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Bonn / Berlin, 6th of November 2017

## **Invitation: Media tour to the lignite mining region of Hambach**

Date & Time: Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pick-up location and end point: Heussallee, at the corner of Kurt-Schumacher-Straße, 53113 Bonn (near the World Conference Center Bonn)

Destination: "Terra Nova" viewpoint at the lignite mine Hambach; Kerpen-Manheim (a place threatened by open-pit mining); BUND property in the forest of Hambach

Interview Partners: Karin Nansen, Chairwoman, Friends of the Earth International (FoEI)  
Hubert Weiger, Chairman, BUND (Friends of the Earth Germany)  
Dirk Jansen, Managing Director, BUND North Rhine-Westphalia  
Lea Dehning, BUNDjugend (Young Friends of the Earth Germany)

Dear Sir or Madam,

On the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bonn, we would like to cordially invite you to a media tour to the largest open pit mine in Europe, the Hambach mine. For years, Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND) has opposed – in the courts and in the streets – the expansion of coal mining and has fought for the preservation of villages and ecosystems in the region. Among other things, a 12.000 year old forest with numerous protected species will fall victim to the open pit mine. Also a property of BUND is threatened to be dredged by the energy company RWE.

The first stop of our press tour is the open pit viewpoint "Terra Nova". Here we will show you how the "biggest hole in Europe" works and we will explain the consequences of lignite mining and coal combustion for people and nature. Other stops of the media tour are located in Kerpen-Manheim, a town whose inhabitants are currently relocated, and the BUND property at the forest of Hambach.

Hubert Weiger, Chair, BUND, Dirk Jansen, Managing Director, BUND North Rhine-Westphalia, Karin Nansen, Chairwoman, Friends of the Earth International (FoEI), and Lea Dehning from the youth organization BUNDjugend are at your disposal for interviews on regional, national and international coal and climate policy.

A simultaneous translation (German-English) is provided as well as snacks and drinks during the tour. It is advisable to bring sturdy shoes and weatherproof clothing.

Please register until Friday, 10th of November 2017, 3 p.m., at [presse@bund.net](mailto:presse@bund.net).

If you are not travelling to Bonn for the COP23, please do forward this invitation to the appropriate colleagues. If they interested, we will put them on our media distribution list.

Best regards,

Annika Natus

BUND Press Officer, Tel. 030-27586-464; Mobile: +49-170-1606658; E-Mail: [presse@bund.net](mailto:presse@bund.net);  
Internet: [www.bund.net](http://www.bund.net)