

Yanacocha

Lima, January 16th, 2007

Mr. Mauricio Lazala & Christopher Avery
Investigador Senior & Director
Business & Human Rights Resource Centre
1-3 Charlotte Street
Londres W1T 1RD
Reino Unido.-

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your communication dated January 5, 2007. Yanacocha is committed to open and honest dialogue with its stakeholders, and welcomes the opportunity to respond. Yanacocha does not support, engage in or encourage acts of harassment or intimidation. Yanacocha reaffirmed this position relative to the referenced articles and reiterated its respect for human rights and social responsibility as recently as January 10, 2007 in front of the Environmental Commission of the Peruvian Congress

It should be noted that radical groups opposed to establishment of mining activities as a catalyst for development of the Cajamarca region have instituted a campaign aimed at discrediting Yanacocha. In recent months, certain elements of the environmental movement in Cajamarca have made many misleading and irresponsible statements regarding Yanacocha's activities.

This campaign has attempted to ascribe to the company responsibility for the unfortunate death of Isidro Llanos, a peasant who was involved in and died during the Combayo incident. Additionally, activists have attempted to link the death of Edmundo Becerra, a resident of Yanacanchilla, to the activities of Yanacocha in the area. In both of these cases, the authorities have investigated the facts and identified the alleged perpetrators, dismissing any involvement and/or participation of Yanacocha in the aforementioned events. Despite these facts, activists continue to distort the truth regarding these incidents perpetuating unfounded fears in the local populations.

It is difficult to believe that the activists claiming intimidation are truly concerned for the environment or are advocates for the well being of the population when they have recently declined to assist the people of Cajabamba, who are truly threatened by environmental contamination resulting from unregulated illegal mining in the region. Based on the actions and inaction of the activists, one could conclude that the true intent of some of the activist community in Cajamarca is one of political and personal gain carried out under the guise of environmental activism.



In conclusion, Yanacocha would like to restate our commitment to respect human rights which is demonstrated by how we engage with our many stakeholders on a daily basis and our signatory status to the UN Global Compact.

Sincerely,



Carlos Santa Cruz
Regional Vicepresident
Newmont – South America

