



March 3, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director

THRU : The Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services

FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer

SUBJECT : **UPDATE REPORT ON THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THIS OFFICE IN RELATION TO THE INSTRUCTION TO FILE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTIONS ON THE REPORTED CUTTING OF TREES WITHOUT PERMIT BY THE ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION**

OUTGOING

Received By: [Signature]

Date: 3/7/2023

DENR MIMAROPA RECORDS SECTION RECEIVED

E-2023-165051-ADON

MAR 14 2023

☐ INCOMING ☐ OUTGOING

BY: _____ DATS NO. _____

TIME: _____

BACKGROUND

1. A Joint Order was issued 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.
2. Under directive number 5 of the Joint Order, this office was ordered to file appropriate legal action, if warranted, on the reported cutting of trees without a permit.
3. This office received a Memorandum from the DENR MIMAROPA Regional Executive Director dated February 13, 2023, with subject: Explanation Re: Illegal Tree Cutting of Altai Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC).

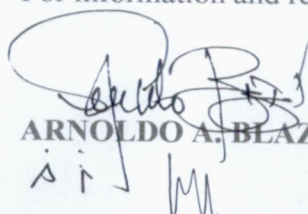
ACTIONS TAKEN

1. This office immediately issued a PENRO Special Order No. 23-19 dated February 7, 2023 creating a team to conduct re-inventory of trees within the twenty (20) hectares area, Parcels 1 and 2 Proposed Road, and Parcel 3 Road going to Proposed Port of APMC at Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. (Copy of Special Order is attached mark as "Annex 1"). However, the team failed to enter the premises of APMC despite several attempts. Attempts were made on the following dates: February 8, 9 and 10, 2023. The team was not given consent to enter the said areas by the APMC main office.
2. On February 10, 2023, the team submitted an update report regarding the re-inventory of trees within the aforementioned areas. The same report was endorsed to the Regional Office through a memorandum dated February 16, 2023. (Copy of which is attached mark as "Annex 2").



3. This office explained through a memorandum dated February 21, 2023, as to why this office has not noticed the illegal cutting of trees undertaken at the APMC's 20-hectare site. The reasons were: the location where the removal and/or clearing of trees is undertaken is not visible from the road; and personnel of Sibuyan-Substation were on different travel purposes. (Copy of the memo is attached mark as "Annex 3").
4. This office sent a letter dated February 7, 2023, addressed to the President of the APMC, informing them that a re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare area will be conducted to ascertain the allegation of cutting without a permit. (Copy of the letter is attached mark as "Annex 4").
5. Moreover, this office sent the APMC a reiteration letter dated February 16, 2023, to allow the team to conduct the said re-inventory. (Copy is attached mark as "Annex 5").
6. On March 2, 2023, this office received a response letter from the President of APMC dated February 28, 2023. They informed this office that APMC has voluntarily stopped exploration and related activities on February 6, 2023 prior to the issuance of Joint Order. The APMC further informed this office that they are *"now in quandary how come ground validations and tree re-inventory are being sought per subject letters only after the issuance of those NOVs and while the same are pending resolution"* by our office. Lastly, APMC also stipulated in their letter that they are ready and willing to have a dialogue with this office together with representatives from MGB and EMB Regional Offices on March 9, 2023, at the DENR-MIMAROPA Office, Ermita, Manila. (Copy of the response letter is hereto attached mark as "Annex 6").
7. On March 3, 2023, this office instantly replied to the response letter of APMC and inform them that an Inspection team will immediately conduct the re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare area, including Parcels 1, 2, and 3, located at Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. This office further asked a representative from the APMC to accompany the Inspection Team during the re-inventory. Also, this office invited them to a Technical Conference on March 8, 2023, to be held at the PENRO Romblon Conference Room, Brgy. Tabing-dagat, Odiongan, Romblon. (Copy is attached as "Annex 7").

For information and reference.


ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.

