



## **Regulation 55**

### **Purpose of the Environmental Compensation Fund (delivered 25 July 2022)**

Thank you Madame Facilitator.

The Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative is unclear about the specifics of the Environmental Compensation Fund, and would like to request further information be conveyed on this matter. DOSI supports the suggestions of several others and recommends that the fund's purpose should extend to include the areas of the marine environment of coastal states, as impacts and damage from mining may occur beyond the Area. For example, this could include impacts from far reaching noise, the travel of mining discharge plumes, altered animal behavior patterns such as breeding, nursing and migration, or any consequences on stability of ecosystems due to biodiversity loss, change in species abundances, or interruptions to the food chain. Further, we suggest adding “ecologically” as a qualifier to the “technically and economically” feasibility of restoration or rehabilitation. DOSI again reminds the Council that there is currently no scientific evidence that restoration or rehabilitation of the deep sea or the water column is possible.

Thank you.