



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office**  
**MIMAROPA Region**  
Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan  
E-mail: penropalawan@denr.gov.ph  
Telfax No. (048) 433-5638/ (048) 434-8791

N6B

June 7, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The Regional Executive Director  
DENR MIMAROPA Region  
1515 DENR BY the Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard,  
Barangay 668, Ermita, Manila

**FROM :** The Provincial Environment and  
Natural Resources Officer


**SUBJECT :** **UPDATED COMPLETE STAFF WORK RE: THE PUBLIC  
ASSEMBLY/RALLY CONDUCTED BY THE RESIDENTS OF  
BROOKE'S POINT, PALAWAN AGAINST THE MINING  
OPERATION OF IPILAN NICKEL CORPORATION AT  
BARANGAY MAASIN, BROOKE'S POINT, PALAWAN FROM  
MARCH 15, 2023 UNTIL THE RALLY DISPERSAL**

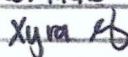
Respectfully forwarded is the memorandum dated May 25, 2023 of CENRO Leonard T. Caluya relative to the aforementioned subject. The report reveals that the public assembly/rally conducted by the residents of Brooke's Point, Palawan against the mining operation of Ipilan Nickel Corporation (INC) was permitted by Municipal Mayor Cesareo R. Benedicto, Jr. under Memorandum Order No. 2023-054 issued dated February 21, 2023, valid from 6:00 AM of February 18 to 10:00 AM of February 21, 2023, in consonance with the provision of Batas Pambansa No. 880 known as the Public Assembly Act of 1985. The said public assembly/rally per request of the said residents represented by Pastor Job Z. Lagrada was further extended up to April 4, 2023, by the municipal mayor.


The Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 165 issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) based on Civil Case No. BPT-0040 filed by INC for Damages and Injunctions, with Prayer for Ex-parte 72-hours (with extension) and/or Writ of Preliminary Prohibition and Mandatory Injunction. The court required the concerned protester to vacate the property of the corporation and to remove all obstruction, structures, or barricade that they have placed thereon and to enjoin them from stopping, apprehending, searching, obstructing or even approaching all of the vehicles and individuals making use of the Main Haul Roads. Consequently, a Show Cause Order was issued by the same court against the group of Pastor Lagrada directing the latter to provide the required explanation to avoid being cited in contempt of Court for disobeying the TRO, however, no one accepted the said order.

Further, six protesters were arrested on April 14, 2023 during the confrontation between the protester/rallyist and the security personnel/forces of the corporation in front of the company's office at Barangay Maasin, Brooke's Point, Palawan.

For information, record and further instruction on the matter.

  
FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC

DENR-PENRO PALAWAN	
RELEASED	
THROUGH E-MAIL	
EMAILED TO:	RED cc: MGB
E-MAILED BY:	Xyrea 
DATE:	07 JUN 2023
TIME:	3:39 pm

DENR-PALAWAN  
PENRO-RECORDS  
**RELEASED**  
By   
Date: 08 JUN 2023 23-16/3