



24 November 2021

JONATHAN MIANO, JR. Complainant jbmjr243@gmail.com JBMJR243@gmail.com

Dear Sir Miano:

Isang makakalikasang araw!

This letter pertains to your complaint emailed to the DENR Aksyon Kalikasan last 28 October 2021 relative to the project operations of Ipilan Nickel Corporation (INC) with Reference number ACK2021102-03. The complaint is relative to the operation and tree cutting activities allegedly conducted by INC located at Brooke's Point, Palawan. Allegedly, INC has no tree cutting permit, chainsaw permit, or permit to operate their business. Further alleged in the complaint is the cause and result of the tree cutting activities namely: landslides, severe flash floods, and its adverse effects to the livelihood of the farmers.

Please be informed that our Office conducted an initial investigation on the said complaint. During the conversation by our personnel from PEMU Palawan with the Pollution Control Officer of INC, Engr. Philip Badenas, the latter assured that no such activities are being conducted in the area. The said personnel also coordinated with Barangay Maasin. Per Mrs. Dionisia Estrada, Barangay Kagawad, they have also conducted an ocular inspection in the project site about a few months ago. Based on the inspection conducted, the project has only been focused on the care and maintenance of the site.

Moreover, please be informed that the conduct of an ocular inspection was postponed due to inclement weather. It was then discovered through CENRO Conrado M. Corpuz that the tree cutting permit issued to INC had already expired a few years ago. Thus, this issue has been endorsed to the DENR MIMAROPA since their Office have the expertise and jurisdiction relative to tree cutting activities. However, this Office will still pursue the ocular inspection to validate and ensure that the project is compliant with environmental laws, rules, and regulations that are under regulation by this Office.

We hope that this letter has been able to provide clarification on your inquiry. We thank you for raising this matter and rest assured that this is being taken very seriously and that you will be informed as soon as any developments related to this case will be available in order to resolve the issue at hand.

Very truly yours, JOE AMIL **SALINO** Regional Director

Copy Furnished:

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