February 07, 2023

PENRO Special OrderNo. 23-19
Series of 2023**SUBJECT****RE-INVENTORY OF TREES WITHIN THE TWENTY (20) HECTARES AREA, PARCEL 1 and 2 PROPOSED ROAD, AND PARCEL 3 ROAD GOING TO PROPOSED PORT OF ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION (APMC) AT SITIO BATO, BRGY. ESPAÑA, SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON**


In the interest of the service and to facilitate the re-inventory of trees within the subject areas of operation by APMC pursuant to Joint Order signed by DENR MIMAROPA Regional Executive Director Lormelyn E. Claudio, Regional Director of Mines and Geosciences Bureau Engr. Glenn Marcelo C. Noble, and Regional Director of Environmental Management Bureau Joe Anil M. Salino dated February 6, 2023, hereunder is the composition of the team to conduct the activities, to wit:

Team Leader	- Forester I Rolly Morales
	- Forest Technician I Ernie Forcadas
	- Forest Technician I Ramer Manalon
	- Forest Technician I Rolando Galicia
	- Forest Ranger Ludwin Ruado
	- Forest Ranger Dalvern Fesarit
	- Forest Ranger Henry Carbonilla

The team shall conduct re-inventory of trees to ascertain the allegation of cutting without permit by APMC. Further, the team will submit report with categorial recommendation/s within twenty-four (24) hours.

This order shall take effect immediately.

Approved by:


FOR. ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.
OIC, PENR Officer



February 16, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
1515 DENR by the Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard,
Barangay 668, Ermita, Manila

THRU : The Assistant Regional Director
for Technical Services

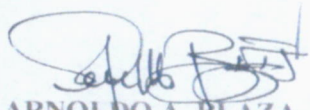
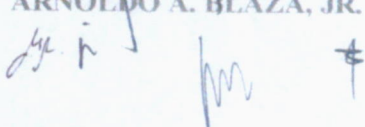
FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer
Odiongan, Romblon

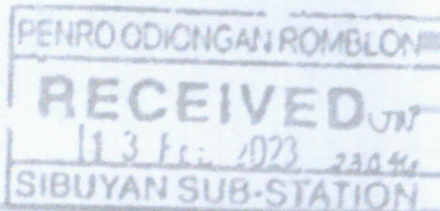
SUBJECT : REPORT ON THE RE-INVENTORY OF TREES WITHIN THE
TWENTY (20) HECTARES AREA, PARCEL 1 AND 2 PROPOSED
ROAD, AND PARCEL 3 ROAD GOING TO PROPOSED PORT
OF ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION AT SITIO
BATO, BRGY. ESPAÑA, SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON

Respectfully submitting the memorandum dated February 10, 2023 from Sibuyan Sub-Station personnel on the re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare area of Altai Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC) at Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon.

Unfortunately, up to this date, the team was not given the consent to enter the said area by the APMC main office to conduct the re-inventory.

For information and further instructions.


ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.




February 10, 2023

MEMORANDUM

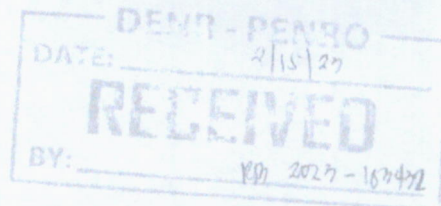
FOR : THE OIC PENRO OFFICER
DENR, Odiongan, Romblon

THRU : Chief TSD PENRO Romblon

: OIC Sibuyan Sub-Station &
PASu, MGGNP

FROM : ROLLY F. MORALES, et.al

SUBJECT : REPORT ON THE RE-INVENTORY OF TREES WITHIN THE
TWENTY (20) HECTARES AREAS, PARCEL 1 and 2
PROPOSED ROAD, AND PARCEL 3 ROAD GOING TO
PROPOSED PORT OF ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING
CORPORATION (APMC) AT SITIO BATO, BRGY. RSPANAN,
SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON



REFERENCE:

In compliance to the PENRO Special Order No. 23-19, Series of 2023, the team headed by Forester I Rolly F. Morales, went to So. Bato, Brgy. Espana, San Fernando to conduct re-inventory of trees.

