

Letter of Rejection from the Community of Teluk Meranti to PT RAPP (APRIL)

Teluk Meranti, 20 June, 2009

Concerning: Defending the Rights of the Community of Teluk Meranti

To: the President Director of RAPP (APRIL)

With this letter, the community of Teluk Meranti declare that:

We reject the presence of PT RAPP, based on our needs for the land across the river or lands that are going to be used in the future operation of your company.

The above decision is based on consideration of the following factors:

1. We defend the lands mentioned above for our grandchildren and descendents.
2. The experiences of villages and regions where RAPP has already entered have been bad from the point of view of community rights.
3. Communities have lost control of their lands used for farms and gardens
4. Our community will lose the basis of life (economic, social and cultural) if our forests become pulp wood plantations.

We, the community of the sub-district of Teluk Meranti have occupied and used this region wisely and traditionally since long before Indonesia became independent.

We make this letter of rejection with our full hearts in order to avoid problems that we don't want.

Respectfully,

The community of Teluk Meranti

Signed by 82 community members

Acknowledged, accepted by the Lurah of Teluk Meranti, H. Hasan E.

Copied to:

The Minister of Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia

Commission III DPR , RI

Commission IV DPR , RI

The Human Rights Commission, Jakarta

The National Forestry Council, Jakarta

The Governor of Riau

Etc etc