

Golden Veroleum (Liberia) Inc.
Monrovia Office: Unit 302, Wazni Building,
13th Street and Tubman Boulevard,
Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia

Registered: Jones and Jones
above Cherif Pharmacy
Randall Street, Monrovia

4 October 2019

James Otto – SDI
Danielle van Oijen – Milieudedefensie
Jeff Conant – FoE US

Dear James, Danielle and Jeff,

Reference is made to your letter dated 23 September 2019.

1. Updates on GVL's Sustainability Action Plan and Consultation with the Civil Society Oil Palm Working Group (CSOPWG)

As mentioned in your letter, GVL publishes updates on the progress of the Sustainability Action Plan regularly. Latest detailed updates are posted at <https://goldenveroleumliberia.com/sustainability-action-plan/>.

GVL acknowledges that we have committed to having regular meetings with the CSOPWG. I understand that this has taken place twice this year, in April and June, together with representatives from the Earthworm Foundation (EF). However, additional meetings scheduled in June did not happen because of unforeseen events including the civil demonstrations in Monrovia. Nevertheless, GVL remains committed to meet at least every six months, supported by regular written communications, as agreed during the meeting in April.

2. HCV/HCS Clearance in Sinoe County

GVL has acknowledged that there was some clearance of HCS in our area of operations. GVL's initial investigations done in July and August of 2018 revealed that these were unintended and happened because of some operational weaknesses.

To prevent these from recurring, in August 2018 GVL announced a voluntary halt to all new land clearance in the whole of Sinoe County and initiated the Sustainability Action Plan to be implemented with the help of EF. The voluntary halt is still in place and will be lifted in phases only when GVL is satisfied that the chances of such incidences occurring is minimal.

Meanwhile, areas of cleared HCS has been mapped and GVL will be submitting details and a proposed remediation plan to the HCSA for review as this case has been filed as a formal grievance with the HCSA. We expect this process to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2019 and for remediation and restoration activities to proceed in early 2020.

As proposed in your letter, we will be pleased to share more details in a meeting. Dr Michael Abedi-Lartey will be communicating with you to make the arrangements.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,



Ferdy Surya Handojo
CEO
Golden Veroleum Liberia

cc:

Secretariat, RSPO Complaints Panel
Executive Director, HCSA
National Bureau of Concessions
Erith Ngatchou, Earthworm Foundation
Dr Gotz Martin, Golden Agri Resources