

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO :** THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
DENR Region IVB  
L & S Bldg., Roxas Blvd., Manila

**FROM :** THE UNDERSECRETARY  
Field Operations Luzon, Visayas and Environment

**SUBJECT :** MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION NO 22-14 OF THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF MAGDIWANG AGAINST LARGE-SCALE  
METALLIC MINING

**DATE :** NOV 21 2022

This pertains to the Memorandum dated 14 November 2022 from Undersecretary and Chief of Staff Marilou G. Erni endorsing the letter dated 20 October 2022 addressed to the DENR Secretary from Ms. Zoraida R. Fabrique-Muros, Secretary to the Sanggunian by the Municipality of Magdiwang, Romblon regarding the abovementioned subject.

Relative to this, you are hereby instructed to review their Resolution and provide the necessary action on the matter. Reply directly to the letter sender, copy furnished this Office citing document tracking number DENRCO-ASRMD-2022-027052 for records and monitoring purposes.

For compliance.

  
ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, CESO I

c.c.

Office of the Secretary

Ms. Zoraida Muros  
Secretary to the Sanggunian  
Municipality of Magdiwang  
Province of Romblon



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City  
Tel Nos. 929-6626 to 29; 929-6633 to 35  
929-7041 to 43; 929-6252; 929-1669  
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph> E-mail: [web@denr.gov.ph](mailto:web@denr.gov.ph)

**MEMORANDUM**

FOR : **The Undersecretary**  
Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment

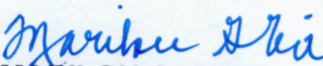
FROM : **The Undersecretary and Chief of Staff**

SUBJECT : **MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION NO. 22-172**

DATE : **NOV 14 2022**

Respectfully referred, for information and appropriate action, is the attached letter from Ms. Zoraida R. Fabrique-Muros, Secretary to the Sanggunian, transmitting the original copy of Municipal Resolution No. 22-172, entitled "A Resolution that the Sangguniang Bayan of Magdiwang, in Representation of its Constituents, Reiterates and Stands Firmly with the Statements and Spirit of the Joint Resolution 01-2022 of the Local Governments of San Fernando, Cajidiocan and Magdiwang, and that the Local Government of Magdiwang is Against Large-Scale Metallic Mining."

Please inform the party/ies concerned and the undersigned of the actions taken on the matter.

  
**MARILOU G. ERNI**

cc: **Ms. Zoraida R. Fabrique-Muros**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian  
Magdiwang, Romblon

**The Regional Director**  
DENR MGB Region IV-B

ASRMD-2022-027052





Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City  
Tel Nos. 929-6626 to 29; 929-6633 to 35  
929-7041 to 43; 929-6252; 929-1669  
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph> E-mail: [web@denr.gov.ph](mailto:web@denr.gov.ph)

NOV 14 2022

**MS. ZORAIDA R. FABRIQUE-MUROS**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian  
Municipality of Magdiwang  
Romblon

Dear **Ms. Fabrique-Muros**:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter, transmitting the original copy of Municipal Resolution No. 22-172, entitled "A Resolution that the Sangguniang Bayan of Magdiwang, in Representation of its Constituents, Reiterates and Stands Firmly with the Statements and Spirit of the Joint Resolution 01-2022 of the Local Governments of San Fernando, Cajidiocan and Magdiwang, and that the Local Government of Magdiwang is Against Large-Scale Metallic Mining."

In this regard, please be informed that we have referred the matter to the Office of Undersecretary for Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment for appropriate action and to provide you with their actions taken on the subject matter. You may also directly coordinate with the said office at telephone numbers (02) 8925-2328 and 8926-2567 for the latest updates.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Very truly yours,

**MARILOU G. ERNI**  
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

ASRMD-2022-027052





Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Romblon  
**Municipality of Magdiwang**

-o0o-

## *The Sangguniang Bayan of Magdiwang*

**HON. ANTONIO R. MENESE**  
Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

**HON. DENISA R. REPISO**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Appropriation, Budget & Finance, Ways  
& Means, Economic Enterprise,  
Children, Family, Women and Gender  
Development

**HON. PACIFICO A. CALEJA JR.**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Peace & Order, Public Safety, Human  
Rights