HIGHLIGHT OF ACTIVITIES:

The following activities had been observed:

1. We coordinated first with the Brgy. Official of Brgy. Espana, San Fernando, Romblon regarding the conduct of re-inventory in the area February 08, 2023.
2. The team then proceeded to the office of Altai Philippines Mining Corporation to coordinate on the re-inventory. Upon arrival, Mr. Marvin Roy and Mr. Jaime C. Yap, representatives of APMC advised the team to make a request letter with corresponding Special Order to be forwarded to their main office for the re-inventory. Thus, the team relayed this message to PENR Office, and was able to provide a request letter with copy of PENRO Special Order for APMC's information. They, however, informed that they are not authorized to receive the documents and it should be directed to the main office and will wait for further instructions.

3. That on the following day, February 09, 2023 the team went back to the area and coordinated with the representatives of APMC if the team is allowed to conduct tree re-inventory. However, the representatives informed them that there is still no instruction from their main office and they are also waiting for a memorandum allowing the team to conduct tree re-inventory.
4. That on February 10, 2023, the team went back again in the area expressing the same intent of conducting tree re-inventory but was again denied as the representatives stated that they cannot allow the activity without the consent of the main office.

For your information and records.


ROLLY F. MORALES


DALVERNE F. FESARIT


LUDWIN RUADO



HENRY CARBONILLA


ERNIE FORCADAS


RAMER MANALON


ROLANDO GALICIA

Noted:


MANUEL B. ROMERO
OIC Sibuyan Sub-Station &
PASu, MGGNP

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
Odiongan, Romblon

Coordination to the Brgy. Official of Brgy. España.



Coordinated at APMC area serve letter request to enter the area of 20 hectares for re-inventory









February 21, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director

FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer

SUBJECT : **EXPLANATION RE ILLEGAL TREE CUTTING OF ALTAI PHILIPPINES MINING CORPORATION (APMC) IN SIBUYAN ISLAND, ROMBLON**

This refers to your memorandum regarding the above subject dated February 13, 2023. In connection with the re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare area of operation of the APMC, the Inspection Team failed to enter the APMC's area of operation located in Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon despite several attempts. Attached is the report on the re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare including parcels 1, 2, and 3 as to why the Inspection Team was not able to enter the subject area.

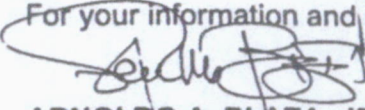
Respectively, this office immediately issued a Special Order dated February 7, 2023, for a team to conduct rapid assessment/investigation on potentially damaged seagrass and other marine resources. On February 8, 2023, the team conducted the assessment/investigation. Results of the assessment/investigation revealed that rocks and pebbles, rocks with algae, and sand were existent in the surrounding area of the causeway. There were no sea grasses and corals found at the alleged damaged area particularly at the vicinity of the causeway. Attached is the assessment/investigation report of the team.

Furthermore, this office has recently forwarded a reiteration letter dated February 16, 2023, addressed to the president of APMC to allow the Inspection Team to conduct the said re-inventory. Please be informed that the team cannot easily pass through the area since they are not permitted to enter the premises. There are also APMC security guards positioned both at the entrance going the 20-ha site and entrance going to the causeway project.

Hereunder are the reasons why this office has not noticed the illegal cutting of trees undertaken at the APMC's 20-hectare site, to wit:

- 1) The location where the removal and/or clearing of trees is undertaken is not visible from the road.
- 2) Personnel of Sibuyan Sub-station were on different travel purposes. Selected personnel were on travel to conduct patrolling operation of alleged illegal small-scale mining activities within the protected area of MGGNP at Sitio Hanggan and Sitio Banilad, Brgy. Mabini, San Fernando, Romblon covering January 2023. While other personnel are on travel to conduct BAMS in Brgy. Danao, Cajidiocan, Romblon.

