



**SOCIETY FOR  
THREATENED  
PEOPLES**

# **Toxic waste in Repparfjord?**

## **Credit Suisse: Stop banking against the Sami!**

August 2019

## The situation — an overview

### The project

The Repparfjord is a small fjord in the municipality of Kvalsund in the west of Finnmark (in English: “The Sámi Field”), the northernmost and easternmost part of Norway. At a size of around 48,000 km<sup>2</sup>, Finnmark is larger than Switzerland. Almost half of all Norwegian Sámi live in this area. Now, the mining company “Nussir ASA” is planning to operate two copper mines in the Repparfjord mountains of Nussir and Gumpjenjuni.

The copper reserves in the two mountains Nussir and Gumpjenjuni are estimated by Nussir ASA at about 74 million tonnes, of which about 66 million tonnes are said to be in Nussir.<sup>1</sup> Nussir ASA plans to mine approximately two million tonnes of ore annually over the next 15 years.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the company also hopes to find gold and silver.<sup>3</sup> The copper is to be transported from the mines to a processing plant on the fjord, where about three per cent of the ore is to be refined straight away; the concentrate is to be shipped to a smelter abroad. The remaining 97 per cent of the ore and the tailings totalling up to two million tonnes per year, will be deposited in the Repparfjord. A large part of this consists of finely ground airborne dust and nanoparticles.<sup>4</sup>

Among Nussir ASA’s ten most important investors, Credit Suisse (CS) acts – according to the research of Society for Threatened Peoples (STP) – as a nominee shareholder, holding 20.6 per cent in the company for unknown clients. As such, CS manages the second largest number of shares in the company after the Norwegian company Monial AS. Other investors are Baker Steel Resource, Hai Invest, Antaeus AS, another unnamed shareholder, AJ Holding AS, Kompetanse-Invest AS, Hallgeir Øyen, and Bakke Consulting AS.<sup>5</sup>

### Criticism and protests

According to Sámi communities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the planned copper mine will pose a threat to the environment, violate the rights of Sámi communities, and affect their livelihoods. In March 2019, the environmental organisation Friends of the Earth Norway, the Sámi Parliament, and affected reindeer herders brought a case against the government for granting the operating licence. In granting the licence on 14th February 2019, in their view, the rights of the Sámi who use the area have been violated (Art. 27 UNO Covenant II, Art. 5 lit. d cl. 5 CERD, Art. 14 and 15 ILO Convention 169 and Art. 22 of the Reindeer Act (Reindeer Driftsloven) as well as Art. 1, 2, 6, 17, and 43 of the Norwegian Mining Act (Mineralloven). The judgment is still pending.

The fishermen’s organisation, the Norwegian Hunting and Fishing Association, and the Norwegian Reindeer Herders’ Association (Norske Reindriftsamers Landsforbund) have organised protests. The Young Friends of the Earth (Natur og Ungdom) also joined the protest.<sup>6</sup> The transnational NGO “Sámi Council” as well as the well-known singers and Sámi activists Mari Boine and Ella Marie Hætta Isaksen have also spoken out against the project and have drawn international attention.<sup>7</sup>

1 Estimate of the quantity in Nussir: [http://www.nussir.no/en\\_projec\\_nussir.php](http://www.nussir.no/en_projec_nussir.php)

Estimate of the quantity in Gumpjenjuni: [http://www.nussir.no/en\\_projec\\_ulvery.php](http://www.nussir.no/en_projec_ulvery.php)

2 Atle Staalesen, Government gives the green light for mining company, will be allowed to dump wastes in Arctic fjord, The Barents Observer, 2016: <https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/ecology-industry-and-energy/2016/12/government-gives-thumbs-mining-company-will-be-allowed-dump>

3 Nussir ASA’s website: [http://www.nussir.no/en\\_projec\\_nussir.php](http://www.nussir.no/en_projec_nussir.php)

4 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Fact sheet in German, Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 1

