

Rights Action – August 10, 2011
GUATEMALA – MINING IMPUNITY & JUSTICE WATCH

HUBBAY MINERALS SELLS NICKEL MINE IN GUATEMALA LAWSUITS IN CANADA AGAINST HUBBAY MINERALS, REGARDING MURDER AND GANG-RAPES, WILL CONTINUE

BELOW: a press release from Klippensteins law firm (in Toronto, Canada)

Klippensteins is representing Angelica Choc in a lawsuit against HudBay for the 2009 targeted killing of her husband by private security guards hired by HudBay's Guatemalan subsidiary company, and is representing 11 Mayan-Qeqchi women from the community of Lote 8 who were gang-raped by private security guards hired by HudBay's Guatemalan subsidiary company, police and soldiers, as part of an illegal, forced eviction in 2007.

Since 2004, Rights Action has worked with and supported Mayan Qeqchi communities that have suffered serious human rights violations (including killings, rapes, forced evictions) caused by Canadian mining companies; Rights Action is supporting the families and community members in their efforts to have justice done in Canadian courts for these violations.

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August 9, 2011, Toronto, Canada

Late on Friday August 5, 2011, HudBay Minerals announced that it had agreed to sell 100% of its interest in its troubled Fenix Mining Project located in Guatemala to the Solway Group, a private Russian company incorporated in Cyprus.

The sale of HudBay's interest in the Fenix Project for a reported \$170 million is considerably less than the \$460 million that HudBay paid for the project a mere three years ago.

"We believe this sale was prompted in part by the severe human rights issues at HudBay's Fenix Project that dogged the company at every turn. The murder of Adolfo Ich, and the gang-rapes of Rosa Elbira and the 10 other women at Lote Ocho committed by mine security personnel are albatrosses that weigh heavily on the neck of HudBay," said Murray Klippenstein, lawyer for the widow of Adolfo Ich and the 11 survivors of rape from Lote Ocho.

"It appears that HudBay Minerals took a huge financial hit as a result of speculating on a project in Guatemala that was beset by severe human rights abuse and risks of further abuse. We hope this serves as a lesson to Canadian companies that ignoring concerns over risks of severe human rights abuse can be incredibly expensive."

Despite the sale, the lawsuits against HudBay Minerals and its subsidiary HMI Nickel for the murder of Adolfo Ich and the gang-rapes at Lote Ocho will continue. "HudBay and HMI Nickel cannot avoid liability for their past actions by selling the project," said Mr. Klippenstein. "Our clients will continue to vigorously pursue their claims against HudBay and HMI in Ontario courts to ensure these Canadian companies are held accountable for their past wrongful acts."

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LAWSUITS: www.chocversushudbay.com

WATCH A 5-MINUTE TESTIMONY OF ROSA ELBIRA, one of the gang rape survivors from Lote Ocho: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSGuDk4cnz4>

WATCH A 10-MINUTE FILM ABOUT SOME OF THE FORCED EVICTIONS
<http://rightsaction.org/video/elestor/index.htm>

TO HELP FUND LEGAL WORK ON THESE TWO LAWSUITS, & FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Klippensteins Barristers & Solicitors
Murray Klippenstein, murray.klippenstein@klippensteins.ca
Cory Wanless, cory.wanless@klippensteins.ca

TO FUND THE MAYAN QEQCHI COMMUNITIES & THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE JUSTICE, make tax-deductible check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

UNITED STATES: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887

CANADA: 552 - 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

CREDIT-CARD DONATIONS: <http://rightsaction.org/contributions.htm> (Credit card donations can be done anonymously)

FOR DONATION OF STOCK: contact info@rightsaction.org. (Stock donations can be done anonymously – have your stockbroker contact info@rightsaction.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, ENGLISH & ESPANOL:

Grahame Russell, Connecticut, 860-352-2448, info@rightsaction.org

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