



# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

---

## FILM DIRECTOR IN COURT AS LANDMARK LEGAL CASE BEGINS

---

Monday October 16th 2017. Stockholm

Swedish film director **Lars Edman** has been summoned to appear as a witness in a land-mark trial beginning on **TUESDAY OCTOBER 17th** in his home town of **Skellefteå**, Northern Sweden.

The case against Swedish mining corporation **Boliden** has been brought by **Arica Victims KB**, a newly formed Swedish company representing **796** Chileans from Arica who have suffered from multiple health problems since toxic waste was dumped in their town in **1985**.

Edman and his co-director **William Johansson** exposed the case of the Arica Victims in their multi-award winning documentary, **TOXIC PLAYGROUND** which prompted **Lewis Gordon**, executive director of the **Environmental Law Defender Centre** in the USA to begin a collaboration with a Swedish legal team led by attorney **Johan Oberg**.

**“The film has been invaluable to us. You have the sense of travelling to the affected areas yourself. It contains important information about documents and the sequence of events.”**  
Lewis Gordon

Arica Victims KB vs Boliden will be the largest transnational corporate accountability case ever brought in a European court outside of England and the biggest trial ever held in Skellefteå, a town synonymous with Boliden since its foundation during the Västerbotten gold rush in 1924.

Boliden are defending their decision to ship over 20,000 tonnes of toxic waste containing high levels of lead, arsenic and mercury, via a now defunct Chilean partner.

**“It gives the wrong impression if we are to take responsibility for the mistakes of others”**  
says Boliden Director of Communications **Klas Nilson** in advance of the proceedings.

The court will watch evidence from over 30 hours of material filmed during the production of Toxic Playground, featuring the Boliden employee responsible for allowing the toxic waste to leave Sweden.

The trial is set to continue for the next eight weeks.

---

For interview requests with Lars Edman & William Johansson  
please contact **Andreas Rocksén** +46 70 3011205 [andreas@laikafilm.se](mailto:andreas@laikafilm.se)  
**TOXIC PLAYGROUND** [online screener](#) password = blybarnen



Film makers Lars Edman (left) and William Johansson (right, with camera), in Arica Chile.



Jocelyn Tudezca, one of the characters from Toxic Playground