



**MEDIA RESPONSE**  
**27<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**OTML denies LO claim of outstanding payments owed to beneficiaries**

Ok Tedi Mining Limited (OTML) says there are no benefits parked up pending payment to beneficiaries.

This is in response to an article in the Post Courier on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July and other media enquiries seeking clarification from claims by certain Mt Fubilan Landowners that a court ordered Mine Pit Benefit payments have not been made by OTML.

The landowners claimed that documents verifying the court ordered payments were submitted to OTML and are yet to receive a response.

OTML says it is in receipt of the documents and had provided a response to the clan leaders in February this year.

A Company spokesperson said, "OTML has been paying all benefits due to the landowners including monthly royalties and annual lease payments unless directed by a court of competent jurisdiction to withhold payments."

"Currently, there are no benefits parked and/or managed by OTML in trust accounts awaiting distribution or decision of the Court."

"The four (4) Special Mining Lease (SML) villages of Bultem, Finalbin, Kaborabip and Atemkit have been receiving their monthly royalty payments and the annual lease payments since the commencement of mining operations and the concerned clan is also a beneficiary to these royalty and lease payments as per their internal benefit distribution arrangement."

"OTML does not pay any form of special payment or such payment as Mine Pit Benefits to any particular SML landowners, Incorporated Land Groups or leaders for that matter."

The Company stated that as far as OTML is concerned this matter is an inter clan issue regarding the sharing of benefits within one particular clan group and does not involve the whole SML villages where there are other clans who are landowners.

"An agreement was reached between the clan on the sharing of benefits however this particular clan group is now challenging the ownership of the SML which is a separate matter."

In support of the OTML stance, the mine landowners also refuted the Kimka Sepian claim for the SML ownership stating that the Kimka Sepian matter is an internal clan matter on the distribution of the benefit and not on the ownership.

A landowner spokesperson said, "The SML is a communal ownership for the four SML villages and matters pertaining to land ownership must involve the four SML villages and not just one particular clan or leader."

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*An aerial view of the Ok Tedi Mine.*

**OTML Media Contact**

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**About Us**

Ok Tedi Mining Limited (OTML) is a majority state-owned entity that operates an open pit copper, gold and silver mine located in the Star Mountains of the Western Province, Papua New Guinea. We ship copper concentrate to smelters and ore refineries in Japan, The Philippines, Indonesia, South Korea, India and Germany.

The Company has been operating in the region for 37 years and has made a significant contribution to development in the Western Province through direct and indirect employment, royalties, compensation payments, and business opportunities.

The Company's registered office and senior operational management team is located at Tabubil, in the Western Province of PNG. It also has a representative office in Port Moresby and a Marketing and Logistics facility in Brisbane, Australia. To learn more about Ok Tedi Mining Limited, visit our website at [www.oktedi.com](http://www.oktedi.com)