**HON. CARLO REY TANSIONGCO**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Health, Social Welfare, Senior Citizens'  
Affairs

**HON. FAITH M. MACATO**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Market Affairs and Slaughter House,  
Trade & Commerce, and Industry  
Investment

**HON. UNIQUE R. MUROS**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Rules and Privileges, Ordinances and  
Legal Matters

**HON. MARCIAL M. RUALLO**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Education, Transportation, Tourism

**HON. ADO V. TANSIONGCO**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Public Works and Infrastructure,  
Housing & Land Utilization

**HON. JHONER S. RUGAS**  
SB Member/Chairperson, Committee on  
Agriculture, Cooperatives

**HON. AGNES T. PEREZ**  
Ex-Officio Member/Chairperson,  
Committee on Barangay Affairs,  
Environmental Protection

**HON. PAULO NORMAN I. RABINO II**  
Ex-Officio Member/Chairperson,  
Committee on Games & Amusement,  
Youth and Sports Development

**HON. RODEL D. RODA**  
IPMR/Chairperson, Committee on  
Indigenous Peoples' Rights

**ZORAIDA R. FABRIQUE-MUROS**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

20 October 2022

**HON. MARIA ANTONIA YULO-LOYZAGA**  
Secretary  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
DENR Building  
Visayas Avenue  
Quezon City

Subject: **Municipal Resolution No. 22-172**

Dear Madam Secretary:

Greetings!

Attached herewith is an original copy of **Municipal Resolution No. 22-172** entitled "A RESOLUTION THAT THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF MAGDIWANG, IN REPRESENTATION OF ITS CONSTITUENTS, REITERATES AND STANDS FIRMLY WITH THE STATEMENTS AND SPIRIT OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-2022 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF SAN FERNANDO, CAJIDIOCAN AND MAGDIWANG, AND THAT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF MAGDIWANG IS AGAINST LARGE-SCALE METALLIC MINING."

For your information and most favorable consideration.

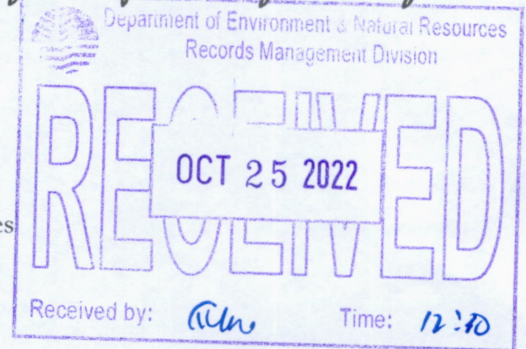
Thank you very much and more power.

Respectfully yours,

*Zoraida Fabrique-Muros*  
**ZORAIDA R. FABRIQUE-MUROS**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

NOTED BY:

*Antonio R. Meneze*  
**ANTONIO R. MENESE**  
Vice-Mayor & Presiding Officer







Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Romblon  
Municipality of Magdiwang  
-o0o-

## *The Sangguniang Bayan of Magdiwang*

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF MAGDIWANG HELD AT THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SESSION HALL ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 AT 9:00 IN THE MORNING.

**PRESENT:**

HON. VICE MAYOR ANTONIO R. MENESE  
HON. PACIFICO A. CALEJA JR.  
HON. CARLO REY G. TANSIONGCO, M.D.  
HON. FAITH M. MACATO  
HON. UNIQUE R. MUROS  
HON. MARCIAL M. RUALLO  
HON. ADO V. TANSIONGCO  
HON. JHONER S. RUGAS  
HON. LNB PRES. AGNES T. PEREZ  
HON. SK PRES. PAULO NORMAN I. RABINO II  
HON. RODEL D. RODA

PRESIDING OFFICER  
SB MEMBER  
SB MEMBER  
SB MEMBER  
SB MEMBER  
SB MEMBER  
SB MEMBER  
EX-OFFICIO MEMBER  
EX-OFFICIO MEMBER  
IPMR

**ABSENT:**

HON. DENISA R. REPIZO

SB MEMBER

### **MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION NO. 22-172**

A RESOLUTION THAT THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF MAGDIWANG, IN REPRESENTATION OF ITS CONSTITUENTS, REITERATES AND STANDS FIRMLY WITH THE STATEMENTS AND SPIRIT OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-2022 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF SAN FERNANDO, CAJIDIOCAN AND MAGDIWANG, AND THAT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF MAGDIWANG IS AGAINST LARGE-SCALE METALLIC MINING

(Authored by: Hon. SB Member Carlo Rey G. Tansiongco, M.D.)

