



Document 10
Translated from the Spanish original

Province of Badajoz

Viñaoliva will construct news a distilling alcohol in the outskirts of Almendralejo that will substitute Vinibasa

Extremadura al Día
On January 23, 2008

The industry of distillation of alcohol Vinibasa located in Almendralejo (Badajoz) will close "definitely" its doors in May; a decision motivated by the criticism for the citizenship by bad smells, and that will be replaced with a new plant that Viñaoliva will construct on the outskirts of the locality.

This way it was indicated today by the mayor of the locality, José Maria Ramírez, in press conference in which he remembered that Vinibasa was taking years supporting the criticism of the citizens for the "bad smells" that there produces its activity, which derived in continuous denunciations "without foundation", according to Ramírez, on the part of the Platform Against the Contamination of Almendralejo.

The mayor underlined that the company could have kept on exercising his activity as it had doing it till now, because it has always been characterized by the "legality", but the leaders have decided to close it definitely owed principally to the criticism that they have come spilling against them for years.

The alcohol distillation in the area will be realized from now on by the new factory that Viñaoliva will construct 4 kilometers outside of the city center of Almendralejo, in a place that still has not been announced.

The investment has been quantified in 12 million of euros approximately, which will provide to the new high-tech industry, completely different from the used one for "Vinibasa.

The first town councilor of Almendralejo criticized the members of the civil platform, **whom he labeled as "manipulatives" "inquisitors" and "ignorants"**, for realizing accusations "without foundation", that they have not led to any judgment, as the mayor annotated.

On the other hand it referred to the writing that this platform sent to the parents and mothers of the pupils of the School Antonio Machado, being alert of that the company Vinibasa was detaching such substances as dioxins and furans, causers of different fonts of cancer.

The mayor of Almendralejo has qualified the writing of "**dumb action**". As he argued, there has been carried out an exhaustive study in which it has been revealed that for this companies does not exist a regulation that limits the issue of this kind of substances, as he said, "only it is regulated in incinerators".

Analyzed the Vinibasa emissions it was determined, supports the municipal councilor, that without existing that one normative the dioxins issue and furans was still 40 times below the limit established for the incinerators.

In this sense, he wanted to make clear that the economic activity of this type of companies in "fundamental" in "Tierra de Barros", since a year 25 million of euros are paid in subsidies destined for the distillation, in addition to other "essential" economic factors for the development of the region.

Vinibasa initialized his activity in the year 1973 and it was provided with a whole of 28 workers, that at the moment, they will lose his employments.

SENTENCE TO THE COMPANY CANTOS BLANCOS

For his part, the spokesman of the team of Government, Fernando Bote, referred to the press conference offered yesterday by the Platform Against the Contamination, in which there was announced a judgment for which it binds to the Almendralejo town hall to qualify like "seriously" a town-planning sanction committed by the company Cantos Blancos and which the town hall determined like "minor", and a sanction for 600 euros was imposed on it.

According to the judgment, the company will have to pay to the consistory 500.000 euros for the said infraction.

On this matter, Bote wanted to make clear that the activity realized until now by Cantos Blancos "the integrated declaration of environmental impact has fitted at all times to the legality", since from the beginning they have been in possession of all the licenses exigibles.

On the consideration as light infraction on the part of government team, he argued that this decision was took because the company initialized a few works before having the corresponding license, "being legalized later".

The spokesman remembered that it can only be qualified as severe "when the infraction is not legalizable in any case". Also, he showed his "dissatisfaction" with the judgment on which the town hall will not resort not to create "speculations", being now the company the one that might exercise such right.

In this sense Bote showed that there is demonstrated how the platform "was not taking the reason", since they denounced in his moment that the activity of this company in all his extension was "illegal", when in the judgment does not allude of any type to that its activity was not fitting to the regulation that governs it.

Before the exhibited for the judgment, the Almendralejo town hall will solve again the records of town-planning infraction, on which they will study again the possible qualification as seriously of the same one, and will determine the sanction that in its case could be imposed on it.

Document 10
Translated from the Spanish original