

Mr. Scott Franklin Thiel
Managing Director, BlackRock Fund Managers Limited
12 Throgmorton Avenue
London, EC2N 2DL
United Kingdom

October 9, 2017

Dear Mr. Scott Franklin Thiel,

RE: Human rights abuses at Bisha Mine, Eritrea, owned by Nevsun Resources Ltd

One year ago a coalition of organisations wrote to you expressing their concerns about Blackrock's investments in Nevsun Resources Ltd, specifically the use of forced conscript labor in Eritrea. The letter along with its annexes, set out in detail the allegations since heard in a Canadian court. The signatories, MiningWatch Canada, SumOfUs and WalkFree.org, now rebranded Freedom United, called on BlackRock to reconsider its position as a major shareholder and withdraw investments in Nevsun Resources Ltd. This call is supported by over a quarter million petition signatures now collected.

We write today to thank you for your action in divesting from Nevsun Resources Ltd. and to ask if you would like to make a statement which we could pass on to our supporters when we write to update them later this month. Despite the time that has elapsed, we have not located any reference to BlackRock's divestment from Nevsun, so we would be interested to learn more about this decision.

Please contact me on 07702 580855 or joanna.ej@freedomunited.org I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Joanna Ewart-James
Executive Director, Freedom United



Habte Hagos
Chair, Eritrea Focus

CC: Ms. Amra Balic, Mr. Richard Reginald Turnill, Ms. Michelle Edkins