(Sponsored by: Hon. SB Member Pacifico A. Caleja Jr., Hon. SB Member Faith M. Macato, Hon. SB Member Unique R. Muros, Hon. SB Member Marcial M. Ruallo, Hon. SB Member Ado V. Tansiongco, Hon. SB Member Jhoner S. Rugas, Hon. LNB President Agnes T. Perez, Hon. SK Federation President Paulo Norman I. Rabino II, Hon. IPMR Rodel D. Roda)

**WHEREAS**, the three LGUs of San Fernando, Cajidiocan, and Magdiwang passed Joint Resolution 01-2022: A RESOLUTION STRONGLY OPPOSING METALLIC LARGE-SCALE MINING IN SIBUYAN ISLAND, REQUESTING PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR. AND THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES TO DECLARE SIBUYAN ISLAND FREE FROM LARGE-SCALE METALLIC MINING AND CALLING DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES SECRETARY MA. ANTONIA YULOY-ZAGA TO IMMEDIATELY REVIEW, HALT, REVOKE AND REJECT ALL MINING AGREEMENTS, OPERATIONS, AND APPLICATIONS WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION;

*[Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page, including "fane", "ap", "gpm", "M. Tansiongco", "R. Roda", "J. Rugas", and others.]*



Short-term large-scale projects have often been tolerated in the past due to their benefit of providing temporary jobs to cover for the employment windfalls of a recession. This often mean construction projects like road building and housing projects are allowed. These have a definite and near future end point in mind, and are hence temporary. But mining is a different kind of large-scale project that entails an unbalancing of the environment and ecology of an area. Potentially affecting the long-term sustainable livelihood of the area. Even if one could argue that large scale mining too, has an end point – the decades of time it takes is long enough to destabilize local industries, livelihood, and living conditions. Furthermore, creating a mining industry has an entrenching effect that can inspire and invite other mining efforts to spur out in other parts of the island, potentially increasing the scale of destruction and/or destabilization. With this in mind, the three Sanggunians, in good conscience, in consideration of all their constituents both present and future – have decided this “temporary” 200 laborer economy is not worth the trouble. <sup>(v)</sup>

“Mining is not inherently destructive under responsible and watchful eyes” is a fallacy. We believe mining is inherently destructive. Responsible or irresponsible it will cause destruction. And that it is only through rehabilitation wherein one can justify in the very long term that it did not ruin the land.

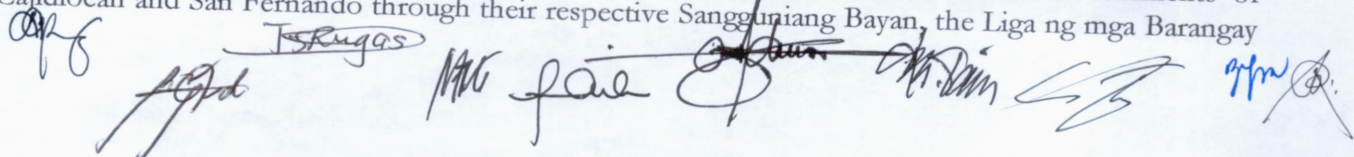
We do not say that responsible mining does not exist. But we do say that we are not satisfied with current practices that constitutes their definition of “responsible mining”<sup>(ii)</sup>, especially when we consider that special case scenario of Mt. Guiting-Guiting, and Sibuyan Island, and its unique biodiverse ecosystem. A special ecosystem lauded by the several international and local bodies. <sup>(iii)</sup> A special ecosystem said by an international NGO study as “for food rather than for mining”. <sup>(iv)</sup>

We do not proclaim that mining is evil or unneeded in our country. Only that in the unique case of Sibuyan Island, large scale metallic mining is incompatible with the three municipalities’ preference for Ecotourism and Agri economy. And so, the LGUs will do what is within its power to oppose large scale mining.

