



The World Sindhi Institute
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October 27, 2005

Paul Wolfowitz
President, World Bank
18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433 USA

Re: Kalabagh Dam in Pakistan

Dear Mr. Wolfowitz:

We are writing to you from the World Sindhi Institute (WSI), a non-profit advocacy organization working to promote and protect the human rights of the Sindhi people of Sindh in southeastern Pakistan. Recent public statements from World Bank officials, including yourself, indicate an interest in supporting the construction of a large dam, the Kalabagh, on the Indus River in Pakistan.

The Sindhi people live mainly in and around the area of the Indus River, and many of them depend on the water for their livelihood. Any changes to the river and its flow will directly affect them, as previous construction already has. You are most probably aware that there is overwhelming opposition to any dam building from the population of Sindh. The elected Provincial Assemblies of Sindh, Baluchistan, and NWFP provinces have all passed resolutions in opposition to Kalabagh dam.

We would appreciate knowing the precise position of the WB regarding construction of the Kalabagh Dam, and in particular if the WB is preparing to fund, or intends to fund, the Government of Pakistan for this dam.

We look forward to your response. Thank you for your help and consideration.

Sincerely,

Munawar Laghari
Executive Director

Cc: Ms. Letitia Obeng, Director, Office of the President
Mr. Praful Patel, South Asia Vice President
Mr. John Wall, Country Director