



September 7, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The Regional Executive Director

**THRU :** The Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services

**ATTN :** The Chief, Legal Division  
The Chief, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

**FROM :** The OIC, PENR Officer

**SUBJECT :** **INSPECTION AND INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE ALLEGED ILLEGAL CUTTING OF TREES CARRIED OUT BY THE ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION LOCATED IN BRGY. ESPAÑA, SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON**

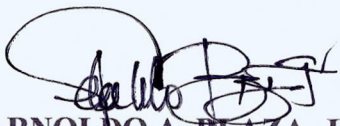
Respectfully submitting the Inspection and Investigation Report on the alleged illegal cutting of trees undertaken by the ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation located in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon.

Result of the inspection and investigation revealed that there were a total of 113 poles and shrubs that were cut within the location of drill holes and trails. In addition, it was verified that there is no cutting permit issued to ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation. A Clarificatory Hearing was then conducted on August 19, 2022 to verify the claims of APMC and advised them on the necessary requirements on Tree Cutting Permit.

In addition, based on the approved Environmental Work Program of APMC, loss of vegetation is listed as potential impact with corresponding mitigating measure of establishing a nursery for progressive rehabilitation. It is also recommended that this mitigating measure commence immediately.

In line with the results of the investigation, we would like to clarify on whether a cutting permit is required for the cutting of trees with a diameter of below 15 centimeters.

For your information and record.

  
**ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.**  
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Copy Furnished:

The Regional Director  
Mines and Geosciences Bureau – MIMAROPA

The Regional Director  
Environmental Management Bureau - MIMAROPA



August 17, 2022

## MEMORANDUM

**FOR** : The OIC, PENR Officer

**THRU** : The Chief, Technical Services Division

**FROM** : The Chief, Monitoring and Enforcement Section  
The Inspection/Investigation Team Members

**SUBJECT** : **INSPECTION AND INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE  
ALLEGED ILLEGAL CUTTING OF TREES CARRIED OUT BY  
THE ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION LOCATED  
IN BRGY. ESPAÑA, SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON**

## BACKGROUND

The Sibuyan Sub-Station field personnel who were assigned to conduct regular monitoring of activities undertaken by the ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation reported that there is a continuous cutting of trees within the drilling sites located in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon.

## REFERENCES

- PENRO Special Order No. 22-90 dated August 3, 2022
- Travel Order No. 2022-08-984 dated August 8, 2022

## ACTIONS TAKEN

The OIC, PENR Officer immediately issued a PENRO Special Order to institute a Team to conduct inspection and investigation of the damaged/cut trees located at drilling sites in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon.

Pursuant to PENRO Special Order No. 22-90 dated August 3, 2022, the Inspection and Inventory Team proceeded to Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. The team made a courtesy call first to the Acting Barangay Chairperson, Mr. Cris Cleope of Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon on August 9, 2022.

On August 10, 2022, the Team, together with the OIC, PENR Officer Arnoldo A. Blaza, Jr., TSD Chief Malvin R. Rocero and Monitoring and Enforcement Section Chief Sheilla Jane M. Forlales, headed to the office of ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation in Brgy. Taclobo, San Fernando, Romblon. They met with the Project Manager, Mr. Michael Peter M. Sanchez, and discussed the purpose of the inspection and investigation. After the brief discussion, the Project Manager allowed the Team and the Chief MES to proceed to the drilling site in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. They were also accompanied by four (4) staff of ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation.

## FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

- That the area of drill holes is located at Lot Number 2468
- That the ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation is responsible for the drilling activity that involved the alleged illegal cutting of poles and shrubs.





