Activists Send Fake Email to Shell Workers

HOUSTON (AP) — Two activist groups said Tuesday they sent an email to more than 71,000 Shell Oil employees that pretended to be from a fake company division and provided information about a U.S. Supreme Court case involving the company.

The groups, People Against Legalizing Murder and the Yes Lab, said that on Monday they sent the email that purported to be from Shell's "Grassroots Employee Empowerment Division," which doesn't exist.

Business interests argue they are being subjected to claims over the bad behavior of foreign regimes, which are shielded from lawsuits here under U.S. law.

Sean Dagohoy, with People Against Legalizing Murder, said the email was sent as a way to let Shell employees know about the lawsuit.

"As many people as possible need to know about what is happening in this case," Dagohoy said in a phone interview from Vancouver.

Kayla Macke, a Shell spokeswoman in Houston, confirmed employees got the email and were told it was fake.

The company is investigating how the email was sent.

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