



**YES, I want to join CISPES in stopping U.S. corporate abuses under the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA)! I support just alternatives being constructed by the Salvadoran social movement!**

*(detach and give to a CISPES representative)*

**I'D LIKE TO JOIN CISPES BY:**

- Participating in marches, congressional visits, and other upcoming actions
- Receiving email updates and action alerts about the situation in El Salvador
- Helping out with mailings, work parties or translation

**I CAN'T VOLUNTEER MY TIME BUT I WANT TO SUPPORT CISPES BY:**

- Donating a one-time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Becoming a local sustainer at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ a month/quarter
- Donating frequent flyer miles to CISPES



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Thomas Shrake, President and CEO of Pacific Rim,

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I urge you and the Board of Pacific Rim to drop the lawsuit you filed against the government of El Salvador. Local and national civic organizations have been actively opposing the El Dorado mine since 2004. A study by the University of Central America found that over 62% of the people of El Salvador do not support any mining activity in the country. This degree of widespread opposition must be respected. According to environmentalists, economists, and social movement groups:

- \* The El Dorado mine would have devastating effects on the environment, especially water.
- \* The mine provides no long-term economic benefit for El Salvador, only for Pacific Rim.
- \* Community leaders like Marcelo Rivera who are speaking out against the mines are being killed and many more are living under death threats and assassination attempts.
- \* This lawsuit tramples on the rights of sovereign governments to protect the interests of their people as they see fit, including the decision to issue mining permits based on their environmental standards.
- \* The Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), the basis for this lawsuit, was widely opposed throughout the U.S. and Central America. Citizen advocacy groups in El Salvador charge that CAFTA is unconstitutional and have brought the case before their Supreme Court.

Mr. Shrake, it is shameful that you are willing to wreak profound economic damage on an entire nation for the financial gain of your company. For these reasons, I urge you to withdraw the lawsuit that Pacific Rim has filed against El Salvador.

Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**Stop the Pacific Rim lawsuit!  
No gold mining in El Salvador!  
Stop CAFTA exploitation!**



In the department of Cabañas, El Salvador, communities have been protesting against a proposed gold mining project by Pacific Rim, a Canadian mining company. Their concern? That cyanide used to extract gold would poison El Salvador's largest river, the primary source of drinking water for millions in the country. Their protests were strong enough to shut down the El Dorado gold mining site. In 2007, the Ministry of Environment denied Pacific Rim's permit to start drilling for gold.

But Pacific Rim is not listening. Instead, the company is suing the Salvadoran government for \$77 million in "lost profit". How can Pacific Rim do this?! The U.S. Central American Free Trade Agreement

(CAFTA) protects the "rights" of corporations over national laws that safeguard workers and the environment, giving private foreign investors the right to sue for "profit infringement" and extort millions of dollars from Central American governments.

Since the U.S. Congress voted to approve CAFTA in 2005, cross-border resistance has continued! The Salvadoran people have successfully mobilized to block the privatization of health care and water and other policies tied to the "free" trade agreement.

But death squad violence in El Salvador has resurfaced since the passing of CAFTA, specifically targeting unionists, resource rights activists and members of the left political party, the FMLN. In June 2009, the anti-mining struggle turned deadly when outspoken community leader Marcelo Rivera was tortured and killed. The right-wing Attorney General refused to investigate this as a political assassination, or to investigate numerous death threats, kidnapping and assassination attempts in Cabañas.

Pacific Rim's lawsuit could devastate El Salvador's economy, taking \$77 million out of necessary social programs like health care and education and putting it in the pockets of corporate shareholders in North America. Send a postcard to CEO Thomas Shrake demanding that Pacific Rim withdraw its lawsuit, respect the will of the Salvadoran people and close the mines!