- That during the inspection, the team discovered the newly cut trees and shrubs (predominantly poles) having diameter size ranging from 2cm-10cm.
- That being permitted by the Project Manager of the APMC, the team conducted the inventory of the cut and injured trees located within the drill holes and trails. The team was able to locate, identify, and measure the diameter of stumps found along the 12 drill holes including trails.
- The table below shows the detailed inventory of damaged/cut poles and shrubs completed by the team:

| Drill Hole No.       | Species (Local Name) | Common Name | Diameter (cm) | Quantity |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------|
| 85                   | Maguyawa             |             | 5             | 1        |
|                      | Otog-otog            | Otog-otog   | 3.5           | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 4             | 1        |
|                      | Maguyawa             |             | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Otog-otog            | Otog-otog   | 3.8           | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 4             | 1        |
|                      | Maguyawa             | Magtungaw   | 4             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 5             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 4             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 4             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 2             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 5             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 4             | 1        |
|                      | Baid                 |             | 10            | 1        |
|                      | Baid                 |             | 10            | 1        |
|                      | Baras-baras          |             | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Bitanghoy            | Bitanghol   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Bitanghoy            | Bitanghol   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Bitanghoy            | Bitanghol   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Bitanghoy            | Bitanghol   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Bitanghoy            | Bitanghol   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Buyabog              | Bulabog     | 1             | 1        |
|                      | Buyabog              | Bulabog     | 1             | 1        |
|                      | Alibutbut            | Pandakaki   | 6             | 1        |
|                      | Alibutbut            | Pandakaki   | 6             | 1        |
|                      |                      |             | Total         | 28       |
| 81                   | Magtungaw            | Magtungaw   | 8             | 1        |
|                      | Magtungaw pula       | Magtungaw   | 7             | 1        |
|                      |                      |             | Total         | 2        |
| Trail going to DH 77 | Magtungaw puti       | Magtungaw   | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Baras-baras          |             | 3             | 1        |
|                      | Bangati              |             | 8             | 1        |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat         | Malakape    | 3             | 1        |
|                      |                      |             | Total         | 4        |





Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**MIMAROPA Region**

|                      |                   |              |    |   |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|----|---|
| 77                   | Buyabog           | Bulabog      | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Putian            |              | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Putian            |              | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat      | Malakape     | 6  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 4  |   |
| Trail going to DH 71 | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 6  | 1 |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat      | Malakape     | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat      | Malakape     | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 8  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw         | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 9  |   |
| 71                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 8  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 9  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 4  |   |
| Trail going to DH 66 | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 2  | 1 |
|                      | Hambayud gubat    |              | 4  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 2  |   |
| 66                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 9  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 3  |   |
| Trail to DH 65       | Magtungaw laparan | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |              | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |              | 6  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 3  |   |
| 65                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 5  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 5  | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |              | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 5  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 5  |   |
| 63                   | Buyabog           | Bulabog      | 6  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw laparan |              | 6  | 1 |
|                      | Duguan puti       | Duguan-sibat | 3  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 3  |   |
| Trail going to DH 62 | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 10 | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 10 | 1 |
|                      | Buyabog           | Bulabog      | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 8  | 1 |





|                      |                   |              |    |   |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|----|---|
| 77                   | Buyabog           | Bulabog      | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Putian            |              | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Putian            |              | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat      | Malakape     | 6  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 4  |   |
| Trail going to DH 71 | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 6  | 1 |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat      | Malakape     | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Kapeng-gubat      | Malakape     | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 8  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw         | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 9  |   |
| 71                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 7  | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 8  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 9  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 4  |   |
| Trail going to DH 66 | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 2  | 1 |
|                      | Hambayud gubat    |              | 4  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 2  |   |
| 66                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 9  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 4  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 3  |   |
| Trail to DH 65       | Magtungaw laparan | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |              | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |              | 6  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 3  |   |
| 65                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 5  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 5  | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |              | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw    | 5  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 5  |   |
| 63                   | Buyabog           | Bulabog      | 6  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw laparan |              | 6  | 1 |
|                      | Duguan puti       | Duguan-sibat | 3  | 1 |
| Total                |                   |              | 3  |   |
| Trail going to DH 62 | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 4  | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 10 | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan     | 10 | 1 |
|                      | Buyabog           | Bulabog      | 3  | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw    | 8  | 1 |