5 Nussir ASA’s website: [http://www.nussir.no/en\\_invest\\_sharec.php](http://www.nussir.no/en_invest_sharec.php)

6 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Protect Nussir from Nussir! p. 4 <https://nu.no/saker/gruver/2018/09/regjeringa-ma-forhindre-ny-alta-sak/> and <https://nu.no/saker/gruver/2018/12/roe-isaksen-ma-stoppe-gruvedumping-i-repparfjord/>

7 <https://www.newsinenglish.no/2019/02/18/finnmark-mining-protests-underway/>

As part of the campaign “Toxic Waste in Repparfjord? Credit Suisse: Stop banking against the Sámi!” the affected Sámi communities, the Sámi Parliament, and the Society for Threatened Peoples (STP) demand that Credit Suisse renounces its service as nominee shareholder in Nussir ASA. In addition, all those involved should commit to “Free, Prior and Informed Consent”(FPIC), an international legal approach to the implementation of the right to self-determination of indigenous communities.<sup>8</sup>

### Legal situation of the Sámi in Norway

Today, the Sámi’s way of life, language, and culture are protected by the Norwegian Constitution and by several international treaties and conventions. For example, the right to reindeer husbandry is reserved exclusively for the Sámi.<sup>9</sup> Based on the Sámi Law of 1987, a “Sameting” (a Sámi Parliament) was founded, which makes up the parliamentary representation of the Sámi and has the task of preserving and representing the constitutional position of the Sámi, their culture and their language. Norway has ratified the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and Article 92 of the Grunloven (Norwegian fundamental rights) guarantees the protection of human rights. Norway has also recognised the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the UN Covenants. Norway is also the only country in Scandinavia to have ratified ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous Rights.

With the Finnmark Act of 2005 (Finnmarkslov), the Norwegian State recognises that legally Finnmark is not entirely part of the Norwegian state. The so-called Finnmark Commission is responsible for regulating land and water rights in Finnmark. It comprises six members with equal voting rights and is made up of three members each of the Sámi Parliament and the District Council. The Sámi criticise the fact that the Finnmark Commission’s instructions have been ignored in the case of Nussir.<sup>10</sup> Overall, the economic interests of the planned project were weighed against the interests of the Sámi and considered to be more important.

### Facts and figures



According to estimates, Norway is home to between **40,000 to 70,000 Sámi**, the only recognised indigenous population in Europe.



Today, only about **10 per cent** of all Sámi are active in reindeer husbandry.



Up to **two million tonnes** of tailings from mining are to be dumped in the Repparfjord every year.



Around **8,000 reindeer** cross the Repparfjord area each year.



Credit Suisse manages a **20.6-per-cent stake** in Nussir ASA for unnamed clients.

<sup>8</sup> Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is a special right of consent for indigenous peoples and is based on the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. According to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the FPIC process is defined as follows: “Free” means that no manipulation or coercion be exercised against affected indigenous communities and that the process be carried out by the parties themselves. “Prior” means that consent or agreement with the affected indigenous communities be sought in advance, i.e. before the project is started or approved. Sufficient time must also be allowed for the consultation process. “Informed” means that the relevant indigenous communities receive sufficient information about the framework conditions of the project (size, duration, etc.). Indigenous communities should also have access to primary reporting on the economic, cultural, and environmental impacts of the project. This information must also be written in a language understood by indigenous communities. “Consent” means to strive for an agreement with the best intention and based, above all, on full participation and consultation of the affected indigenous communities

<sup>9</sup> Lov om reindrift (Law on reindeer husbandry) of 15th June 2007, sec. 9 in connection with sec.32, <https://lovdata.no/dokument/NL/lov/2007-06-15-40#KAPITTEL=-> Proudly Presents

<sup>10</sup> Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 2

## The role of Credit Suisse

According to the research of STP, Credit Suisse in its capacity as nominee shareholder holds 20.6 per cent of the shares in Nussir ASA for one or more unknown clients. From Credit Suisse's perspective, in this capacity, the Bank is not responsible for any negative impact the project may have. In a written statement to the STP and other NGOs, the bank states that it has no influence on the investment decisions made by its clients as long as they do not violate applicable law or regulations.

As part of its internal policies, Credit Suisse explicitly excludes the direct financing of mines that deposit their waste in shallow waters in the sea.<sup>11</sup> The STP fails to understand why this policy does not apply to share transactions and administration.

