



February 21, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
EMB-MIMAROPA
1515 L & S Building, Roxas Boulevard,
Ermita, Manila

ATTENTION : THE CHIEF, LEGAL UNIT

THRU : THE CHIEF, PEMU *[Signature]*
Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

FROM : For. MERCEDITA B. ALMORFE
Supervising EMS
EMB- Palawan

SUBJECT : DIRECTIVE TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN EXPLANATION
WITHIN 48 HOURS RELATIVE TO THE COMPLAINT OF
MR. JONATHAN MIANO ON THE ALLEGED BIASED
INVESTIGATION AND STATEMENTS MADE BY YOU
REGARDING MR. MIANO'S PREVIOUS COMPLAINT
AGAINST IPILAN NICKEL CORPORATION

This is with reference to your Memorandum dated February 17, 2021 received via IIS today February 21, 2022 pertaining to the subject above-cited directing the undersigned to submit written explanation within forty eight (48) hours.

Attached is the report of the Investigating Team created by CENRO Brooke's Point, Palawan regarding the complaint of Mr. Jonathan Miano against the operations of Ipilan Nickel Corporation (INC) in Barangay Maasin of the municipality wherein the undersigned was a member of the Team representing the EMB.

As mentioned in the report, there was an entry meeting conducted prior to the actual investigation of the allegations more specifically the alleged leak from the siltation pond that has made the surrounding water body allegedly contaminated with the laterite. This is an issue more specific to EMB. As representative of the EMB, the undersigned made clear that only the issue particular to the present complaint regarding alleged leak of siltation will be the subject of the investigation. The entry meeting held at the INC camp on December 03, 2021 led by the Investigating Group was attended by the representatives from the mining company, Farmers Irrigator's Association and some local residents. Without the knowing of the group, it appears that somebody has recorded the meeting, whether the intention is for documentation

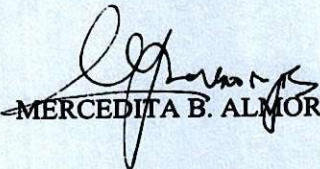
only, this should be known to the group but it was not which maybe considered a violation of R.A 4200 or the Anti-Wire Tapping Act of 1965.

The bases of allegations of Mr. Miano against the undersigned are purely taken from the audio accordingly recorded by certain "katutubo during the entry meeting.". From the content of the audio, Mr. Miano made his own interpretations to the extent of maligning the reputation of the undersigned where in fact nothing has been said in the audio showing biasness of the way the investigation was treated. In my Memorandum report dated January 14, 2022 to CENRO Brooke's Point, Palawan, a copy is hereto attached as ready reference, I urged for a creation of a Composite Team to conduct a more rigid investigation of the allegations against me by Mr. Miano who appears to be no specific address every time he sends a complaint in CENRO Brookes' Point but only using electronic e-mails in sending of complaints. It is also recommended that the said meeting in audio form be transcribed for a more enlightenment of the content.

Further informed that the CENRO Brooke's Point where the complaint emails of Mr. Miano emanated have been religiously responding to the complainant also through emails but accordingly no respond from his end. According to the CENRO concerned, Mr. Miano has been several times invited to the Office of the CENRO to discuss his allegations against the INC operations and to conduct investigations together with him but not even once Mr. Miano accordingly appeared.

Finally, it is my fervent pray that this pressing issue against the undersigned be put to an end inasmuch as it is baseless and purely derogatory in nature. All those accusations are vehemently denied.

For information and record.


MERCEDITA B. ALMORFE