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Stephen D’Esposito Joins RESOLVE as New President

WASHINGTON DC (October 1, 2008) – RESOLVE today announced the appointment of Stephen D’Esposito as its new President, effective October 1st. RESOLVE also named Gail Bingham, the current President, as President Emeritus. At RESOLVE D’Esposito will launch a new initiative, the EARTH SOLUTIONS Center. RESOLVE is a non-profit organization founded over 30 years ago to promote collaborative resolution of public issues.

D’Esposito served as President of EARTHWORKS for over a decade and was previously with Greenpeace USA and Greenpeace International in a number of positions including head of the executive committee at Greenpeace International in Amsterdam. During his tenure at EARTHWORKS, D’Esposito played a lead role in creating a number multi-stakeholder initiatives in the extractive sector (see www.responsiblemining.net and www.madisondialogue.org).

“Steve’s career has evolved from a primary focus on advocacy to playing a unique role as a convener and consensus builder,” said Hank Habicht, Managing Partner at SAIL Ventures and RESOLVE Board Chair. “He also has a track record of building organizations and is uniquely positioned to lead RESOLVE into the future.”

“Steve has been a catalyst for solutions. His work with diverse stakeholders has taken on some of the toughest environmental and social challenges in the extractive sector,” said Dave Baker, Vice President for Environmental and Social Responsibility at the Newmont Mining Corporation. “While we may not always agree on the issues, Steve has demonstrated a willingness to engage in substantive discussions and try to find creative solutions to difficult problems. Steve’s experience will complement Resolve’s long-standing record for the successful mediation and consensus building related to the complex issues around water, land use and environmental quality.”

“Steve knows what it takes to get to solutions on even the most intractable issues and communities respect that” said Ignacio Rodriguez a community leader from Colorado who led local citizens in a campaign to clean up the Summitville Superfund site.

I am excited to have the opportunity to build on RESOLVE’s unparalleled reputation for impartiality, integrity and getting results,” said Stephen D’Esposito. “Today many political, corporate, community and civil society leaders have a new sense of urgency to resolve pressing environmental, social and health challenges. It’s no longer business-as-usual. Solutions emerge from tough discussions, negotiation and dialogue as well as collaboration, innovation and risk-taking. With its demonstrated track record in consensus building, mediation and dispute resolution and an expanded capacity to incubate and catalyze solutions, RESOLVE is uniquely positioned to lead.”

Gail Bingham, the author of numerous publications, including *When the Sparks Fly: Building Consensus When the Science is Contested*, will continue to contribute to RESOLVE’s mission as a mediator, author and senior advisor to government agencies,

corporations and non-profits. “I am excited about this appointment and the future of RESOLVE. We have an opportunity to build on our legacy with an expanded emphasis on the “solve” part of our mission.”

About RESOLVE and the EARTH SOLUTIONS Center:

RESOLVE is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the effective use of consensus building in public decisions, helping diverse interests engage in dialogue, collaborative decision-making and action, and strengthens the capacity of others to act as collaborative leaders. Established in California in 1977, RESOLVE is based in Washington, DC. The EARTH SOLUTIONS Center is a new RESOLVE initiative designed to catalyze, incubate and reward solutions to urgent environmental challenges. Details about this initiative will be announced in the weeks ahead.