Interestingly, Credit Suisse is not the first Swiss bank to hold shares in Nussir ASA for this client. Until 2015, UBS was the nominee for the shares.<sup>12</sup> The client moved to Credit Suisse in 2016.<sup>13</sup> Why this change took place is not known. Following pressure from the Sámi Parliament and other NGOs, Citibank decided not to directly finance projects that involve the operation of sea dumps in the future.<sup>14</sup>

The lack of transparency about the identity of the investors for whom CS is managing the share package has left the Sámi Parliament outraged. According to Norwegian law, the names of investors must be made public if they hold a stake of more than 25 per cent in a company. Credit Suisse clients hold a 20.6-per cent stake in Nussir ASA.

## Impact of the planned copper mine

### Impact on the fjord

The Repparfjord is a "national salmon fjord" and the Repparfjord River is a "national salmon river", which means that the fjord and river should be specially protected to preserve the Atlantic wild salmon population. This stands in stark contrast to the proposed project. According to the affected Sámi, fishing in Kvalsund has again become a more important source of income in recent years.<sup>15</sup>

During the operation of the mine at Gumpjenjuni between 1972 and 1978, around three million tonnes of tailings were disposed of in the fjord.<sup>16</sup> This resulted in a massive decline in salmon stock. According to Naturvernforbundet, the spawning area of the local coastal codfish was also destroyed, and the quality of the cod deteriorated to such an extent that it could no longer be sold.<sup>17</sup>

11 Summary of Credit Suisse's Sector Policies and Guidelines, p. 4

12 Nussir ASA's 2015 Annual Report: [http://www.nussir.no/financiaal\\_reports/2015%20-%20aarsberetning.pdf](http://www.nussir.no/financiaal_reports/2015%20-%20aarsberetning.pdf)

13 Nussir ASA's 2016 Annual Report: [http://www.nussir.no/financiaal\\_reports/2016%20-%20aarsberetning.pdf](http://www.nussir.no/financiaal_reports/2016%20-%20aarsberetning.pdf)

14 <https://earthworks.org/media-releases/citigroup-commits-to-ditch-ocean-mine-waste-dumping/>

15 Anders Vieth Rør: Mining or traditional use? Conflicts in the Northern Norwegian copper frontier, 2018, p. 61

16 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Fact sheet in German, Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 2 et seq

17 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Fact sheet in German, Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 2

Over the years, the fish population in the Repparfjord has recovered and the local coastal codfish has moved to a new spawning area. However, this new spawning area will be affected again by the disposal of tailings from the Nussir mine.<sup>18</sup> The salmon has also recovered after 13 years.<sup>19</sup> However, according to local fishermen they are still catching deformed fish today.<sup>20</sup> Nussir ASA plans to dispose of two million tons of tailings annually at a depth of 50 to 90 metres.<sup>21</sup>

The people affected fear that the mines' tailings will extinguish life in a large part of the fjord and that the finely ground parts of the residue will spread over large areas within and beyond the fjord. Theoretically, the deposits should sink to and remain on the floor of the fjord, but there are relatively strong currents which could disturb them.<sup>22</sup> The deposits will also destroy the fauna on the seabed, resulting in less food for the fish. The tailings will contain chemicals from the treatment process as well as toxic heavy metals such as nickel, copper, and chromium.<sup>23</sup> There is virtually no knowledge of how these chemicals and heavy metals spread in water and how they might affect the ecosystem. The project will affect not only the fjord, but also the adjacent coastal area and the fragile ecosystem of the Barents Sea.<sup>24</sup>

Agencies such as the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research in Bergen, which advises the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Fisheries, have also spoken out against the project. Though the municipality of Kvalsund was aware of these concerns, it nevertheless voted in favour of the development plan and thus the operation of the mine. With the Department of Trade and Fisheries granting the operating licence, there is now little standing against the realisation of the project.