*(On the adjacent section you can join CISPES' campaign to stop U.S. corporations from trampling on El Salvador's sovereignty!)*



[www.cispes.org](http://www.cispes.org)

Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador

**¡Alto a la demanda de Pacific Rim!  
¡No a la minería metálica en El Salvador!  
¡Alto a la explotación bajo el TLC!**



En el departamento de Cabañas, El Salvador, comunidades están de pie en contra de un proyecto de minería de oro propuesto por Pacific Rim, una empresa canadiense. ¿Sus preocupaciones? Que cianuro usado durante la extracción de oro contaminara el río mas grande en El Salvador, la fuente principal de agua potable para millones en el país. Sus manifestaciones tuvieron suficiente fuerza para cerrar el sitio de minería El Dorado. En 2007, el Ministerio de Medio Ambiente negó el permiso que pido Pacific Rim para explotar el oro. Pero Pacific Rim no quiere escuchar. Ya está demandando \$77 millones de dólares que presentan como "ganancias perdidas." ¿Como puede ser? El Tratado de Libre Comercio (TLC) entre El Salvador y E.E.U.U. protege los "derechos" de corporaciones aunque se violen leyes nacionales que protegen a los y las trabajadores y al medioambiente. El TLC permite a inversores extranjeros y privados el derecho de hacer una demanda por "infracción de ganancia" y obtener millones de dólares de los gobiernos centroamericanos.

Desde el Congreso de los E.E.U.U. votó para aprobar el TLC en 2005, ¡la resistencia ha continuado en ambos lados de la frontera! El pueblo salvadoreño se ha movilizado para detener la privatización de la salud, el agua y otros modos de implementación del tratado de "libre" comercio.

Pero desde la aprobación del TLC, la violencia por parte de las escuadrones de muerte ha reaparecido, apuntando a los y las sindicalistas, activistas organizando para defender de recursos naturales, y miembros del partido de izquierda, el FMLN. En junio de 2009, la lucha contra la minería se convirtió en algo fatal con la tortura y asesinato de Marcelo Rivera, un líder comunitario. El Fiscal General derechista rechazó investigarlo como asesinato político, o investigar varias amenazas de la muerte y varias intentos a desaparecer o matar a activistas en Cabañas.

La demanda de Pacific Rim podría hundir el economía de El Salvador, robando \$77 millones de dólares de programas básicos como la salud y la educación y poniéndolos en las bolsas de corporaciones y inversores norteamericanos. ¡Manda un postal al jefe Thomas Shrake para exigir que Pacific Rim retire su demanda, respete la voluntad del pueblo Salvadoreño, y cierren las minas!

(Note su información al otro lado para unirse a la campaña de CISPES para detener las corporaciones estadounidenses a violar la soberanía de El Salvador)



[www.cispes.org](http://www.cispes.org)

Comité en Solidaridad con el Pueblo de El Salvador

contacto local :

**¡Sí, me uno a CISPES para detener abusos por corporaciones norteamericanos bajo el Tratado de Libre Comercio (TLC)! Apoyo la creación de alternativas justas por el movimiento social salvadoreño!**



[Llena el siguiente formulario y entrégaselo a un representante de CISPES]

**DESEO INCORPORARME A CISPES POR:**

- Participar en marchas, visitas a congresistas y cualquier otra actividad
- Recibir por correo electrónico actualizaciones y comunicados sobre la situación en El Salvador
- Apoyar en el envío de correspondencia, trabajo grupal o con traducciones

**No puedo dedicar tiempo como voluntario pero les puedo ayudar en:**

- Entregando una ayuda solidaria de \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Convirtiéndome en un/a donante para el comité local con \$ \_\_\_\_\_ al mes/cada tres meses



- Donando millas de viajero frecuente
- Nombre \_\_\_\_\_ Teléfono \_\_\_\_\_
- Correo electrónico \_\_\_\_\_
- Dirección \_\_\_\_\_

Ponga  
estampilla

**Thomas Shrake  
Pacific Rim Mining Corp.  
#410-625 Howe St  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Canada V6C 2T6**