

# EXCELLON

**Mr. Jyrki Raina**  
54 bis, route des Acacias  
Case Postale 1516  
CH 1227 Geneva,  
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Raina:

**Re: Factually Incorrect Statements in Letter of October 30<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you for your letter of October 30<sup>th</sup>. Excellon Resources is committed to operating one of the highest paying and safest mines in Mexico, exceeding industry standards' best practices of safety for our workers.

We are currently the target of an intense campaign of misinformation coordinated by the non-governmental organization ProDESC and the Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores Mineros Metalúrgicos, Siderúrgicos y Similares de la República Mexicana (the "Los Mineros Union"), the objective of which is to impose the Los Mineros Union at our La Platosa Mine against Mexican labour laws and the expressed will of the large majority of our workers. On July 5<sup>th</sup>, in a government supervised election, 60% of our workers chose to be represented by unions other than the Los Mineros Union, with the Sindicato Nacional Minero Metalúrgico Napoleón Gómez Sada (the "Gómez Sada Union") winning the largest number of votes. The Gómez Sada Union represents workers in many of Mexico's major companies and is the Los Mineros Union's primary rival in Mexico.

Three days following the election of the Gómez Sada Union, the Los Mineros Union commenced a blockade of La Platosa, with the support of the local Ejido La Sierrita and under the advice of ProDESC. Your letter includes a number of factually incorrect statements extracted directly from a ProDESC news release regarding the dismantling of the remnants of this illegal blockade some months later.

On the morning of October 24<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Rob Moore, the Company's COO, arrived with the morning shift, as he does every day. The shift was accompanied by approximately 150 members of the Concerned Women of Bermejillo, a group of women from the local communities of Bermejillo and Mapimi, who have been demonstrating against the blockade and the continued threat to the local economy and their livelihoods. On their way to the mine through the general access road they removed two recently constructed makeshift wire fences that were blocking a communal access road that the Company has used for nearly a decade. These makeshift fences were hundreds of metres away from the illegal encampment set up by the protestors.

When our workers reached the illegal encampment located on Excellon's property outside the main mine access, three people were present. A few women spoke with them and they left. The illegal encampment was not "temporary housing" and the protestors certainly did not live there, as you state. It was a makeshift camp of sunshades, without sewage or garbage disposal, and constituted an increasing health, sanitation and safety concern. The illegal encampment was generally occupied by paid protesters in rotating shifts. Further, the encampment was encroaching on a busy ore haulage road and was a danger to both those encamped and our workers and drivers. With no illegal protesters

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remaining at the encampment, and no danger of confrontation, we took steps to dismantle and clean up our property so that we could return to normal and safe operations. Tents were not burned, as has been claimed by ProDESC.

We understand that, at the same time, approximately one mile away from the encampment, members of the Gómez Sada Union confronted members of the Los Mineros Union whom had threatened to blockade another communal access road that we have used for years to transport ore. The Gómez Sada Union members advised the Los Mineros Union members of the damage that they had inflicted on the local communities and the livelihoods of all mine workers. The Los Mineros Union members then peacefully collected their belongings and left. No violence occurred whatsoever.

We support the right of workers to freely associate and agree that third party actors and concerns should not be part of this conflict. Our workers should have the right to choose their representative union in a fair and transparent manner. They have expressed that will clearly, and now only seek to return to their jobs and livelihoods without the interference of broader national political concerns or pan-Mexican inter-union power struggles.

We are in complete compliance with all Mexican laws, and the terms of our contract with the Ejido La Sierrita. We have the full support of the local community, our workers and all levels of the Mexican government. Perhaps the most unfortunate aspect of these past months has been the manipulation of the Ejido La Sierrita by ProDESC and the Los Mineros Union. We have historically had a good relationship with the Ejido and, prior to the blockade, we were working to further implement our agreement with them. The misinformation and lies they have received has certainly damaged our relationship, though we hope to rebuild it in the future when the interference of outside agents has diminished.

We are grateful that the events of the past months have been and remain peaceful, and we hope that they remain so in the future. La Platosa has an elected union. We trust that your organization, in its professed fight for democracy and social justice, will recognize the choice of our workers.

Sincerely,



Peter Crossgrove  
Executive Chairman



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