



International Network for Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
Red Internacional para los Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales
Réseau international pour les droits économiques, sociaux et culturels
الشبكة العالمية للحقوق الاقتصادية والاجتماعية و الثقافية

November 8, 2007

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*ESCR-Net is a project of
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Dear Sirs,

We would like to express our concern regarding the current conditions of uncertainty and vulnerability endured by the 127 ejido co-owners of the communal land known as “La Sierrita”, municipality of Tlahualilo, Durango State, Mexico.

We have learnt about their poverty, marginality and poor access to fundamental rights required for a dignified life, such as access to drinking water, sewages and health to mention only a few. We understand that, according to information provided by the ejido peasants themselves, a Canadian mining company called EXCELLON RESOURCES INC. has settled in their communal land since 2006 under a soil exploitation contract referring to 27 hectares of communal land signed with EXCELLON DE MEXICO S.A. de C.V., a subsidiary of Canada-based EXCELLON RESOURCES INC.

Furthermore, we know that early this year representatives of EXCELLON DE MEXICO approached once again ejido authorities to convince them to sell their land through threats of making use of the company’s power to expropriate communal land in case they do not sell.

For our members, it is of key importance to report that the ejido co-owners of the “La Sierrita” municipality have decided to summon a dialogue with representatives of EXCELLON RESOURCES INC, and that they have repeatedly and in written form expressed their will to conduct negotiations that may be fair for all. However, we are concerned by the lack of response by the EXCELLON RESOURCES INC. Board of Directors, as well as by EXCELLON DE MEXICO S.A. de C.V. We understand that the last call for a dialogue made by “La Sierrita” ejido co-owners should take place on November 11, 2007, although the company has not yet issued a positive reply. Therefore, and in order to focus on a dialogue that may lead to negotiations beneficial to both EXCELLON RESOURCES INC and the “La Sierrita” community, we would like to ask you to call the attention of the company’s representatives to make sure they attend the dialogue table to be held on November 11, 2007 at the said community.

As the peasants of “La Sierrita” continue to maintain an open attitude towards any genuine dialogue process involving the mining company EXCELLON RESOURCES INC. in order to improve their living conditions and to realize their right to decide on the use of their land, ESCR-Net will support the “La Sierrita” ejido in their demand that such a process be transparent, honest, credible and effectively participatory.

ESCR-Net is confident that it is possible to open a respectful dialogue and that your government will be willing to monitor, respect and enforce the call for dialogue made by ejido co-owners. Finally, we ask you to keep us updated about any measures you may adopt.

With best regards,
Internacional Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net)

On behalf of ESCR-Net:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julieta Rossi', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Julieta Rossi
Director

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