

322/09

✓ Sent to SOPAC



TELEPHONE : 338 1611

**MINERAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
PRIVATE MAIL BAG, GPO
SUVA, FIJI**

CUR REF:

FAX : (679) 337 0039

YOUR REF:

(ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE DIRECTOR)

3rd June 2009

Mr. Sila Balawa
Chief of Protocol
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
SUVA, FIJI

Dear Sir

Re: Approval for Research Vessel Melville of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, USA.

Following a review of the application (dated 22/5/09) for Marine Scientific Research in areas under the national jurisdiction of Fiji, consent is granted to the research team led by Dr. Douglas Wiens to conduct seismological survey on Research Vessel Melville within the Lau Basin during November-December 2009.

This consent is conditional upon compliance to UN Convention on Law of the Sea provisions on Marine Scientific Research which includes but is not limited to these:

1. That the research team will disclose fully all data and information gathered with the Fiji Government. This includes data and reports from initial through to final stages of this research program.
2. That a participant from the Mineral Resources Department will be on-board the research vessel for the entire duration of the cruise.
3. That associated logistical costs (e.g. air fare / per diems) of the participant on the cruise will be met by the research team.

The Department welcomes such cruises as it presents opportunities to build our scientific research capacity and national levels of knowledge on seismology.

Please contact me should you need further clarification.

Yours sincerely

Ian Fong
a/Director of Mines

CC :
Dr. D. Wiens, Dept. of Earth and Planetary Sciences Washington University
Elizabeth Brenner/Rose M. Dufour, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

(314) 935-7361
(858) 822-5811

"Resend"