

February 9th, 2023.

Asahi Refining USA Inc. (Asahi), a wholly owned subsidiary of Asahi Holdings, Inc., issues this public release to respond to recent press coverage on Aura Minerals Inc's. San Andres mine in Honduras.

We have already engaged with Aura's Minerals's executive team and they are actively assisting Asahi's review of the facts. Asahi has also informed LBMA of the allegations in accordance with our responsible sourcing policies.

Asahi Refining is disappointed that we were not contacted directly by either Bufete Estudios Para la Dignidad or Witness for Peace and Solidarity Collective prior to the release of their allegations.

Asahi Refining will carry out a systematic review of the allegations raised and determine the next steps required under Asahi's Responsible Gold Assurance Program.

Shohei Yasuda

President, Asahi Refining USA Inc.