

**PRESENTER:** It's 9:21 AM, 9:21. I am just linking up with engineer Miguel Ángel Marín Payán, President of the Executive Board of the Mining Association of Sonora. How are you? Good morning!

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Good morning, Miss, at your service and a warm greeting to you.

**PRESENTER:** Mr. Marín... we had the opportunity to read the foldout issued by your Mining Association of Sonora, to be precise, where they refer to the case that is going on involving Minera San Xavier here in San Luis Potosí. What is the position of your association?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** The situation facing the Minera San Xavier Company is unfair, in any light. It has been given an absurd suspension which constitutes a violation of the most elemental state of right. The productive mining sector expresses its most emphatic protest against such a deplorable act.

**PRESENTER:** What is it that most concerns the Mining Association of Sonora at this time about the San Luis Potosí case?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Well, Miss, eh... something of this nature affects the entire national and international sector. In the Minera San Xavier case, this company works to the most rigorous environmental standards and, in consequence, not respecting the state of right constitutes a risk to investment and for our activity in every company in the country.

**PRESENTER:** Do you have any experience with companies that are operating in the same way that Minera San Xavier has? And what have been the results? Have the communities where they are installed been affected at all?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Miss, the State of Sonora... the State of Sonora is one of the principal mining states in the country...

**PRESENTER:** Yes...

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** We are leaders in gold and in copper. This is a regular process here and we have not had any serious affectation. Everything has been duly controlled and supervised by PROFEPA. There has not been one case, I repeat, in which any person within the activity has been affected.

**PRESENTER:** Do you know how Minera San Xavier has been operating and what impression do you have about the way in which it was carrying out its activities?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** That's right, Miss. I want to mention that Minera San Xavier is a member of this association. We don't only limit ourselves to the State of Sonora as a mining association, we also have members from other states such as Colima, Chihuahua, San Luis Potosí itself and, aah... we enjoyed the operations with certain regularity, they are working

successfully and it seems to us a blatant affront the fact that such a deplorable circumstance has come about.

**PRESENTER:** What do you think the consequences might be, the effects this situation might have, the temporary closure of Minera San Xavier in Cerro de San Pedro?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Well, we have in the... medium, in the short and medium term. In the short term well we don't know how long it could... ah, hold out over maintaining the work force, as well as the services of the suppliers that are direct and indirect jobs of immense importance given the situation facing the country and that is international. And in the medium term the despondency and the risk that would be seen by investments within the field that are so necessary and so useful for the development of the country.

**PRESENTER:** Now, what are your expectations? What do you expect the authority's decision to be about this case? Will Minera San Xavier reopen or is it more likely that it will be closed indefinitely? What are your expectations in this sense?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Ah, we are very respectful and confident that the federal authority will have the affinity to be able to resolve this situation properly and likewise call to conciliation this opposing group which undoubtedly does not understand mining activity since it reaches an unfortunate and regrettable proposition that confuses society and has confused the authority as well. Nevertheless, we are confident that the nature of our activity... err, will be understood. We think that this is going to permit, err... these reflections that it is done as soon as possible. Let us remember, Miss, that mining activity arose in the most elemental way with the appearance of man and as man has evolved so have the technological changes in the mining sector, in such a way that Mexico stands out in mineral production. Remember that many cities are born under this noble and necessary activity, as is the case of San Luis Potosí, precisely Cerro de San Pedro, along with the city of Guanajuato, Zacatecas and Chihuahua and many other important cities. But the most extraordinary thing is that in a person's surroundings, more than eighty percent of household instruments, in the office, in entertainment centers, are products which come from mining. Understanding this by this opposing group could be the call to reflection and conciliation so that we can develop productive activities that are so necessary for the development of the regions.

**PRESENTER:** Engineer Miguel Ángel Marín Payán, President of the Executive Board of the Mining Association of Sonora, I would ask you, finally, what do you say to those people who oppose the operation of Minera San Xavier in Cerro de San Pedro?

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Definitely that they become informed... their attitude only sharpens the profound ignorance about how the mine operates, about mining, which has not only, as I said, been part of history, nor of the present, but that demands and deserves to be part of the future of this country and of the generations to come in the future.

**PRESENTER:** Thank you very much for the opportunity to chat this morning and learn your point of view, engineer Miguel Ángel Marín Payán, President of the Executive Board of the Mining Association of Sonora, thank you very much.

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** I'm here to help and greetings to all my Potosí countrymen.

**PRESENTER:** Have a very good morning!

**MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN PAYÁN:** Good morning.