

Conflict report between CGN Brazil Energy and the Community of Fundo and Fecho de Pasto Fazenda Quina - Campo Formoso, Bahia.

Date: September 20-29, 2021.

On September 20, 2021, the residents of Comunidade de Fundo e Fecho de Pasto Fazenda Quina blocked the road that gives access to the Morrinhos Wind Farm (Complexo Eólico Morrinhos), in the municipality of Campo Formoso, in the state of Bahia. The objectives of the action were: 1) to improve access to the community and; 2) the possibility of water supply, since the company uses water trucks to water the road, while in the community the cisterns are empty.

Remembering that for the implementation of wind farms it is common for access roads to be built and existing roads to be expanded, further impacting the surrounding communities. These roads are usually not paved and in the few hearings and/or public consultations about the implementation of the projects, questions are constantly raised about the maintenance of the access roads.

According to the disclosure on social networks, the decision to occupy the road was taken after the company CGN Brazil Energy (which acquired the Atlantic projects) did not open a channel for dialogue with the community and did not take effective actions to mitigate the impacts caused by the project. A letter containing the claims was delivered to representatives of CGN Brazil Energy (operator of the wind farm) and Marrikaah Environmental Licensing and Private Social Investment, since the first half of August, but none of the companies made a public statement.

Photograph 01: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 20, 2021.



Source: Movement Salve as Serras (20 Sept. 2021).

Photograph 02: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 20, 2021.



Source: Movement Salve as Serras (20 Sept. 2021).

Photograph 03: Posters at the demonstration at the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 20, 2021.



Source: Movement Salve as Serras (20 Sept. 2021).

On September 21, the social network of the Movimento Save as Serras (SAS) reported that until the end of the afternoon of September 20, the company CGN Brazil Energy had not issued any public notice regarding the demands made by the community. In the same release, it was informed that a representative of CGN Brazil Energy proposed a meeting, to be scheduled for September 28 (next Tuesday), a proposal rejected by the residents.

The negotiation lasted about three hours and CGN Brazil Energy called the Military Police to the mobilization, in an attempt to intimidate the community, an attitude understood by the protesters as arbitrary and unnecessary. According to the post, residents reported that members of the Military Police asked only to maintain order and peace in the area. There was no position from the Municipality of Campo Formoso on the case. Photographs 04, 05 and 06 record the presence of the Military Police in the action at around 6 pm on September 20, 2021.

Photograph 04: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 20, 2021.



Source: Movement Salve as Serras (20 Sept. 2021).

Photograph 05: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 20, 2021.



Source: Movement Salve as Serras (20 Sept. 2021).

Photograph 06: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 20, 2021.



Source: Movement Salve as Serras (20 Sept. 2021).

Also on September 21, in the profile of the Organização Estadual das Comunidades Tradicionais de Fundo e Fecho de Pasto do estado da Bahia, it was disclosed that the community had completed 24 hours of resistance in blocking the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Complex, without any manifestation on the part of from the company. Photographs 07 and 08 correspond to the action of the Fazenda Quina community on the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm on September 21, 2021, after 24 hours of blocking and without the manifestation of the company or the Municipality of Campo Formoso.

Photograph 06: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 21, 2021.



Source: Organização Estadual das Comunidades Tradicionais de Fundo e Fecho de Pasto do estado da Bahia (21 Sept. 2021).

Photograph 07: Blockage in the access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, in Campo Formoso, Bahia – September 21, 2021.



Source: Organização Estadual das Comunidades Tradicionais de Fundo e Fecho de Pasto do estado da Bahia (21 Sept. 2021).

According to the release of the Save as Serras Movement, in the late afternoon of September 21, already heading towards the 48 hours of resistance, there was a dialogue with CGN Brazil Energy, which informed that it would only take a concrete position after 192 hours, moving in the opposite direction. the urgent request made by the Fazenda Quina community.

CGN Brazil Energy did not stop its activities and authorized its employees to follow an alternative route, since the main access road was blocked, thus bypassing the Varzinha community. This episode shows yet another disregard for the population of the community, which annoyed the leaders of other communities located nearby. These joined the demonstration and began to join forces with the act of mobilization. In addition to the Fazenda Quina community, the Borda da Mata, Poço dos Borges, Belas, Baixão and Varzinha communities were included in the action.

On September 22, 2021 (Wednesday) the Morrinhos Wind Complex had its operation paralyzed. Also on September 22, the Fazenda Quina community released a note about a protest against the Morrinhos Wind Farm (box 01).

Box 01: Note about the protest against the Morrinhos Wind Farm.

Note about the protest against the Morrinhos Wind Farm

This Wednesday, September 22, 2021, after three days of occupation of the main access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm, the community of Fundo de Pasto da Fazenda Quina releases for the operation of activities. The decision came after an intense period of negotiation with the board of the company CGN Brazil Energy, where agreements were signed such as:

- Improvement of the access road to the communities, in partnership with the local government, and by the end of this afternoon, an action schedule will be made available;
- Creation of a water security program to serve impacted communities. While the execution of the program starts, the company will liaise with the city hall to carry out the supply by water truck;
- Availability of monthly reports on energy generation and the amount of taxes collected by the municipality;
- Creation of a more effective dialogue channel with communities impacted by the project;
- Facilitation of access to the park by impacted communities.

The dialogue also took place with the communities of Belas, Poço dos Borges, Borda da Mata and Baixão, where the company also committed to meeting their demands.

The community is immensely grateful for the support of organizations in the struggle of communities in the search for rights: Associação de Advogados/as de Trabalhadores/as Rurais no estado da Bahia (AATR/BA), Comissão Pastoral da Terra (CPT/BA), Articulação Estadual das Comunidades Tradicionais de Fundo e Fecho de Pasto, SINTTAF, Movimento Salve as Serras, Instituto Regional da Pequena Agropecuária Apropriada (IRPAA), PSOL Bonfim (BA) and others companions who contributed to the dissemination of the act.

Fazenda Quina, September 22, 2021

On September 24, 2021, the Fazenda Quina community disclosed on a social network that after the agreement signed with CGN Brazil Energy on September 22, the company did not comply with the agreed points. The only feedback from CGN Brazil Energy was regarding the availability of reports for the months of January to April 2021 (and for more than a year the company has not provided information to the community).

In light of this scenario, on September 27, 2021, the Fazenda Quina, Belas, Baixão and Borda da Mata communities once again occupied the main access road to the Morrinhos Wind Farm. On September 29, 2021, the access road was once again released through new agreements between the communities, the company CGN Brazil Energy and the Municipality of Campo Formoso.

Sources:

Instagram Salve as Serras. Available in: <<https://www.instagram.com/salveasserras>>. Accessed on: 03 Oct. 2021.

Instagram Organização Estadual das Comunidades Tradicionais de Fundo e Fecho de Pasto do estado da Bahia. Available in: <<https://www.instagram.com/fundoefechodepasto/>>. Accessed on: 03 Oct. 2021.

Instagram Comunidade Fazenda Quina. Available in: <https://www.instagram.com/fazenda_quina/>. Accessed on: 03 Oct. 2021.

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