental and social issues'); news release at <http://www.fairpensions.org.uk/news/fundmanager2007.asp>; report available from Ben Watson - ben.watson@fairpensions.org.uk.
- *The Companies Act 2006: Directors' Duties Guidance*, from the Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition; news release at <http://www.corporate-responsibility.org/C2B/PressOffice/display.asp?ID=88&Type=2>; publication at http://www.corporate-responsibility.org/module_images/directors_guidance_final.pdf.

December Bulletin

ECCR's December *Bulletin* issue will be available shortly, including a full report of the September open debate on Water Sustainability plus articles on social and work-related CSR programmes in the UK, responsible investment advocacy group FairPensions, and the Modern Universal Paradigm that unites the faiths. People who don't regularly receive the Bulletin can request a sample copy from Binia Scherrer - info@eccr.org.uk.

ECCR evaluation – comments on our work invited

From late November through into 2008, ECCR will undertake an evaluation of the first year's work of its current three-year programme. The purpose is to promote organisational learning and to enhance ECCR's accountability to its membership and donor partners. Full members, donor partners and local ECCR groups will receive a brief evaluation questionnaire on which to make their comments. All members are welcome to comment on ECCR's recent work and to suggest areas of work in which they would like to see future development. Please send comments by email to miles.litvinoff@eccr.org.uk.

With all good wishes

Miles Litvinoff

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