|                      |                   |            |       |   |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|-------|---|
|                      |                   |            | Total | 5 |
| 62                   | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 7     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 3     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 3 |
| Trail going to DH 56 | Magtungaw laparan | Magtungaw  | 3     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw laparan | Magtungaw  | 5     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 3     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 5     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 5 |
| 56                   | Batino            | Batino     | 6     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw laparan | Magtungaw  | 6     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw laparan | Magtungaw  | 3     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 3 |
| Trail going to DH 57 | Kamaliwan         | Bolong-eta | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan   | 3     | 1 |
|                      | Lapnisan          | Lapnisan   | 9     | 1 |
|                      | Bitanghoy         | Bitanghol  | 8     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 4 |
| 57                   | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 8 |
| Trail going to DH 58 | Miscellaneous     |            | 9     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 5     | 1 |
|                      | Miscellaneous     |            | 5     | 1 |
|                      | Amamalit          | Dangula    | 3     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 7     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 4     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 10    | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 7 |
| 58                   | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 9     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 10    | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 7     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 8     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 4 |
| Trail going to DH 53 | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 8     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw pula    | Magtungaw  | 5     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 5     | 1 |
|                      | Magtungaw puti    | Magtungaw  | 5     | 1 |
|                      |                   |            | Total | 4 |





|       |                |           |   |   |
|-------|----------------|-----------|---|---|
| 53    | Magtungaw puti | Magtungaw | 5 | 1 |
|       | Magtungaw puti | Magtungaw | 5 | 1 |
|       | Magtungaw puti | Magtungaw | 6 | 1 |
| Total |                |           | 3 |   |

**Summary of Species and Quantity**

| Species (Local Name) | Common Name  | Quantity |
|----------------------|--------------|----------|
| Maguyawa             |              | 3        |
| Otog-Otog            | Otog-otog    | 2        |
| Magtungaw            | Magtungaw    | 13       |
| Baid                 |              | 2        |
| Baras-baras          |              | 2        |
| Bitanghoy            | Bitanghol    | 6        |
| Buyabog              | Bulabog      | 5        |
| Alibutbut            | Pandakaki    | 2        |
| Magtungaw pula       | Magtungaw    | 18       |
| Magtungaw puti       | Magtungaw    | 30       |
| Bangati              |              | 1        |
| Kapeng-gubat         | Malakape     | 4        |
| Putian               |              | 2        |
| Lapnisan             | Lapnisan     | 7        |
| Hambayud gubat       |              | 1        |
| Magtungaw laparan    | Magtungaw    | 6        |
| Duguan puti          | Duguan sibat | 1        |
| Batino               | Batino       | 1        |
| Kamaliwan            | Bolong-eta   | 1        |
| Amamalit             | Dangula      | 1        |
| Miscellaneous        |              | 5        |
| Total                |              | 113      |

- That cut pole size trees and shrubs were not recovered in the site as only stumps were left during the inspection.
- That based on the file record of the office of PENRO Romblon, no cutting permit was issued to the ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation.

**COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION**

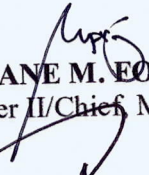
Based on the foregoing findings, the cutting of forest products (shrubs and poles) is not authorized since there is no Cutting Permit issued to the ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC). Hence, the APMC has violated Section 77 of PD 705, as amended by EO 277 and further amended by R.A. 7161. The Team hereby recommends for the conduct of a Clarificatory Hearing and invite the involved parties.

Furthermore, based on the approved Environmental Work Program, loss of vegetation is listed as potential impact with corresponding mitigating measure of establishing a nursery for progressive rehabilitation. It is therefore recommended that this mitigating measure commence immediately.

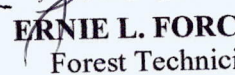




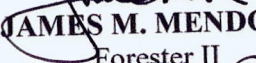
For information, consideration, and further instruction.

