

## **Heineken response re alleged death threats against protesters opposing a wind farm in Oaxaca, Mexico supplying Heineken**

**13 Nov 2012**

*Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited Heineken to respond to the following items:*

- [Dutch wind farm in trouble in Mexico](#), Radio Netherlands Worldwide, 11 Sep 2012
- [Protesters block work at Latin America's biggest wind farm](#), Recharge,
- [Urgente: amenazas de muerte contra defensores de derechos humanos - San Dionisio del Mar. Comunicado de prensa](#), Varias organizaciones, 9 Oct 2012
- [Las manifestaciones contra proyecto eólico en la zona huave se mueve ahora al DF](#), Grupo Fórmula, 15 Oct 2012
- [DOC] [Reseña del despojo al pueblo Ikojts de San Dionisio del Mar](#), Asamblea del Pueblo de San Dionisio del Mar y Asamblea de los Pueblos del Istmo en Defensa de la Tierra y el Territorio, Oct 2012:

*Heineken sent us the following response.*

### **Response Statement Cuauhtémoc Moctezuma/Heineken, Monterrey/Amsterdam, 13 November 2012**

As part of our sustainability strategy, in Cuauhtémoc Moctezuma we aim to use renewable sources of energy for our business operations, and as a result we have entered into a renewable energy supply agreement with Mareña Renovables. Mareña Renovables, is a company currently in the process of construction of a Wind Farm in the *Istmo de Tehuantepec* in Oaxaca, and will provide part of the energy requirements of Cuauhtémoc Moctezuma.

We support that the design, construction and operation of the Wind Farm by Mareña Renovables since it is being executed under the highest standards regarding environment protection, respect to any life form, traditions and community environment. In addition, it is fully compliant with the international best practices models of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Equator Principles. Moreover, the project included an environment management study in order to guaranty that the marine life and fishing activities in the *San Dionisio del Mar* lagoon are not impacted, since it is the main economic activity of the region.

Mareña Renovables not only includes activities that promote economic and social development of the region but also make an important contribution towards the goal of increasing clean renewable energy in Mexico by reducing greenhouse gases by an estimated 800.0000 tons annually.

We have been made aware that there are some allegations by local communities stating they never granted permission to erect the wind farm in their communal lands. We are surprised by this claim, since the information we have received from Mareña Renovables is that there is strong local support for the project and that all land lease agreements were signed with inhabitants of the areas with the presence of local authorities and after extensive public assemblies. In addition, the minutes of the assemblies are registered with the Agrarian Authorities.

There has been extensive information regarding the project, and since August 2011 at least 63 consultation or information meetings have been carried out in San Dionisio del Mar, 33 in Santa María del Mar and 42 in Alvaro Obregón.

For more than 120 years the working philosophy of Cuautémoc Moctezuma has been the simultaneous generation of economic, social and environmental value, and we are confident that the development of this park will brew a better future not only for Oaxaca, but for Mexico.