

Press Release - Richmeat closes its ground beef factory in the Mariel Region

The Mariel Special Development Zone in Cuba has been in the spotlight due to the difficulties faced by several foreign companies that invested in the area, as reported by Diario de Cuba, Cubacute, Directorio Cubano, and Periódico Cubano.

According to these reports from independent sources, Mexican company Richmeat de Mexico, S.A. has suspended the production of its "Mixed Spiced Ground Beef" and other Ground Beef products in its factory in Mariel due to the Cuban regime's failure to make payments. This situation leaves the entire plant of workers unemployed, 90% of whom are Cuban nationals.

The uncertainty arising from the cessation of production of these two foods affects workers and Cuban families alike, who will now not have access to an estimated 7,000 tons of sausage products, as reported by [Periódico Cubano](#). These sausages, known as "tubos de picadillo," were, due to their versatility and price, "the salvation" of many Cuban families, who compensated for food deficiencies through their consumption, as reported by [Directorio Cubano](#).

This incident is another example of the Cuban regime's need for more transparency and reliability, which has led several investors to lose their businesses, exacerbating the delicate food security situation in the Mariel region. Cuban authorities have not yet issued an official statement on the suspension of Richmeat S.A.'s production and the company's financial situation. The international community closely monitors the Mariel Special Development Zone situation. This situation negatively affects the availability of food produced in the area and with Cuban households that depend on it; it also generates insecurity for workers currently "interrupted" without job security.

Food Monitor Program denounces the Cuban government's tendency to default, the government's lack of interest that worsens the shortage situation, and whose main affected are the Cubans who see their dependence on increasingly scarce products deepened. As a result, inflation and scarcity plaguing the country continue to widen. At the same time, Cubans have less and less access to even perishable foods that can satisfy hunger or camouflage the severe food insecurity on the island.