NEWCREST MINING (NCM)

HEADQUARTERS: Melbourne, Australia

CEO: Ian Smith


2010 NET INCOME: US$546.6 million

2010 SALES: US$2.8 billion

2010 ASSETS: US$6.2 billion

MARKET CAPITALIZATION: US$30.8 billion

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: > 1,300

Newcrest now owns the Lihir gold mine in Papua New Guinea, which dumps tailings into the Bismarck Sea. Newcrest is also considering dumping copper mine tailings from Namosi, Fiji, into the Koro Sea.

BELOW: Panguna mine discharge pipes, Bougainville, Papua New Guinea.

NEWMONT MINING (NEM)

HEADQUARTERS: Greenwood Village (Denver), Colorado, USA

CEO: Richard T. O’Brien

MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS: Capitol World Investors, State Street Corp., The Vanguard Group, BlackRock, Growth Fund of America, Tradewinds Global, FMR LLC, Van Eck Associates, New Perspective Fund, Market Vectors ETF.

2010 INCOME: US$2.3 billion

2010 SALES: US$9.5 billion

2010 ASSETS: US$25.7 billion

MARKET CAPITALIZATION: US$28.5 billion

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: 15,500

Newmont Mining and its partners are dumping mine tailings into the Indian ocean off the island of Sumbawa in Indonesia. The company is also planning lake dumping at Doris North in Nunavut, Canada, and is planning to destroy several lakes and wetlands with waste rock dumps at its controversial Minas Conga project in Peru. Previously, Newmont dumped tailings in Buyat Bay, Indonesia, at its controversial Minahasa Raya mine.