

Tahoe Must Go. Close the mine, affected communities demand

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/close-tahoe-resources-mine-in-guatemala>

“Let us be clear: Our opposition to mining in our territory and the future of Tahoe’s mine specifically does not depend on the outcome of the legal case currently before the Constitutional Court. Our encampment in Casillas and peaceful resistance in the region will continue until the mine is permanently closed. We have already held our own processes of consultation in which the vast majority of people in the affected area have said no to mining. We will not change our minds. The time for dialogue was before Tahoe forced the mine on us in 2011. Now, all we want is closure.”

Below: information prepared by Mining Watch

Please send this call to “Close Tahoe Resources’ mine in Guatemala”,

- to your own networks and Members of Parliament, urging them to take action.
- to the Canadian embassy in Guatemala, urging them to support the communities’ demand

Funds needed: To support community human rights and environmental defenders in Guatemala, see below



Close Tahoe Resources’ mine in Guatemala

August 15, 2018

Support Earthworks on-line campaign – Close Tahoe Resources’ mine in Guatemala:

- https://org.salsalabs.com/o/676/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=23220&okay=true

On Tuesday, members of the Peaceful Resistance of Santa Rosa, Jalapa and Jutiapa together with the Xinka People's Parliament of Guatemala delivered the following letter to the attention of Tahoe Resources' new CEO, James Voorhees, and Executive Chair, Kevin McArthur. They demand that Tahoe Resources permanently close the mine and call for an end to the environmental harms, community division, militarization and repression that the project has brought into their lives.

The community members presented the letter to representatives of Tahoe Resources at their offices in Guatemala and was simultaneously delivered to Tahoe's headquarters in Reno, Nevada by members of the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN).

The company's subsidiary "Minera San Rafael" released a statement shortly after stating that they "remain open to dialogue and active listening to any concern that leaders have regarding their operations" in order to "build bridges" and "continue to work together in peace". If the company is truly listening, and in order to truly seek peace, it is vitally important for the company to realize that the opportunity for dialogue ended when the mine was forced on these communities against their will and to respect that its mining project is not wanted in the area.

Support Earthworks on-line campaign – Close Tahoe Resources' mine in Guatemala:

- https://org.salsalabs.com/o/676/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=23220&okay=true

Community letter to Tahoe Resources: Close the Mine

(English translation)

Mr. Kevin McArthur, Executive Chair

Mr. James Voorhees, President & Chief Executive Officer, Director Tahoe Resources Inc.

Dear Sirs:

Since 2011, our communities have been actively demonstrating peaceful resistance to Tahoe Resources' "Escobal" mine given the actual and potential impacts on our way life, water, land, and livelihoods. We held marches, organized 18 village and municipal referenda and filed more than 200 individual complaints against the exploitation permit before it was granted in April 2013. But you didn't listen.

Instead, you pushed ahead with the project, despite broad and clear opposition to mining in our territory. Your insistence, and the tactics used to impose the project, brought an end to the peace and tranquility we enjoyed. As a result, we have suffered divisions within families and communities. We have endured criminalization and militarization, like what took place during the state of siege in May 2013. Community members have been assassinated, jailed without grounds for months on end, attacked, surveilled, threatened, and intimidated. We have also suffered damage to homes and impacts on our water and agricultural livelihoods.

Since June 2017, thousands of people from the three departments of Santa Rosa, Jalapa and Jutiapa have organized to set up a 24-hour, 7-day a week encampment in the municipality of Casillas to prevent mine related traffic from reaching the mine. The participants are demanding the permanent closure of the Escobal project.

In November 2017, we went to Guatemala City and began a second ongoing encampment at the entrance to the Constitutional Court, in protest of the court's failure to issue a ruling within the designated time

frame regarding the suspension of the mine for discrimination and failure to consult with Xinka Indigenous people.

Let us be clear: Our opposition to mining in our territory and the future of the Escobal mine specifically does not depend on the outcome of the legal case currently before the Constitutional Court.

Our encampment in Casillas and peaceful resistance in the region will continue until the mine is permanently closed. We have already held our own processes of consultation in which the vast majority of people in the affected area have said no to mining. We will not change our minds. The time for dialogue was before Tahoe forced the mine on us in 2011. Now, all we want is closure.

Sincerely,

- Peaceful Resistance of Santa Rosa, Jalapa and Jutiapa
- Xinka People's Parliament of Guatemala

- Original letter in Spanish: <https://miningwatch.ca/sites/default/files/cartaatahoeago2018.pdf>
- Online: <https://miningwatch.ca/blog/2018/8/15/guatemalan-communities-deliver-message-resistance-new-ceo-tahoe-resources>

Write and call, and keep on writing and calling:

Tahoe Resources Inc.

(775) 825-8574 (Reno, Nevada)

www.tahoeresourcesinc.com

Canada: Royal Centre, 1055 West Georgia St, Suite 1500, Vancouver, BC, V6E 4N7

USA: 5190 Neil Rd, Suite 460, Reno, Nevada 89502

Kevin McArthur, Executive Chair
James Voorhees, President & Chief Executive Officer, Director
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Canadian government

Directly contact your Member of Parliament: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members>

Minister Chrystia Freeland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 613-992-5234, 1-343-203-1851,
chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca, chrystia.freeland.c1d@parl.gc.ca, chrystia.freeland@international.gc.ca

Canadian Embassy In Guatemala, Ambassador Deborah Chatsis, +502 2363-4348,
gtmla@international.gc.ca

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

To support the humanitarian relief, human rights and environmental defense work of community groups opposed to harms and violations, corruption and illegality linked to Tahoe's mining operation, make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

Unknown
Field Code Changed

- U.S.: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
- Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

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Please re-post and publish this information

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