



**MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL LEVEL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER**

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**PRESS RELEASE  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**

**Minister Eoe targets Wutung Border Post to Open on Independence Day 2025**

**PORT MORESBY:** The Department of Provincial & Local Level Government Affairs (DPLGA) targets opening the long waited Wutung Border Post on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025, coinciding with Papua New Guinea's 50<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary celebrations.

This significant milestone will bring benefits to the people of Wutung and the greater WSP and further strengthen the bond between Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.

Minister for Provincial and Local Level Government Affairs Hon. Soroi Marepo Eoe said: "There is no better time and no better gift to the people of Wutung than to open the long-awaited Wutung Border Post and light up their homes on Independence Day, 2025. This project is a symbol of our commitment to improving the lives of our people and enhancing our relationship with the Republic of Indonesia."

To ensure the successful delivery of this project, an Inter-Agency Border Development Working Committee has been established, chaired by DPLGA Secretary Philip Leo. This committee plays a critical role in coordinating preparations for the opening of the Border Post. It includes representatives from PNG Customs, Immigration and Citizenship Authority (ICA), National Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Authority (NAQIA), Department of Works and Highways, Department of Foreign Affairs, National Maritime Safety Authority (NMSA), PNG Defence Force (PNGDF), and Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary.

The PNG Government acknowledges the invaluable support from the people and Government of the Republic of Indonesia, as well as Indonesia's state power company Perusahaan Listrik Negara (PLN). The extension of power lines into Wutung village is part of Indonesia's 78th Independence Anniversary gift to the Wutung community. This reflects their continued partnership and commitment to border communities. The Government also appreciates Indonesia's ongoing provision of essential services such as healthcare, telecommunications, and early childhood education to the people of Wutung.

Key progress on the Wutung Border Post development includes;

**Infrastructure Readiness:** Inspections of facilities and staff housing have been completed, and refurbishments are underway.

**Water Supply:** The construction of a water reservoir is progressing, with commissioning expected by July 2025.

**Electricity Connection:** Efforts are ongoing to resolve delays in connecting power from the Indonesian grid to border facilities, schools, and village homes.

A budget of K10 million has been allocated to ensure the project is completed on time, with inter-agency coordination driving progress.

The opening of the Wutung Border Post will not only enhance border management and trade but also deliver critical services to the people of Wutung, improving their quality of life.

On behalf of the Government, Minister Eoe reaffirmed his commitment to delivering this project and thanked all stakeholders, especially the people of Wutung, for their patience and cooperation

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**Approved for Release**

**Hon. Soroi Marepo Eoe. CMG, MP  
Minister for Provincial and Local Level Government Affairs**