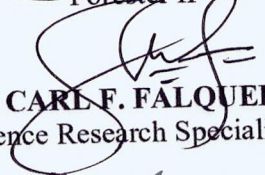
  
**SHEILLA JANE M. FORLALES**  
Forester II/Chief MES

  
**ROLLY F. MORALES**  
Forester I

  
**ERNIE L. FORCADAS**  
Forest Technician I

  
**HENRY CARBONILLA II**  
Forest Ranger

  
**JAMES M. MENDOZA**  
Forester II

  
**FELIX CARL F. FALQUERABAO**  
Science Research Specialist II

  
**RAMER MANALON**  
Forest Technician I

  
**LUDWIN M. RUADO**  
Forest Ranger



PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

Investigation on the alleged illegal cutting of trees by APMC in Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon

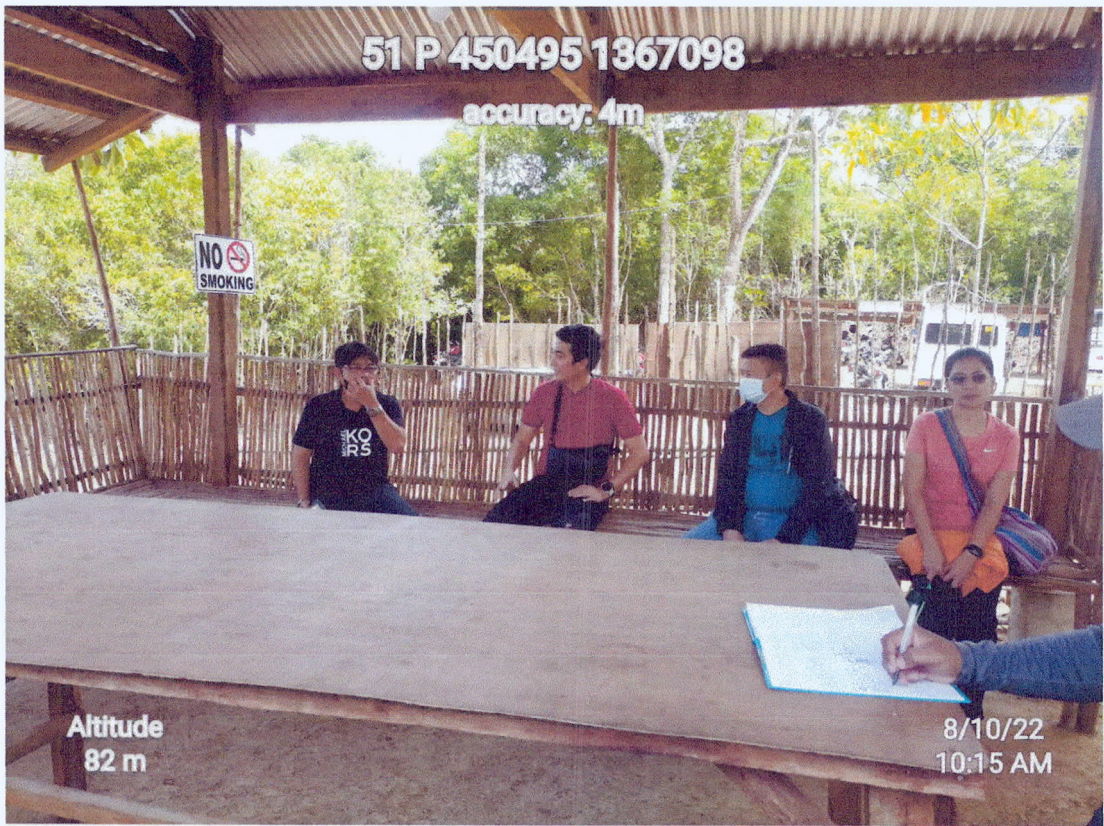


Figure 1. OIC, PENRO Arnoldo A. Blaza, Jr., TSD Chief Malvin R. Rocero, MES Chief Sheilla Jane M. Forlales, and other Investigation Team Members, coordinate with the Project Manager, Michael Peter Sanchez at the ALTAI Office located in Brgy. Taclobo, San Fernando, Romblon



Figure 2. Trail or trackway from one drill hole going to another drill hole wherein the cut poles and shrubs are located





Figures 3 & 4. Investigation Team measures the diameter of stumps of cut poles and shrubs found within the drilling site





Figures 5 & 6. Cut poles and stumps