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# HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN APAXCO MEXICO FROM THE DAMAGE OF THE “ECOLTEC” CEMENT PLANT.

05 OCT 2023



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## PROTESTS AGAINST ECOLTEC

In 2009 the town of **Apaxco** in Mexico has been **protesting** against against a Swiss cement plant in the region “**Ecoltec**” which has had **detrimental** effects on the local communities health, on the **environment**, and on the overall **quality of life** in the area.



- Located in the State of **Mexico** north east of Toluca
- Over the years there have been multiple protests from locals **demanding** governmental **protection** as well as organized groups that call for the government to **stop** cement plants across the country.
- For example “Frente de Comunidades en Contra de la Incineración” which had their first meeting in 2013.



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## Health risks

Exposure to pollutants from the plant has **impacted the local communities health** causing respiratory problems, irritation in the eyes, cardiovascular problems, and even cancer.

Apart from that, **60% of children** in the community have **memory problems**.

Moreover on Mar. 21, 2009, **11 local men died** while cleaning out a wastewater pumping station of the local water company.

## Environmental Degradation

The cement plant has **contaminated** the water sources in the community with chemicals such as nitrogen oxides

This **decreased the availability of drinking water** and put the **ecosystems at risk**.



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## How to help

Now is the time to **educate** and **mobilize** by sharing information and speaking about the impacts of factories and industrial plants on local Mexican communities and to pressurize governments to act.

It is important to **vote** for governments that will **support** these **underrepresented communities** and advocate for the implementation of **sustainable practices and technologies** within the plant to reduce emissions, improve air and water quality, and minimize its ecological footprint.

We must prioritize discussions and policymaking that actively **engage marginalized communities**, as they consistently bear the most severe repercussions of climate change




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50shadesofgreen\_mx DAY 5: CLIMATE JUSTICE (greener challenge)

The environmental injustice that we researched about from our region is the "ecoltec" cement plant. Starting in 2009 the town of Apaxco in Mexico has been protesting against against a Swiss cement plant in the region called "Ecoltec" which has had detrimental effects on the local communities health, on the environment, and on the overall quality of life in the area.

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2 MINUTES AGO

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