

Proteja Canillas de Aceituno

Press release - for immediate use

Proposed Waste Recycling Plant Threatens Rural Canillas de Aceituno

Canillas de Aceituno 20/11/2024



Local Community Raises Concerns Over Environmental and Cultural Impact

Residents and neighbours of Canillas de Aceituno, a picturesque village nestled in the heart of the Axarquía, are rallying against a proposed waste recycling plant and landfill slated for construction in their serene and beautiful environment. Known for its breathtaking landscapes, diverse wildlife, and cultural heritage, the valley is an integral part of the region's identity and tourism economy. Locals fear that this industrial development will irreparably damage the area's environment, and deter visitors seeking the tranquillity of rural Spain.



Valley proposed for the landfill site

A Threat to Nature and Heritage

The proposed plant would introduce at a minimum, noise, pollution, heavy truck traffic etc into the area, posing risks to the local ecosystem and community. Residents have expressed concerns about contamination of the valley's water supply, loss of biodiversity, and irreversible damage to the region's delicate balance between nature and tradition. The narrow local roads are unfit for any kind of heavy traffic and will pose untold danger to the local residents and tourists.

Economic Consequences

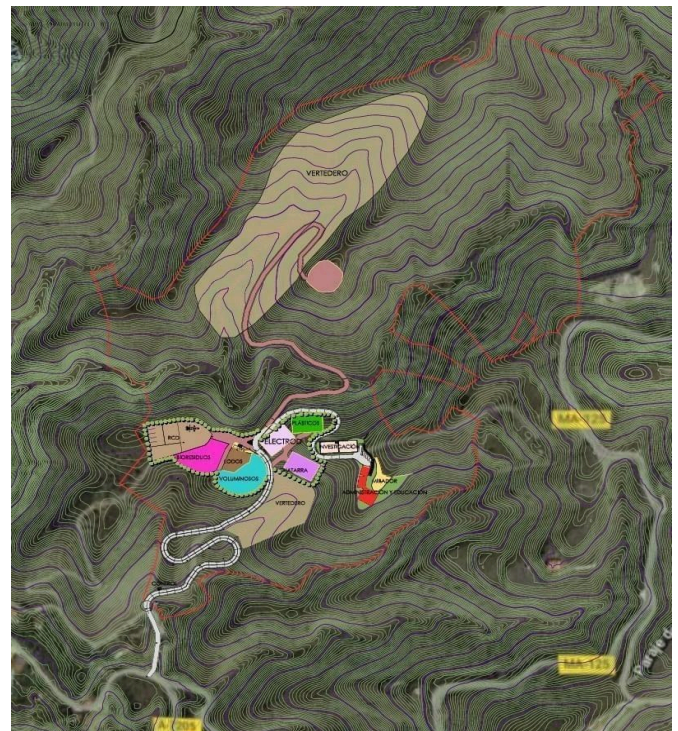
The valley's economy relies heavily on agriculture, artisanal crafts, and tourism. Residents fear the plant will discourage visitors who come to enjoy the area's hiking trails, gastronomy, and natural beauty, further threatening local livelihoods.

Illegal road construction

A road has already been illegally constructed through the valley parallel to the road leading to Canillas de Aceituno to serve the large landfill - no permit has been given and the ayuntamiento has denounced this action.

Project Proposal

The proposal with an estimated cost of €2.244.790,72 has been submitted to the Junta for approval and objections can be lodged before 5 December 2024. The large recycling plant will process different types of waste including plastics, metal and electrical goods.



Proposal for the recycling plant and landfills



Countless local communities in the surrounding area facing consequences

All towns and villages from the motorway to Canillas and all the towns beyond will be impacted with the increased heavy traffic and large industrial trucks. The public roads to the site (A -7205 and MA-4106) are not equipped to handle this and will pose a great danger on the dangerous tight bends. We can not allow this to happen.

United Community Resistance

The Canillas de Aceituno community has come together to oppose the proposal, organising meetings, collecting signatures, and appealing to authorities and environmentalists. In less than 24 hours we passed the 300 signature mark!

A small delegation representing the larger community are engaging with environmentalists and parties opposed to such an environmentally devastating project. If the Junta agrees to the project proposal, environmental studies will need to be carried out prior to final agreement. Residents and neighbours in the area recognise well managed recycling areas are necessary, but strongly protest the site proposed. We will protest this proposal at every step to ensure it will not proceed at this precious location.

Action needed

The residents urge concerned citizens, environmental groups, and policymakers to support their fight against the project. A petition is circulating online to gather support from those who wish to preserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Canillas de Aceituno.

More information can be found at www.protejacanillas.org where we are also gathering signatures to submit to the Junta.

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