

QaraQar/Black Snow қоғамдық қоры
Қазақстан Республикасы, Қарағанды қаласы,
Қазыбек би ауданы,
Университетская көшесі, 25 А.
тел.: +7 702 193 51 83
E-mail: office@blacksnow.kz
<http://t.me/blacksnowkz>
<https://twitter.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://instagram.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://youtube.com/@blacksnowkz>



Общественный фонд QaraQar/BlackSnow
Республика Казахстан, город Караганда, район
Казыбек би,
улица Университетская, 25 А.
тел.: +7 702 193 51 83
E-mail: office@blacksnow.kz
<http://t.me/blacksnowkz>
<https://twitter.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://instagram.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://youtube.com/@blacksnowkz>

Subject: ArcelorMittal's response to Black Snow foundation's allegations

Dear Business and Human Rights Centre,

In response to the allegations made by the Kazakh QaraQar/BlackSnow Foundation to the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre on September 14, 2023, ArcelorMittal provided an official statement:

“The thoughts of everyone at ArcelorMittal are with the families of our five colleagues who tragically died in the accident at the Kazakhstanskaya mine. We have been doing everything we can to support the families of those colleagues at this very difficult time. We are also supporting the relevant authorities' efforts to ensure the mine is safe and their investigation to ascertain the cause of this tragic accident.

At ArcelorMittal we are committed to work towards a goal of zero accidents, injuries, and general wellbeing in the workplace. This commitment is endorsed by our company's Health and Safety Policy and procedures, our Human Rights Policy, as well as our Code of Business Conduct..”

Among those killed in the accident at the Kazakhstanskaya mine is Denis Gennadievich Steshin, born on 13.08.1978, who worked at the ArcelorMittal's coal mines for 21 years, who left a family after his death, namely his mother, a disabled spouse and a 15-year-old minor son.

The Government commission on the results of the accident investigation recognized 100% fault of ArcelorMittal Temirtau.

According to Appendix No. 30 to the Collective Agreement on Socio-Economic Issues for 2022-2024, ArcelorMittal **MUST** purchase an apartment for Denis Steshin's family with a size of at least 18 square meters of usable space for each family member. It also provides for the right of Denis Steshin's family members to choose an apartment independently.

Denis Steshin's widow used the right of choice granted to her and turned to ArcelorMittal with the request to select the housing options. The apartments were selected taking into account the widow's state of health and disability, the need for separate rooms for mother and son, comfort and quality of construction and repair work. Elena Steshina (Denis Steshin's widow) is really in a difficult situation, as her husband was the sole provider for her family, which includes her 15-year-old son (born in 2008) and Yelena's 73-year-old retired mother (born in 1950). Yelena, herself, is classified as having a disability at the 3rd level, rendering her unable to work.

As a result, the selected apartment options consisted of 3 rooms (2-bedroom companies and a living room), with a total area of 64 to 83 square meters, no higher than the 6th floor and a preliminary cost from sellers in the range of 73,000 to 87,000 US dollars.

QaraQar/Black Snow қоғамдық қоры
Қазақстан Республикасы, Қарағанды қаласы,
Қазыбек би ауданы,
Университетская көшесі, 25 А.
тел.: +7 702 193 51 83
E-mail: office@blacksnow.kz
<http://t.me/blacksnowkz>
<https://twitter.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://instagram.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://youtube.com/@blacksnowkz>



Общественный фонд QaraQar/BlackSnow
Республика Казахстан, город Караганда, район
Казыбек би,
улица Университетская, 25 А.
тел.: +7 702 193 51 83
E-mail: office@blacksnow.kz
<http://t.me/blacksnowkz>
<https://twitter.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://instagram.com/blacksnowkz>
<https://youtube.com/@blacksnowkz>

ArcelorMittal Temirtau, in its turn, repeatedly refuses to purchase the apartment. ArcelorMittal Temirtau 's actions clearly show signs of "bargaining and saving" and this clearly shows that Arcelor is completely contrary to their statements that "We have been doing everything we can to support the families of those colleagues at this very difficult time" described in the response of September 14, 2023 and quoted above.

ArcelorMittal Temirtau, referring to non-existent calculations, offers Elena Steshina, including illiquid 2-room apartments with a small living area, in some cases close to the minimum indicators – 42-43 square meters, on the highest or on the first floors, and even in certain cases of old-built residential buildings in the price range from USD 45,000 to 53,000.

It is important to note that Appendix No. 30 to the Collective Agreement **does not** limit the maximum parameters of the purchased apartment by price and area. In turn, Elena Steshina does not pursue the goal of extracting maximum benefits by choosing housing with an increased level of comfort, but chose housing based on the necessary needs of the family (health and disability, the need for separate rooms for mother and son, comfort and quality of construction and repair work).

Thus, ArcelorMittal's statements "*The thoughts of everyone at ArcelorMittal are with the families of our five colleagues who tragically died in the accident at the Kazakhstanskaya mine.. We have been doing everything we can to support the families of those colleagues at this very difficult time*" are simply inconsistent with factual situation in Temirtay. That's factual signs of treating people as slaves as it was published in <https://www.barrons.com/news/treated-like-slaves-workers-dying-in-arcelormittal-s-kazakh-mines-c990101>.

We attach Elena Steshina's letter to ArcelorMittal Temirtau and their answers.

Sincerely,

Founder of QaraQar/Black Snow Foundation

Serik Akylbay

2 November 2023



QARAQAR