### Impact on the Sámi involved in reindeer husbandry

Reindeer need a lot of space because they are kept semi-wild according to traditional breeding methods and usually move freely from pasture to pasture. Depending on the season, they have varying food-requirements and adapt their choice of pasture accordingly.<sup>25</sup> Different pastures also have to be chosen depending on the weather.

To make a living from reindeer husbandry, every breeder must have a sufficiently large herd of reindeer. With insufficient land, they have to reduce the size of their herd and their income decreases accordingly. As a result, reindeer herders are no longer able to pursue their way of life. Climate change, settlement, and earlier industrial projects have already considerably reduced the Sámi's grazing areas, making reindeer husbandry more difficult.

Every year, around 8,000 reindeer travel through the area around the Repparfjord. The area is both a popular grazing and calving area and an important transit point to adjacent grazing land.<sup>26</sup> Reindeer are very shy and particularly the cows that use the area for calving are prone to miscarriage if they feel disturbed. It also happens that reindeer cows abandon their calves when they feel threatened.

Fiettar, the group of reindeer herders whose animals use the area around Nussir and Gumpjenjuni as grazing and calving areas, will be most affected by the project.

18 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Fact sheet in German, Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 2

19 <https://orf.at/stories/3111661/>

20 NUSSIR - Drømmen om Finnmark, documentary by Harald Einarsson, 2013, from minute 20:20: <https://vimeo.com/59822118>

21 Nussir ASA's website: <http://www.nussir.no/index.php> und <http://www.nussir.no/environmental-pub/zoning/tilleggsnotater/Nussir%20ASA%202012-03-27%20Dybdere%20i%20deponiomraadet.pdf>

22 NUSSIR - Drømmen om Finnmark, documentary by Harald Einarsson, 2013, from minute 20:00: <https://vimeo.com/59822118>

23 <https://theecologist.org/2014/nov/28/acute-toxic-mine-waste-threatens-death-norways-fjords>

24 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 3

25 Jernsletten Johnny-Leo L., Klokov Konstantin: Sustainable Reindeer Husbandry, Summary Reports, 2002, p. 17 et seq, [http://www.reindeer-husbandry.uit.no/online/Final\\_Report/final\\_report.pdf](http://www.reindeer-husbandry.uit.no/online/Final_Report/final_report.pdf)

26 <https://www.mining-technology.com/features/inside-norways-new-arctic-mine/>

Even though the Department of Trade and Fisheries announced measures<sup>27</sup> to reduce the negative impact of mining operations when it issued the operating licence on 14th February 2019, e.g., prohibiting mining of the Gumppejuni deposit during the particularly important calving season (1st May to 15th June), these measures are a spurious solution according to the affected Sámi. The Sámi fear that infrastructure (such as ventilation and water supply) and increased traffic on access roads will scare off cows. Experience with mining in Gumppejuni in the 1970s has clearly shown that calving areas are lost as a result of mining and reindeer become ill due to dust pollution.<sup>28</sup>

The reindeer herders would also incur a greater workload and additional costs, because they would have to buy food for their herds or transport the reindeer in lorries and boats. In addition, the land lost as a result of the project cannot be replaced. The loss of grazing land may make it necessary to reduce herd sizes, which may even force breeders and their families to give up their way of life.

It is interesting to note that a wind farm was planned in the same area, but did not go ahead because the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Norwegian Water and Energy Directorate (NVE) recognised that reindeer husbandry would suffer too much as a result of the project.<sup>29</sup> It is difficult to see how a mining project could be less harmful to reindeer husbandry.

Today, only about 10 per cent of all Sámi are still active in reindeer husbandry. Nevertheless, it still embodies a common, transnational culture.<sup>30</sup> From generation to generation, the Sámi's life with their reindeer has established itself even in their language, where countless expressions show the connection with the animals and has thus become an important vessel of self-understanding and identity.