**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion of Hon. SB Member Carlo Rey G. Tansiongco, M.D., collectively seconded by all the members present, it was –

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF MAGDIWANG, IN REPRESENTATION OF ITS CONSTITUENTS, REITERATES AND STANDS FIRMLY WITH THE STATEMENT AND SPIRIT OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-2022 OF THE LGUs OF SAN FERNANDO, CAJIDIOCAN, AND MAGDIWANG, AND THAT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF MAGDIWANG IS AGAINST LARGE-SCALE METALLIC MINING.**

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to let copies of this Resolution be furnished His Excellency Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr., Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, the DENR MIMAROPA Region, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau – IVB, Hon. Governor Jose R. Riano, the DENR Romblon, for their information and appropriate action; Hon. Mayor Arthur Rey Tansiongco, M.D., Magdiwang, Romblon, the Local Governments of Cajidiocan and San Fernando through their respective Sangguniang Bayan, the Liga ng mga Barangay

A series of handwritten signatures in black ink, including names like 'Rugos', 'fale', and others, along with a blue circular stamp on the right.



**WHEREAS**, in response to the Joint Resolution 01-2022 of LGU San Fernando, Cajidiocan, and Magdiwang, Mines and Geosciences Bureau asked for a response from ALTAI Mining Corporation. The said company furnished a response on August 30, 2022 (See Annex);

**WHEREAS**, the Sanggunian Bayan of Magdiwang responds with this statement:

The joint resolution never prohibited the act of the large-scale mining within the island. It instead “urged” those who have the power to regulate. In this case, the joint resolution “urged” His Excellency President Ferdinand “Bong Bong” Marcos Jr. and his Secretary of the DENR, Secretary Yulo-Loyzaga to review, halt, revoke, and reject all mining agreements.


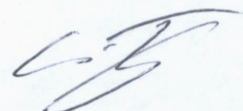
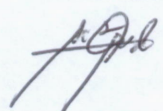
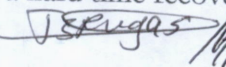
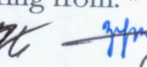


Joint Resolution No. 1-2022 of LGU San Fernando, Cajidiocan, and Magdiwang sought to impose a declaration of sentiment and opinion regarding the ecological balance of the island of Sibuyan, which consists solely of the three towns aforementioned. And in the spirit of LGC Sections 5a, and 33 sought to band together to express their strongest sentiment against a large-scale action that would potentially affect all the three towns. In this aspect, the Joint Resolution was made within their respective territorial jurisdictions.

The LGUs whom made Joint Resolution No 1-2022 are cognizant that they could not ordain into law a banning of large-scale metallic mining within the Island of Sibuyan. But they could express a strong opinion via resolution of their objection to large scale metallic mining. They could only request, urge, beg – those actual bodies with regulatory power. This is what Joint Resolution No 1-2022 confined itself to.

In principle, it is also a statement that the signatories will proclaim “an objection” to the extraction phase of mining. This is in the best interest of all parties. Why should a mining company invest heavily into infrastructure such as miner barracks, roads, and docks – when: when they finally reach the extraction phase, they would be denied by the Sanggunian Bayan via not giving a “no objection to extraction of metallic minerals via large scale mining”? They will only waste money and they would only cause needless destruction.

Hence, the early declaration of opposition, even if it be a strong opinion via resolution is within the rights of an LGU. The true decision will come from the true regulatory powers – President BBM and DENR, yes. But the LGUs can express the whims of their constituents via representation through its elected officials. Here, they can present a stand. Here, they can tell any mining companies – “we will eventually object when you ask permission from us.”

LGUs are within their rights to fear via educated speculation. Even if there is no evidence yet of destruction or harm. The risk of destruction and/or harm common in the nature of mining (both responsible and irresponsible) can be grounds for valid preemptive action, in order to preserve the general welfare of the LGU’s constituents. Since the projects are of such magnitude as to degrade the environment and undermine the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology. It could not be left to chance. The Joint Resolution never alleged present damage, but from basis of other clear examples such as Marcopper mining in Marinduque, Lafayette Company in Rapu-Rapu, Hinatuan Mining Corp in Manicani, and Techiron Company in Homonhon; it took into consideration potential damage and impacts to the welfare of its citizens that it would have a hard time recovering from.<sup>(1)</sup>

*fae*       



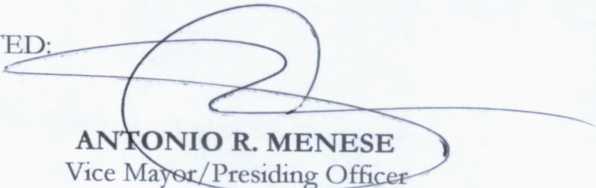
of Magdiwang, MLGOO of Magdiwang, ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation, and other concerned offices for their information and ready reference.

