

# MEDIA RELEASE



18 August 2009

## **Brockovich to be briefed by Terri Irwin on Steve's Place**

**Terri Irwin will be briefing environmental crusader, Erin Brockovich this week regarding the status of the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve, its environmental significance and the devastating impact that mining would have on vulnerable wildlife and habitat.**

Erin Brockovich has voiced her support for Terri and Bindi Irwin's fight to protect the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve, a 135,000 ha conservation property in Queensland's Cape York Peninsula that's being threatened by strip mining.

**"I admire all that Erin Brockovich has achieved and I'm very appreciative and honored to have Erin's support to help us fight to Save Steve's Place" Terri said.**

"When people join the fight to Save Steve's Place, they are demonstrating that there is a global concern about setting aside the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve instead of destroying it for all time. The support has been inspiring, and has confirmed that we are representing the interests of a nation in protecting our wildlife and their habitat," she said.

---

**Australia Zoo would also like to clarify a number of inaccuracies recently reported in the press:**

- 1. Terri Irwin has met with Cape Alumina regarding mining on the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve and Australia Zoo representatives are often in talks with the mining company – as recently as TODAY!**
- 2. Terri Irwin and Australia Zoo representatives continually consult stakeholders** involved with the Reserve. We have held meetings with the Cape York Land Council, who were identified by all levels of Government as the appropriate

-more-

/3



Open every day (except Christmas Day) 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Steve Irwin Way, Beerwah, Sunshine Coast, QLD 4519 info@australiazoo.com.au Ph: (07) 5436 2000

[www.australiazoo.com.au](http://www.australiazoo.com.au)



# MEDIA RELEASE



-2-

people to commence discussions with. We conducted onsite meetings with the Traditional Owners. The management plan of the Reserve stresses that the property will be managed with the assistance of Traditional Owners, should they wish to be involved.

3. Regarding Cape Alumina having permission to mine part of the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve prior to 2006. **This statement is completely false. Cape Alumina has no track record of mining experience and has NEVER had any mining approvals granted anywhere.**
  
4. At the moment, **there is no legal contest. A decision lies at present with the State Government to consider the mining lease application** on the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve, once they have submitted their Environmental Impact Statement – **which is due in around six months.**  
Australia Zoo is confident that the State Government will be mindful of the dramatic effect on the Wenlock River and devastating impact mining will have on vulnerable wildlife and habitat species, and squash the mining lease application.  
However, we are ready to take whatever action is necessary once the announcement is made.

---

Australia Zoo Wildlife Warriors has also launched a Community Service Announcement on television and radio to call for support of the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve.

“We will continue to fight to Save Steve’s Place alongside the tens of thousands of Australians, and now the thousands of people around the world, who have already voiced their concern”  
said Terri.

-more-

/3



Open every day (except Christmas Day) 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Steve Irwin Way, Beerwah, Sunshine Coast, QLD 4519 info@australiazoo.com.au Ph: (07) 5436 2000

[www.australiazoo.com.au](http://www.australiazoo.com.au)



# MEDIA RELEASE



-3-

There are now over 207,000 people who have signed the petition. To join the fight and Save Steve's Place, log on to [www.savestevesplace.com.au](http://www.savestevesplace.com.au) and sign the petition.

**-ENDS-**

For all media enquiries please contact: Emma McCudden  
PR & Communications Manager



Open every day (except Christmas Day) 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Steve Irwin Way, Beerwah, Sunshine Coast, QLD 4519 info@australiazoo.com.au Ph: (07) 5436 2000

[www.australiazoo.com.au](http://www.australiazoo.com.au)

