

Via FAX: 011 52 55 5093 3414  
**Sr. Secretario Miguel Ángel Osorio Chong**  
 Minister of the Interior of Mexico

via FAX: 011 52 95 1501 8100, ext.40068  
**Lic. Gabino Cué Monteagudo**  
 Governor of Oaxaca State, Mexico

April 26, 2013

Dear Sirs:

We are concerned about the death threat to activist and community radio presenter **Filiberto Vicente Aquino** and his family in the Tehuantepec Isthmus, Oaxaca State. He has been reporting on indigenous communities' opposition to the construction of a wind farm because of its impact on their agriculture and land. There has not been an adequate consultation process to obtain their free, prior and informed consent in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (cf our letter of February 12, 2013).

On March 20, after Filiberto Vicente Aquino covered a press conference held by members of the indigenous communities, he received a telephone call from a person who identified himself and said, "The government does not want people like you, I have been given the order to end with you and your family." He has filed a formal complaint with the Office of the Attorney General of Oaxaca State (PGJE) against the person responsible for the threat.

On March 18, community members **Héctor Rangel Salazar, Efraín Fonseca Moctezuma, Samuel Villaseñor Bustillo,** and **Álvaro Gongora Templado** were arrested while campaigning against the wind farm construction and released hours later. On March 21, municipal police and other men illegally detained community leader **Eleazar Infante Fiallo,** along with journalists **Rosa Rojas, Francisco Olvera, David Henestrosa, Ignacio Garrido, Karina Martínez** and **Eliseo Ramírez.** The journalists were released after several hours, but Eleazar Infante Fiallos was only released after state police intervened. The office of the Oaxaca State Human Rights Ombudsman has requested protection measures for seven of those detained, including three journalists and three activists.

Because of our ongoing concern for members of the indigenous communities and journalists reporting on the opposition to the wind farm, we **strongly urge** that you

- guarantee the safety of Filiberto Vicente Aquino, Eleazar Infante Fiallos, Héctor Rangel Salazar, Efraín Fonseca Moctezuma, Samuel Villaseñor Bustillo, and Álvaro Góngora Templado and other members of communities protesting construction of wind farms in the Tehuantepec Isthmus and ensure that journalists are able to cover the situation without fear of reprisals or illegal detention;
- carry out a full, prompt and impartial investigation into the threat against Filiberto Vicente Aquino and the illegal arrests of March 18 and 21 and bring those responsible to justice;
- ensure that the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous communities affected by the wind farm is obtained on the basis of reliable and accurate information on the impacts of the project, that the existing legal order suspending construction is upheld, and that police respect the rights of the communities to protest peacefully.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
 Coordinator

CC: Comité de Defensa Integral de Deechos Humanos Gobixha AC ~ via email  
 Arturo Sarukhan Casamitjana, Mexican Ambassador to the US ~ via fax: 202 728 1698  
 Earl Anthony Wayne, US Ambassador to Mexico ~ via fax: 011-52-55-5080-2834  
 Greg Sprow, Mexico Desk, US State Dept ~ via fax: 202.647.5752  
 Rodrigo Escobar Gil, Rapporteur for Mexico, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: (202)458-3992  
 US Senators Brown & Portman ~ via email  
 US Representatives Fudge, Gibbs, Johnson, Joyce, Kaptur, Latta, Renacci, Ryan ~ via email

UA 76/13 Mexico

**The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter:**