



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **FELIX S. MIRASOL, JR., CESO IV**
OIC, Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA Region
1515 DENR By the Bay Building
Roxas Boulevard, Barangay 668,
Ermita, Manila

THRU : **MAXIMO C. LANDRITO**
OIC, Assistant Regional Director
for Technical Services

FROM : **The OIC, PENR Officer**
Odiongan, Romblon

SUBJECT : **UPDATE ON THE REQUEST OF ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION (APMC) FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMIT TO CUT NATURALLY GROWN TREES IN BARANGAYS ESPAÑA AND TACLOBO, SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON**

DATE : November 28, 2023

A. REFERENCE

1. This is in reference to the Memorandum dated November 22, 2023 from Regional Executive Director Felix S. Mirasol, Jr., CESO IV with the subject "Update on the Request of Altai Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC) for the Issuance of Permit to Cut Naturally Grown Trees in Barangays España and Taclobo, San Fernando, Romblon.

B. ACTIONS TAKEN

1. That on July 9, 2022, this Office received an emailed letter dated July 8, 2023 from the Altai Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC) requesting for the conduct of inspection on the proposed access road for the exploration activity under Mineral Product Sharing Agreement No. 304-2009-IVB. (Copy of the letter is attached marked as "**Annex 1**").
2. That on a letter dated July 15, 2022, this Office warned the APMC regarding the alleged illegal cutting of trees based on a report by DENR forest patrollers at San Fernando, Romblon. This Office advised the APMC to secure a Cutting Permit first before conducting any cutting operation. (Copy of the letter is attached marked as "**Annex 2**").
3. That on a letter dated July 25, 2022, this Office invited the APMC on a technical conference in connection to their request to conduct inspection of their proposed access road for exploration activity under MPSA dated July 8, 2022. (Copy of the letter is attached marked as "**Annex 3**").



4. That on August 1, 2022, a technical conference was held at PENRO Romblon conference room attended by PENRO Romblon Officials and the APMC Project Manager Michael Peter M. Sanchez.
5. This Office issued a PENRO Special Order No. 22-90 dated August 3, 2022 creating a team to take action on the request of APMC to conduct inspection on the proposed access road for the exploration activity as well as to conduct inspection and monitoring of the on-going drilling activity of the APMC. (Copy of the Special Order is attached marked as “**Annex 4**”)
6. That on August 10, 2022, PENRO Romblon personnel led by OIC-PENRO Arnoldo A. Blaza, Jr. and Chief TSD Malvin R. Rocero coordinated with Mr. Michael Peter M. Sanchez, Project Manager of APMC at that time regarding the conduct of monitoring, inspection, and inventory of trees in their proposed access road.
7. That on August 11, 2022, the team proceeded to Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon in order to conduct the inventory of trees within Parcel 3, Lot No. 1209 which is the road going to proposed port of APMC. During the inventory, the team recorded a total of eight (8) trees with a total volume of 208.207 bdft. (Copy of Tally Sheet is attached marked as “**Annex 5**”).
8. That on August 12, 2022, the team conducted inventory on Parcels 1 and 2 within Lot 1204 for their proposed exploration access road. The team inventoried a total of two (2) trees with a volume of 131.9887 bdft. within Parcel 1. (Copy of Tally Sheet is attached marked as “**Annex 4**”). For Parcel 2, the team inventoried thirty-four (34) trees with a total volume of 1,389.81 bdft. (Copy of Tally Sheet is attached marked as “**Annex 6**”).
9. That on a letter dated August 22, 2022, this Office informed the APMC of the results on the conducted inspection and investigation on the alleged illegal cutting of trees within the MPSA site located at Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon which revealed that there was cutting of poles and shrubs found at the drill holes and trail sites. This Office reiterated that they should refrain from cutting trees without Cutting Permit otherwise, they will be in violation of Section 77 of PD 705 as amended by RA 7161. (Copy of the letter is attached marked as “**Annex 7**”).
10. That on a letter also dated August 22, 2022, this Office requested the permission of APMC to allow some DENR field personnel to visit and conduct regular monitoring within the premises of the MPSA located in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. (Copy of the letter is attached marked as “**Annex 8**”).
11. That on August 30, 2022, this Office received a letter from APMC dated August 15, 2022 requesting for the inspection and tree inventory of the (1) 20-hectare land; (2) Binayaan Exploration area; and (3) Proposed One-hectare Nursery Area of APMC. (Copy of the letter is attached marked as “**Annex 9**”).
12. That on a Memorandum dated September 6, 2022 from Chief TSD Malvin R. Rocero, an Inspection and Inventory Team composed of Sibuyan Sub-Station personnel was instructed to act on the request of APMC. (Copy of the memorandum is attached marked as “**Annex 10**”).



