Subject: Disclosure of information regarding the Mekong-Lancang River dams and suspension of remaining dam projects for further study on transboundary impacts and mitigation
We, the Network of Thai People in Eight Mekong Provinces, are composed of community organizations and civil society organizations and have been monitoring developments in the Mekong. We have found that until now, there has been no genuine effort made to sufficiently disclose information regarding the dam on the Lancang-Mekong to keep downstream countries informed. As result, we have been living dangerously and have no idea when the severe havocs will happen to us and how to prevent them.

Therefore, we urge that you disclose and keep the five governments of the downstream countries informed of essential information regarding the existing six dams on the Mekong River including the volume of water in the reservoir, the discharge volume of the run-off, and other relevant data. It should bring about transparency of information and should facilitate any attempt to develop early warning system to prevent any imminent damage in future.

As for other dam projects which are being constructed or planned on the Lancang River, we urge that you bring to a halt all these projects pending comprehensive transboundary impact study including the Strategic Impact Assessment of all the cascade dams to be developed in the upper reach of the Mekong, particularly hydrological impact, impact on the water flow, sedimentation, and fish migration in order to make possible the sustainable use of the shared river and peace in the region, as well as to develop mitigation measures to cope with downstream impacts from the existing dams.

We hope that you share with us that the Mekong is an international river and a lifeline of the whole region. It is so essential to millions of people whose livelihood has been dependent on its ecology and natural resources since time immemorial.

Please consider this matter at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Network of Thai People in Eight Mekong Provinces

To

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CC:

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