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Shell Canada Limited

400 - 4th Avenue, S.W.
P.O. Box 100, Station M
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H5
TEL (403) 691-3111

December 23, 1998

Resource Library for the Environment and the Law
517 College Street, Suite 401
Toronto, Ontario
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Attention: Sarah Miller, Treasurer

Dear Ms. Miller

Your comment expressing concern about Shell's environmental and human rights record in Nigeria was passed on to me by my colleague who administers the Shell Environmental Fund. Many of the allegations and facts about Shell in Nigeria have been either mis-stated or exaggerated by particular groups and I hope to provide some balance to what you may have heard.

First let me clarify the facts surrounding Shell Canada's relationship with the situation in Nigeria. Shell Canada Limited is a Canadian corporation that does not have any operations in Nigeria, nor do we do any business with the government of Nigeria.

The fact that Shell Canada has no involvement with Nigeria does not mean our company isn't taking the matter very seriously. Indeed we are. We continue discussions with senior management of Shell Nigeria and we believe Shell is playing a positive role in that country.

I can assure you that Shell has been, and is, working with communities in the Niger Delta to improve their standard of living. The company invested more than \$32 million U.S. in 1997 in community programs for education, health and social infrastructure and more than \$94 million U.S. on environmental projects.

It is unfortunate that certain groups are attempting to portray Shell in a bad light. While the company does not pretend to be perfect, Shell is working with the communities of the Niger Delta to bring about a peaceful resolution of the problems they face

I have enclosed information from Shell International and the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria to address some of the issues in more detail.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Sparkes".
Margaret S. Sparkes
Communications Advisor

Encl.

cc: Sheila Butler, SEF