13. That for the period of September 14, 2022 to October 26, 2022, the team conducted the inspection and inventory of trees within the 20-hectare site located at Sitio Bato, España, San Fernando, Romblon. The CSW report was submitted on November 7, 2023 at Sibuyan Sub-Station, forwarded to PENR Office, Odiongan, Romblon on November 10, 2022, and endorsed to the Regional Office on November 15, 2022. (Copy of the CSW report is attached marked as “**Annex 11**”).
14. That on November 28, 2022, LMO III/Chief RPS Allan T. Sendiong received a call from the APMC Representative Engr. Steve L. Taule, informing the RPS Chief that they will be sending an email regarding their request for the issuance of the related Tree Cutting Permit. Likewise, the Chief RPS informed Engr. Taule that they need to comply first all the requirements needed for Special Tree Cutting Permit such as: a) LGU endorsement interposing no objection to the cutting of subject trees; b) Copy of Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC), etc. (Copy of the cellular phone call log is attached marked as “**Annex 12**”).
15. That on November 29, 2022, this Office received an emailed letter from APMC dated November 22, 2022 requesting for the Issuance of Tree Cutting Permit within the 20-hectare site at Sitio Bato, España, San Fernando, Romblon. (Copy of the request letter is attached marked as “**Annex 13**”).
16. That on December 1, 2022, LMO III/Chief RPS Allan T. Sendiong received a call from the APMC Representative Engr. Steve L. Taule, inquiring for the list of complete requirements needed for the application of Tree Cutting Permit. Chief RPS verbally informed the applicant about the requirements needed for the tree cutting application. (Copy of the cellular phone call log is attached marked as “**Annex 14**”).
17. That this Office received a Memorandum dated December 2, 2022 from OIC-ARD for Technical Services Maximo C. Landrito stipulating the requirements for tree cutting permit for the request of APMC on their one-hectare site located at Brgy. Taclobo, San Fernando, Romblon. The said memorandum was also copy furnished to APMC. (Copy of the memorandum is attached marked as “**Annex 15**”).
18. That this Office received a Memorandum dated December 5, 2022 from OIC-ARD for Technical Services Maximo C. Landrito stipulating the requirements for tree cutting permit for the request of APMC on their 20-hectare site located at Sitio Bato, España, San Fernando, Romblon. The said memorandum was also copy furnished to APMC. (Copy of the memorandum is attached marked as “**Annex 16**”).
19. That this Office prepared a Memorandum dated December 22, 2022 to Sibuyan Sub-Station in line with the memorandum from ARD-TS also copy furnished to APMC regarding the requirements for the Tree Cutting Permit. (Copy of the logbook is attached marked as “**Annex 17**”).
20. That Joint Order was issued signed by the DENR MIMAROPA Regional Executive Director Lormelyn E. Claudio, Regional Director of Mines and Geosciences Bureau Engr. Glenn C. Noble, and Regional Director of Environmental Management Bureau Joe Amil M. Salino dated February 6, 2023, whereas it is stipulated under directive no. 5 “PENRO Romblon to file appropriate legal actions, if warranted, on the reported cutting of trees without permit”. (Copy of the Joint Order is attached marked as “**Annex 18**”).



21. That there was a pending case filed by this Office on May 24, 2023 against APMC for violation of Section 77 of PD 705 as amended by RA 7161 as a result of the conducted re-inventory of trees within the Parcels 1, 2, 3, and 20-hectare site of the APMC located in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. (Copy of the Investigation Data Form is attached marked as “**Annex 19**”).
22. That up to this date, this Office has not received the requirements for the issuance of Tree Cutting Permit from APMC.

C. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

That as per records of this Office, the Altai Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC) have not yet submitted the required documents for both the 20-hectare site and one-hectare Nursery Area as stipulated on our memorandum and pursuant to DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-11 dated May 19, 2021 “Guidelines in the Processing and Issuance of Permits for the Cutting, Removal and Relocation of Naturally Growing Trees”.

There was also a pending case filed against the APMC on May 24, 2023 for violation of Section 77 of PD 705 as amended by RA 7161 within the 20-hectare site subjected in their tree cutting permit application.

For your consideration and further instructions.


CESAR P. ODI