



Chaupe Land Case Information Update: February 5, 2015

Newmont is committed to keeping stakeholders informed about the Chaupe land case in Peru. The following update has been prepared to expand on information currently available on the [Newmont](#) and [Yanacocha](#) websites.

As background, sales and transfers of community owned lands can only occur through a community approval process; as under that ownership system there are no individual owners. Following an established and customary legal process, the Sorochuco Community Assembly agreed to sell several land parcels and documents were signed and witnessed by Community members. Deed transfer papers were signed and payment was accepted for the land parcels in 1996 and 1997.

Members of the Chaupe family began to illegally re-occupy the land parcels previously sold. After numerous efforts to resolve the issue through direct engagement, we referred the matter to the Peruvian judicial system. Courts have since confirmed that Yanacocha is the rightful land owner – in 2012 and again in 2014.

Events have recently occurred as follows:

- Authorities verified that a foundation for a new structure located on Yanacocha's land had been constructed approximately 200 meters from the existing Chaupe family residence on January 20, 2015
- On February 3, 2015 – acting with full knowledge of Peruvian authorities and in compliance with the law – 20 members of the Yanacocha team, including security personnel, dismantled the new foundation the Chaupe family built on our property
- The entire process took approximately 30 minutes; while Chaupe family members reacted by throwing stones and other objects at our people, our team did not retaliate and fortunately, did not suffer any major injuries
- The Peruvian National Police were not directly involved in this process; rather, they monitored the situation from a distance of approximately one kilometer to ensure proper procedures were followed. There was no engagement between the police and the Chaupe family.

While our goal is always to be respectful of our neighboring communities and community members, we cannot support illegal occupation of our land – it is not fair to the rest of the community who sold land, and it is not safe to occupy areas under active exploration or development. We also prefer to resolve our differences through direct engagement and dialogue, and remain open to doing so. In the meantime, we will continue to rely on the judicial process, and make every effort to reduce tensions and minimize conflict by not disturbing the house the Chaupe family built on our land in 2011 until the full judicial process is complete, and by maintaining security to protect our people and uphold our responsibilities as landowners.

It is important to note that Peruvian courts have repeatedly confirmed Yanacocha's ownership of the land in question. In a separate matter, the Cajamarca Criminal Court of Appeals ruled in December 2014 that there was insufficient evidence of "acts of violence" by the Chaupe family at the beginning of their illegal occupation to warrant criminal charges. We respect this court's decision, but have appealed the judgment as part of our overall efforts to maintain our property rights.

We are committed to demonstrating our respect for human rights and our host communities, and will continue to seek measures to minimize conflict while protecting our rights and upholding our responsibilities. At the same time, we will take respectful, lawful and prudent measures to manage our

lands safely, and prevent future unauthorized occupation. We also remain open to engaging constructively and in good faith to address claims made by the Chaupe family.

We will continue to update our stakeholders on new developments. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions.



Photo: Location of the existing residence and the newly built foundation.