

January 18th 2005. Press Release. PR-030-2005

SETENA notified today of resolution on Crucitas mine.

SETENA Makes Environmental Feasibility Conditional on Reply To Extensive Annex

- The company will have six months to answer a 100 question index.

On Tuesday, SETENA, Secretaría Técnica Nacional Ambiental, notified Industrias Infinito S.A. (IISA) of resolution # 119-2005, by which they request an annex as part of the revision process on the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of the Crucitas Project, presented to the Secretaria in March 2002.

The 28 page resolution was introduced when persistent rumors about a recent vote from Constitutional Court were going around. The rumors were about the cancellation of the gold mine construction project in the marginalized Crucitas community in Cutris. Such initiative has been in process for 13 years and more than \$30 millions (more than 13.500 millions of colones; current exchange rate) have been invested.

“The first text revision filled us with optimism, because, even though there are many questions, we will have a satisfactory answer or comment for all of them”, Jesús Carvajal, IISA’s General Manager, said. He did not hide his satisfaction towards the resolution that, in his opinion, is part of the chain of success they were able to obtain little by little in the Crucitas Project consolidation process, he said.

A resolution’s review indicates that SETENA is requesting additional information in 40 different aspects divided in the following way: 14 geological aspects, 8 biological items, 8 aspects on forest matters, 10 on the social field. The 60 remaining aspects, that should be included in the annex, are questions posed during the public hearing of July 31st held in Coopevega in Cutris.