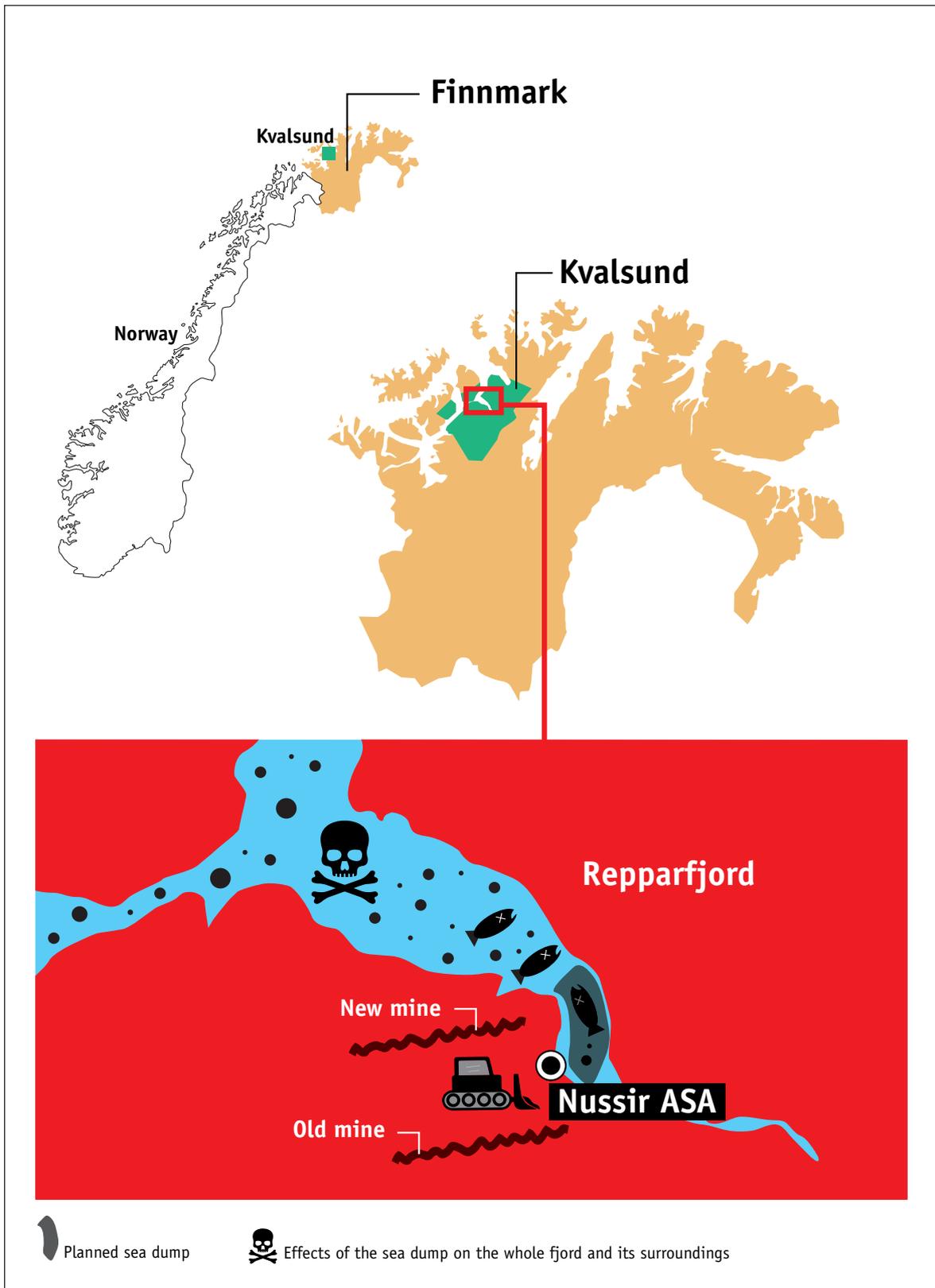
27 <https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/departementene/nfd/dokumenter/liste-over-avbotende-tiltak.pdf>

28 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Fact sheet in German, Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 2

29 Action brought by the Sámi Parliament against the grant of the operating licence, p. 6 et seq: <https://naturvernforbundet.no/getfile.php/13140899-1552371746/Fylkeslag%20-%20Finnmark/Finnmarks%20filarkiv/Klage%20p%C3%A5%20vedtak%20om%20driftskonsesjon%20til%20gruvedrift%20%20i%20Nussir%20og%20Gumppejuni.pdf>

