

The Junta undertakes the demolition of a house declared illegal in Vera

The mayor of the municipality, Felix Lopez, is outraged and is sure that with this action "we have become the scapegoat for the province of Almeria"

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The demolition took place yesterday at 15.00 in Vera of a house deemed illegal by the Junta de Andalusia, according to a judgement of Court Number 2 of the Contencioso Administrativo de Almería, April 2004.

The mayor of the municipality, Felix Lopez Caparrós, yesterday expressed outrage at the demolition of this house located in La Loma and commented that "we have become the scapegoat for the province of Almeria".

According to the mayor, the demolition was done "with the presence of the Regional Police and the Local Vera Police, to avoid any problems." For four years, two English retirees "around seventy years" lived in this house, which was given the go-ahead by Vera council.

"In 2002, the project license for this rural house was granted, as it complies with the provisions of the Rules of the City of Vera: plot minimum of 10,000 meters; setback boundaries of ten metres, and 50 metres minimum distance to another house, " he stated.

However, he continued "the Provincial Commission of Almeria, an agency under the Ministry of Public Works, gave an adverse report in 2003 -a report that is not binding and therefore we proceeded. The ruling of the judge alluded to a possible risk of creating a core population -we disagreed and continue to disagree with this, since the City Council does not provide municipal services in this area, because there is no town. "



Moreover, according to the Mayor of Vera, this demolition is an injustice because "there is a claim in the Constitutional Court and another filed in the High Court of Andalusia, and they have not waited for the result." As for communicating the demolition of the house, the family were informed on December 19, while the City Council was not advised until the day before yesterday at 1430 , according to the Vera Council Leader : "I called the Delegation of Public Works yesterday (Tuesday) and they told me that the demolition had been reported on 28 December, but we have no evidence of this at City Hall. "

"The Minister of Public works will be the only one satisfied because , in the province of Almeria, there are more than 1,600 illegal houses on rustic land, public rights of way, roads and parks", stressed Felix Lopez Caparrós. "You deal with the stubbornness of the Comission of Public Works. They think that like this they are going to legalize all the urban development of the province ", he concluded.

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