

Aura Minerals to Proceed to Dig Up Azacualpa Cemetery on July 1st - ??

Meeting summary by Warwick Fry, Australian journalist and human rights accompanier
(<http://us9.campaign-archive2.com/?u=ea011209a243050dfb66dff59&id=fb0371eed0>)

A second meeting took place in Honduras on June 27 between the Azacualpa Environmental Committee and the Canadian mining company Aura Minerals. This meeting followed upon the “forced agreement” of June 7, and was marked by similar levels of pressure and intimidation as the June 7 meeting.

- **June 7 “forced agreement” report:** <http://us9.campaign-archive1.com/?u=ea011209a243050dfb66dff59&id=3a7665a1bd>



(Azacualpa community prayer and spiritual gathering by cemetery on ridge above Aura Minerals’ mountain-top removal, cyanide leaching, gold mining operation.)

As on June 7, Aura Minerals – represented by mine manager Monty Reed - was supported by the chief of regional police, the head of the local military, the Departmental governor and the Minister for the Interior. Additionally there was a contingent of company employees and security guards.

The lawyer for the Azacualpa committee cannot recall any precedent for the presence of the military, police and government officials as signatories to a “negotiation” between a business and a community.

The object of the meeting, as far as Aura Minerals was concerned, was to determine the location of the replacement cemetery. The company even included in the discussions that they would support the dropping of the trumped up criminal charges against 19 Azacualpa villagers if they agreed to the cemetery destruction and removal.

Aura Minerals officials were frustrated when Azacualpa community representatives produced signatures of ten community members objecting to the removal of family graves. A company employee tried to snatch the paper away, but it was rescued and included in the official documents of the meeting.

The meeting ended without reaching any formal agreement, leaving in doubt what actions Aura Minerals might take on July 1 - the date originally announced for removal of the cemetery to begin. Hundreds of community members are prepared to resist.

Mining Injustice Solidarity Network URGENT ACTION

Tell Aura Minerals To Respect The Dead And The Living In Honduras!

- <http://mininginjustice.org/urgent-action-right2rip-tell-aura-minerals-to-respect-the-dead-and-the-living-in-honduras/>

Write to:

Aura Minerals

Jim Bannantine, President and CEO
William Monti Reed, Honduras mine manager
155 University Avenue, Suite 1240
Toronto, ON, M5H 3B7
T: 416-649-1033, info@auraminerals.com, www.auraminerals.com

With copies to:

Your Member Of Parliament:

<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/Parlinfo/Compilations/HouseOfCommons/MemberByPostalCode.aspx?Menu=HOC>

Canadian embassy in Honduras: Centro Financiero CITI, 3d Floor, San Juan Bosco, Colonia Payaqui, Box 3552, Tegucigalpa, T: (+504) 2232 4551, tgipa@international.gc.ca

Funding for Azacualpa Environmental Committee

Since early 2015, Rights Action has been funding the community development and environmental defense work of the Azacualpa Environmental Committee. Make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

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