



**HELP TOHONO O'ODHAM OF SONORA,
MEXICO AND THE U.S. STOP A
HAZARDOUS WASTE DUMP FROM BEING
BUILT NEAR THEIR SACRED SITE IN
QUITOVAC!**



The Mexican government and a company called CEGIR/Centro de Gestion Integral de Residuos S.A. want to build a toxic dump to dispose of industrial hazardous wastes. The permit process has been conducted with no involvement of the Indigenous O'odham communities in decision-making processes.

The proposed dump would desecrate the sacred ceremony site at Quitovac, and devastate the culture, traditions, sacred sites and spiritual well-being of the O'odham Indigenous peoples in both Mexico and the U.S.. The dump would also expose children and nearby communities to dangerous toxins released in the land, air, and water, and could contaminate water the communities depend on.

The Tohono O'odham tribal government in Arizona has passed a resolution denouncing the dump project due to its impact on the sacred ceremonial grounds at Quitovac and on O'odham people, their culture and environment.

The dump project was rejected several times by the Sonoyta, Sonora municipal government but the Mexican government failed to obey their own laws and officially declare the project over.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has failed to uphold its responsibility to protect the O'odham people who are U.S. citizens who visit Quitovac for ceremonies and family visits. The EPA must strongly urge the Mexican government to reject the dump due to its impacts on O'odham who are US citizens.

“To the O'odham, Quitovac is the place that defines who we are as people of the desert. We are related to the earth from which we are made. Our Him'dag, our way of life, is based upon this principle. Quitovac holds the traditional knowledge that the O'odham tap into during ceremony, and when we sing our songs and vocalize the old sacred words, we communicate with the grounds when we dance the way the Creator and our helper Brother I'toi taught us. When we talk about the land we mean the total environment, the plants and animals, the waters, ponds and seas and underground rivers, the mountains, the sky and all humanity. We cannot allow a toxic dump here.” *Ofelia Rivas, O'odham Rights Cultural and Environmental Justice Coalition*

**CALL AND EMAIL THE MEXICAN & US GOVERNMENTS TODAY!
TELL THEM TO OBEY THEIR OWN LAWS & STOP THE TOXIC DUMP PROPOSED NEAR QUITOVAC**

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