

Puerto Rico Not For Sale! NY Says No to Privatization of Airport

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Domingo, 10 de Febrero de 2013 03:52 -



A day after a huge rally in Puerto Rico in front of the Governor's mansion, local Puerto Rican leaders, activists and supporters of the Puerto Rican people held a solidarity rally today in front of the headquarters of one of the investors, Highstar Capital (277 Park Ave. (bet. 47th & 48th Streets), to oppose the sale of the Luis Munoz Marin International airport in Puerto Rico.

A Mexican transnational company is slated to take over operations of Puerto Rico's main international airport as part of a \$2.6 billion deal with Aerostar Airport Holdings as part of the 40-year agreement. The company is a joint venture of Highstar Capital and Grupo Aeroportuario del Sureste. Among the significant reasons cited for opposing the sale of Puerto Rico's only International Airport are: the threat it poses to national security; the company has dubious privatization credentials; there have been irregularities in the procurement process; the sale limits the development of regional airports in Aguadilla and Ponce; there are no guarantee of job retention; airfare and other rates will increase dramatically; and simply put, it's a bad business deal for the people of Puerto Rico.

Thank you to the many leaders and activists who braved the frigid weather to say presente for Puerto Rico including Pedro Julio Serrano, Melissa Mark Viverito, Ramon Jimenez, Julio Rolon, William Gerena-Rochet, Eric Ramos Rodríguez, Josean Laguarda Ramírez, Ramon Olivencia, Jose Rivera, and many more.