

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 March 2014 11:45
To: [REDACTED]
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Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: "Pergub KEL" (Pergub No 5 2014) The destruction of the Leuser Ecosystem
Attachments: Pergub 5 2014.zip

Dear all,

I apologise to write with upsetting news. This has just arrived on my desk today.

It appears that the 'Pergub KEL' (attached) has been signed by Aceh Governor February 13th. Walhi Aceh (Friends of the Earth) raised this issue earlier (1), concerned that this is in violation of 'The Law on Governing Aceh' UU11/2006, which was an outcome after the MoU Helsinki that mediated peace to end the 30 year civil conflict in Aceh. I presume this requires legal review, feel welcome to share with your relevant contacts and departments.

Section 2

Article 2.2

The purpose of this regulation is to provide convenience and certainty of licensing or utilisation of cultivation area inside the Leuser Ecosystem.

Despite growing local support to have the entire Leuser Ecosystem nominated as a World Heritage Site, this policy is seen a stepping stone to the reactivation of logging largely targeted in the NE of the Leuser Ecosystem, the last of the great Sumatran lowlands. There have been many warnings of the impact to community and biodiversity if this is allowed to go ahead (2). It is widely viewed that Aceh is standing on the edge of environmental annihilation that is likely to stimulate social conflicts and escalate "natural disasters" such as landslides and flooding.

This should be considered an urgent call to escalate action. From those who I have spoken to in Aceh, this is a plea for help. Many here are questioning where is the EU Ambassador, and what is being done to protect the previous collaborative efforts and investment (3), as EU has invest millions of euros towards the protection of Leuser Ecosystem (4).

Local NGOs are calling for the international community to resume coordinated communication to the Governor of Aceh, and urging technical support to the Government of Aceh to review the current planning and policy that threatens to destroy Aceh's 'protected forests'.

With hope for peaceful resolution,

[REDACTED]

Banda Aceh

Reference:

- (1) <http://www.sumatranorangutan.org/aceh-governor-trapped-leuser-ecosystem-issue.html>
- (2) <http://www.sumatranorangutan.org/one-worlds-irreplaceable-protected-areas-threat-aceh-parliament-passes-controversial-spatial-plan.html>
- (3) <http://www.c-r.org/accord-article/brussels-backstage-aceh-peace-process>
- (4) <http://www.conservationandsociety.org/article.asp?issn=0972-4923;year=2013;volume=11;issue=3;spage=247;epage=263;auiast=Kelman;type=0>

Berikut diirinkan Pergub NO 5 tahun 2014