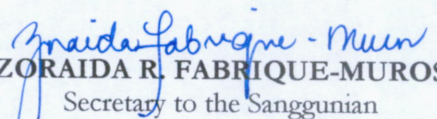
**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**, 14 September 2022.

### CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing which was duly adopted and approved by the Sangguniang Bayan on 14 September 2022 during its Special Session held at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall.

ATTESTED:

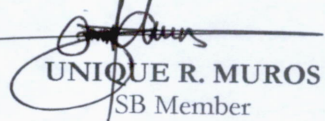
  
**ANTONIO R. MENESE**  
Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

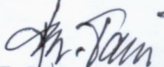
  
**ZORAIDA R. FABRIQUE-MUROS**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

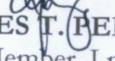
CONCURRED:

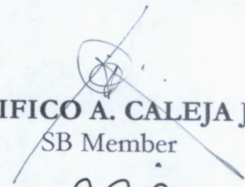
(ABSENT)  
**DENISA R. REPISO**  
SB Member

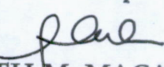
  
**CARLO REY G. TANSIONGCO, M.D.**  
SB Member

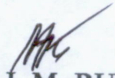
  
**UNIQUE R. MUROS**  
SB Member

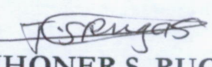
  
**ADO V. TANSIONGCO**  
SB Member

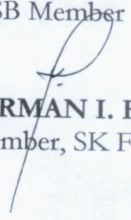
  
**AGNES T. PEREZ**  
Ex-Officio Member, LnB President

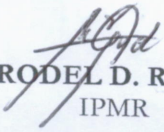
  
**PACIFICO A. CALEJA JR.**  
SB Member

  
**FAITH M. MACATO**  
SB Member

  
**MARCIAL M. RUALLO**  
SB Member

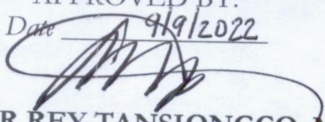
  
**JHONER S. RUGAS**  
SB Member

  
**PAULO NORMAN I. RABINO II**  
Ex-Officio Member, SK Fed. President

  
**RODEL D. RODA**  
IPMR

APPROVED BY:

Date 14/9/2022

  
**ARTHUR REY TANSIONGCO, M.D.**  
Municipal Mayor

- 
- (i) Palatino M. 2015. "Look What Large-Scale Mining Did to These Four Beautiful Philippine Islands". Globalvoices.org // <http://globalvoices.org/2015/03/13/look-what-large-scale-mining-did-to-these-four-beautiful-philippine-islands/amp/>
  - (ii) DENR AO 2022-04: Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Protection in Mining Operations



- 
- (iii)
- a. Miah Mayo Malixi's study on endangered fauna **species outside** the protected area of Sibuyan, funded by the World Wildlife Fund – SUA
  - b. Sibuyan Island Resource and Socio-Economic Assessment. Fauna & Flora International Philippines 2015
  - c. Priority Sites for Conservation in the Philippines: Key Biodiversity Areas. Published by Conservation International Philippines, Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the DENR and Haribon Foundation
  - d. DENR-UNEP. 1997. Philippine Biodiversity: An Assessment and Action Plan. 298p. DENR and UN Environment Programme. Bookmark, Inc. Makati, Philippines
  - e. Rickart et. al., 2005. Review of the Philippine Genera *Chrotomys* and *Celaenomys* (Murinae) and Description of a New Species. *Journal of Mammology*, 86(2), 415-428. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4094361>
- (iv) Goodland and Wicks. 2008. Philippines: Mining or Food?. Working Group on Mining in the Philippines. ISBN no: 978-0-9560616-0-7
- (v) ALTAI letter of response to JR 01-2022 by LGUs San Fernando, Cajidiocan, and Magdiwang – dated August 30, 2022