30 Jernsletten Johnny-Leo L., Klokov Konstantin: Sustainable Reindeer Husbandry, Summary Reports, 2002, p. 17 et seq, [http://www.reindeer-husbandry.uit.no/online/Final\\_Report/final\\_report.pdf](http://www.reindeer-husbandry.uit.no/online/Final_Report/final_report.pdf)

# Location of the planned copper mine in the Repparfjord



## Lack of consultation and hearings of the affected Sámi communities

The Sámi's land rights are protected by Art. 14 and Art. 15 of ILO Convention 169 and Art. 5 lit. d no. 5 in conjunction with Art. 2 (1) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. According to these articles, the rights of indigenous peoples to their land must be respected and they must be consulted on decisions regarding the management of the land and its resources. Furthermore, the Ordinance on the Extraction and Use of Mineral Resources "Mineralloven"<sup>31</sup> states that all persons concerned must be sufficiently consulted, that the Sámi Parliament must be involved if necessary (sec.17), and that the law (sec. 6) itself should be interpreted with reference to indigenous rights.

### Consultation of the affected Sámi by Nussir ASA

According to the CEO of Nussir ASA, Øystein Rushfeldt, talks with the Kvalsund community and affected Sámi communities have been sought since 2009 and the public has been invited to participate in the process.<sup>32</sup>

The Fiettar group of reindeer herders, however, has reported that Nussir ASA did not consult them until after the development plan was in place and the district filed a complaint against it. When the development plan was approved by the municipality of Kvalsund despite objections from the reindeer-herding Sámi, one condition was that Nussir ASA would be obliged to cooperate with the groups of reindeer herders and negotiate compensatory measures with them. As the mediation did not lead to a satisfactory solution and there is no possibility of replacing the land, the groups of reindeer herders continue to reject Nussir ASA's plans.<sup>33</sup>



The Sami breeders are concerned: the planned mine could endanger reindeer husbandry.

31 <https://lovdata.no/dokument/NL/lov/2009-06-19-101>

32 Quote from interview with Øystein Rushfeldt, 2nd December 2014 in: Brigit Dale, Ingrid Bay-Larsen, Berit Skorstad (ed.): The Will to Drill — Mining in Arctic Communities: The Nussir Case and the Battle for Legitimacy: Scientific Assessment, Defining Power and Political Contestation, p. 153

33 Naturvernforbundet, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature: Protect Nussir from Nussir!, p. 2

## Consultation meeting with the Sámi, the municipality, and the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Fisheries

The Sámi affected have been fighting the project at all levels since 2008. The municipality of Kvalsund was involved in project planning almost from the beginning. In the municipality of Kvalsund, the Sámi living on the sea<sup>34</sup> are also represented in the administration, but nobody represents the interests of the groups of reindeer herders. Reindeer herders are considered to be guests in Kvalsund because they live further south and inland in Guovdageaidnu (Kautokeino) in winter.<sup>35</sup> There was no opportunity for them to become officially involved at community level, despite the reindeer herders spending about five months of every year in the area of Kvalsund.

At ministerial level, reindeer herders were taken more seriously when it came to issuing a licence. The Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Fisheries held two meetings with the affected groups of reindeer herders prior to issuing the operating licence. The Sámi Parliament was involved as an observer. However, no documentation was provided to the affected Sámi in advance. They were merely informed ad hoc about developments during the two meetings, thus their right to early and sufficient information on the project was not respected.

Another meeting took place on 30th November 2018. However, the Fiettar group of reindeer herders had no way of actually influencing the plans; instead, they were only informed of the planned project slightly earlier than the general public. In this sense, the consultation process was highly inadequate. From the point of view of the Sámi affected, there was no dialogue at equal level. The Norwegian authorities and Nussir ASA were not willing to seek a solution in good faith. The only purpose of the meetings was to provide information about the project, but the affected Sámi were not given the opportunity to process and review the information at an early stage. There was no agreement from the affected Sámi communities to carry out this project.

