



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU**  
**MIMAROPA Region**

7/F DENR Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila  
Telefax No. (+632) 536-0215 / (+632) 310-1369  
Email: region4b@mgb.gov.ph



07 June 2021

**MR. RUDY L. CATALUNA**

Pangulo – Samahan ng Magsasaka na Ayaw sa Pagmimina

**MS. NORIMA M. MABLON**

Chairperson – Mga Kalebonan E't BICAMM  
Brookes Point, Palawan

**Dear Mr. R. L. Cataluna and Ms. N.M. Mablon:**

This refers to your 26 March 2021 letter to the CENRO-Brooke's Point inquiring on the expiration of the Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) granted to Celestial Nickel Mining Exploration Corporation (Celestial).

The abovementioned letter was forwarded to this Office by the Regional Executive Director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR)-MIMAROPA Region through the Memorandum dated 31 May 2021 for our reply.

Please be informed that, pursuant to Republic Act No. 7942, the Order issued on 21 December 2020 by the DENR Central Office it was clarified that the effectivity date of MPSA No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000 is reckoned on 10 April 2000 and shall expire on 10 April 2025. A copy of the Order is attached, for your reference.

Please be guided accordingly.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

**ENGR. GLENN MARCELO C. NOBLE**  
Regional Director

cc: The Regional Executive Director  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region

The PENRO-Palawan

The CENRO –Brooke's Point, Palawan

**"MINING SHALL BE PRO-PEOPLE AND PRO-ENVIRONMENT  
IN SUSTAINING WEALTH CREATION AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE."**

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MIMAROPA Region



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU**

North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

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January 05, 2021

IN RE : Clarification on the Effectivity Date of  
Mineral Production Sharing Agreement  
No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000  
Granted to Celestial Nickel Mining  
Exploration Corporation

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| RECEIVED                                       |         |
| Date   | 1/18/21 |
| Name/Signature                                 | g/v     |
| Division/Section                               |         |
| MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU - MIMAROPA REGION |         |

X-----X

**NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AN ORDER**

**THE PRESIDENT**

**Celestial Nickel Mining Exploration Corporation**  
7th Floor Corporate Business Center  
151 Pase de Roxas corner Arnaiz Street  
1228 Makati City

Reg. Mail

**THE PRESIDENT**

**Ipilan Nickel Corporation**  
7th Floor Corporate Business Center  
151 Pase de Roxas corner Arnaiz Street  
1228 Makati City

Reg. Mail

**THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Mines and Geosciences Bureau  
MIMAROPA Region  
7th Floor, 1515 DENR Building  
Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila 1000

Reg. Mail

Please be notified that an Order was issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources on December 21, 2020 on the subject, a copy of which is attached.



**ATTY. WILFREDO G. MONCANO**  
Acting Director



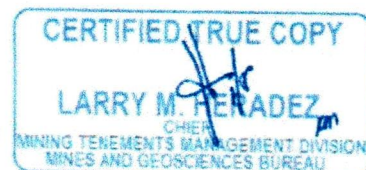
Encl.: as stated

**"MINING SHALL BE PRO-PEOPLE AND PRO-ENVIRONMENT  
IN SUSTAINING WEALTH CREATION AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE."**





Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City  
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929-66-20 • 929-66-33 to 35  
929-70-41 to 43



IN RE : Clarification on the Effectivity Date of  
Mineral Production Sharing Agreement  
No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000  
Granted to Celestial Nickel Mining  
Exploration Corporation  
X-----X



#### ORDER

**WHEREAS**, on August 05, 1993, the Philippine Government, through DENR, and Celestial Nickel Mining Exploration Corporation (Celestial) executed Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. 017-93-IV covering the contract area of 2,835.06 hectares located in Brooke's Point, Palawan, in accordance with Executive Order No. 279, the interim mining law during the period;

**WHEREAS**, on September 18, 1993, the MPSA No. 017-93-IV was approved by the President of the Republic of the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, on March 03, 1995, Republic Act (RA) No. 7942 or the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 took effect;

**WHEREAS**, on April 10, 2000, MPSA No. 017-93-IV was amended to conform to the provisions of RA No. 7942 and an MPSA was executed by the Philippine Government, through DENR, and Celestial re-denominated as MPSA No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000;

**WHEREAS**, both MPSAs provide for the definition of Effective date as *the date of approval of this Agreement by the President of the Republic of the Philippines.*

**WHEREAS**, on September 14, 2020, Ipilan Nickel Corporation, writing on behalf of and as authorized Operator of Celestial, requested for confirmation on the effectivity or effective date of MPSA No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000;

**WHEREAS**, Section 3.1 of the amended MPSA provides that the Contract shall have a term of 25 years from its Effective Date and may be renewed thereafter for another term not exceeding 25 years and that Effective Date is defined in Section II thereof as *"xxx the date of approval of this Agreement by the President of the Republic of the Philippines;"*

**WHEREAS**, Sections 8 and 29 of RA No. 7942 provide that the DENR Secretary shall have the authority to enter into mineral agreements on behalf of the Government upon the recommendation of the Director and that proposed mineral agreements shall be approved by the Secretary;



**WHEREAS**, RA No. 7942 provides that approval of MPSA was already delegated to the Secretary of the DENR and that the date of such approval shall be the date of the execution thereof and so thus, in the case of MPSA No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000, the amendment thereof;

**WHEREFORE, IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING**, the Effective Date of MPSA No. 017-93-IV as Amended-2000 shall be reckoned from the date of execution thereof, and that the same amended MPSA shall expire on April 10, 2025.

**SO ORDERED.**

Quezon City, Philippines, DEC 21 2020

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ROY A. CIMATU  
Secretary

