

La Mina, octubre 3 de 2014

Given Recent Publications Regarding Eviction from the Agualuna Site, Cerrejón Makes the Following Announcement:

Cerrejón acquired the Agualuna property, located in the municipality of Barrancas in La Guajira, in 1986 as ownership titles can attest. At the time, the sellers certified receiving the sums of money agreed upon and the municipality of Barrancas made a commitment to donate lands to those families. The acquisition took place in mutual agreement and without pressure of any kind.

The site has an area of 73 hectares, of which 3,5 were handed as swap to the municipality of Barrancas, as part of the commitments made during resettlement process of the Roche community.

Since 2013, two Indigenous families have illegally occupied the site. Cerrejón has repeatedly approached and held meetings with them with the purpose of reaching mutual agreement and peaceful solution governed by dialogue and respect. Given the claims made by the families that this is an ancestral territory, it should be noted that this is an urban site. Cerrejón is aware of the importance to indigenous families to have their territory and hopes the National Government provides these families with land if they do not have it.

Given the impossibility of reaching an agreement, the intervention of the competent authorities was requested through a complaint to police. Such proceedings has been delayed for various reasons and rescheduled for October the 7th. However, Cerrejón has insisted on a negotiated solution and considering mediations through the Mayor's Office and the appeal of the Ministry of Interior's Ethnic Division has requested its further adjournment.

Cerrejón has reiterated its willingness to dialogue and provide the documentation as required by the various authorities. In fact, the Company has provided to the Ombudsman and the Bureau of Indigenous Affairs all related documentation on the precedents and development of the situation so that both entities, under the reach of their functions, can apply the relevant management to the case.

The Company calls for the families to resume dialogue and begin the search for joint solutions to the current situation. Cerrejón is convinced that taking the law in one's own hands is not the appropriate mechanism to for individuals or groups to express interests, complaints or disagreements related to our operation. Cerrejón stresses its willingness to work with these families and find concerted alternatives to resolve this situation.

The Company also issues an invitation to the authorities to bring forward the necessary in order to have verified information, giving place to sincere dialogue on factual foundations as the only way to allow the generation of constructive and transparent relationships. Cerrejón expects that indigenous families receive from the State the support and protection of their rights and that the rights lawfully acquired by the Company are respected.