The Sámi further criticise the Ministry for assuming that reindeer husbandry will only be marginally affected by the project but that no audit for the examination of the cumulative effects on reindeer husbandry in the area has been carried out.<sup>36</sup>

## Legal actions brought by the Sámi

The reindeer herders of the Fiettar group filed a case against the decision taken by the Ministry of Trade and Fisheries on 2nd March 2019. Friends of the Earth Norway and the Sámi Parliament have also launched a legal challenge over the operating licence.

In its case, the Sámi Parliament states that the granting of licences by the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Fisheries for the operation of mines in Nussir and Gumppenjunni violates Art. 17 of the Mineral Law (Mineralloven). The pre-licensing investigations did not take sufficient account of the Sámi culture, their reindeer husbandry, their commercial activity, and their community, although this would have been a condition and the Sámi culture and way of life are protected at national and international level. It was also not examined whether the operation of these mines is worthwhile from a social and economic point of view. Likewise, the Sámi Parliament criticised that a quarter of actual investors are unknown. Furthermore, the affected Sámi, in particular the reindeer herders in the districts 20 and 22, were not sufficiently consulted. The Sámi Parliament sees the granting of the operating licence as a violation of the Sámi's land and cultural rights.

<sup>34</sup> The sea Sami or coastal Sami are a specific Sami group that lives from fishing and on the Norwegian coast.

<sup>35</sup> Anders Vieth Rør: Mining or traditional use? Conflicts in the Northern Norwegian copper frontier, 2018, p. 90

<sup>36</sup> Action brought by the Fiettar group of reindeer herders against the granting of a licence to Nussir ASA by the Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Fisheries, p. 2

## Conclusion

It is unclear whether the economic situation in Kvalsund will actually improve in the longer term as a result of the Nussir project. Earlier mining projects went bankrupt within a few years, leaving environmental destruction in their wake. Even if the project were to become profitable, in the eyes of environmental and human rights organisations, the rights of the Sámi would be systematically disregarded, an intact environment destroyed, and a fjord poisoned. A functioning coexistence of economic projects and indigenous people is possible if the concerns and culture of those affected are taken seriously from the outset. In this sense, from the point of view of the Society for Threatened Peoples and the Sámi Parliament, Crédit Suisse also as a passive administrator of one of the largest share packages bears a responsibility. The STP and the Sámi communities demand that CS refrain from managing shares that do not respect the FPIC properly and massively pollute environment.

## Demands made by the STP and the affected Sámi communities

The STPI and the affected Sámi communities demand that all stakeholders involved commit to the “Free, Prior, and Informed Consent” (FPIC) principle for all future investment projects as soon as the rights of indigenous communities are affected in order to ensure their participation.

### To the Norwegian State:

- The rights of the Sámi must be recognised in the realisation of all projects that affect the Sámi communities’ way of life. This means that an agreement on land usage rights must be reached and appropriate compensation and profit sharing negotiated.
- Legislation in Norway must be adapted to immediately ban the construction and operation of polluting sea dumps.

### To Nussir ASA:

- Nussir ASA is to suspend the project until an amicable solution has been found with the affected Sámi.
- Nussir is to immediately abandon the plans for construction and operation of environmentally harmful sea dumps. Nussir shall disclose the identity of its investors and provide transparent information on their actual holdings in its public reporting procedure.

### To Credit Suisse:

- CS should renounce its function as nominee share holder in the case of Nussir ASA as long as no amicable solution with the affected Sámi has been found.
- CS must ensure transparency and disclose the identity of clients holding shares in Nussir ASA.
- Credit Suisse must generally exert its influence on clients in all areas of business if the rights of indigenous communities could be violated and a project is likely to lead to environmental damage. CS should refrain from further activities if no significant improvements are achieved.

## Imprint

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## With the STP for human rights

The Society of Threatened Peoples (STP) is an international human rights organisation that supports minorities and indigenous peoples. It documents human rights abuses, informs and sensitises the public, and represents the interests of victims against authorities and decision makers. It supports local efforts to improve the human rights situation for minorities and indigenous peoples, and works together, both nationally and internationally, with organisations and people that are pursuing similar goals. The STP has advisory status both at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN and at the Council of Europe.



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Thank you very much!



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