For your information and utmost consideration.


ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.

February 7, 2023

M. HANIEL T. NGO
 President, Altai Philippines Mining Corporation
 1901 Lyeoon Center, Pearl Drive, San Antonio,
 Ortigas Center, Pasig City

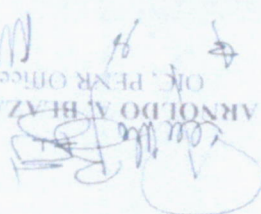
Dear Mr. Ngo:

Greetings in Conservation!

Based on the issued Joint Order signed by DENR MIMAROPA Regional Executive Director Lormelyn E. Claudio, Regional Director of Mines and Geosciences Bureau Engr. Glenn Marcelo C. Noble, and Regional Director of Environmental Management Bureau Joe Arnill M. Salino dated February 6, 2023 there is a need to conduct an investigation/assessment of possible damaged corals and sea grass in the vicinity of the docking port at Sitio Bato, Brgy. Espana, San Fernando, Romblon. Simultaneously a re-inventory of trees within the twenty (20) hectares of Altai's area of operation will be conducted as well to ascertain the allegation of cutting without permit. A Special Order has been issued by this Office to our select personnel who will be conducting the said duties.

Further, this Office would like to invite you to a Technical Conference to discuss the technical aspects of the mining operation including the guidelines that governs such operation at your convenient time. We would appreciate it if we will be able to conduct this conference the soonest the possible time. Please inform us your chosen date for us to prepare for the possible dialogue. Thank you!

Respectfully yours,


ARNOLFO A. BLAZA, JR.
 OIC, PEZR Officer



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

February 16, 2023

HANNIEL T. NGO

President, ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation
1901 Tycoon Center, Pearl Drive
San Antonio, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Sir:

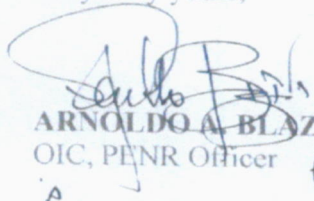
Makakalikasang araw po sa inyo!

This is to reiterate our previous letter request dated February 7, 2023, regarding the conduct of re-inventory within the twenty (20) hectares of APMC's area of operation. The purpose of the said inventory is to validate the allegation of cutting trees without a permit. However, after several attempts to acquire a positive response on our request, the Inspection Team failed to enter your area of operation located in Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon.

In the exigency of service and to explicitly verify the said allegation, this office would like to request again to allow the Inspection Team to conduct the re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare area.

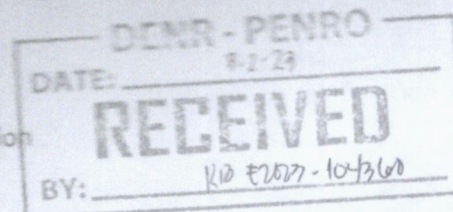
Your immediate attention and action on this matter is highly valued.

Very truly yours,


ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.
OIC, PENR Officer

February 28, 2023

Atty. HANNIEL T. NGO, JR.
 Regional Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO)
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources - MIMAROPA Region
 Regional Office, Formosa St., Brgy. Tabing-Dagat
 Cagayan, Ilocos Norte 2205



SUBJECT: Your Letters Dated February 7 and 16, 2023

Dear Atty. Black, Jr.:

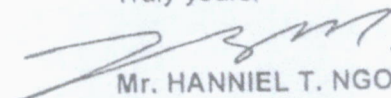
Atty. Philippines Mining Corporation (APMC) acknowledges receipt of your subject letters, the content of which are well-noted.

As you may be aware, a Joint Order dated February 6, 2023 was issued against APMC by Engr. Glenn Marcelo C. Noble, Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB) Regional Director - MIMAROPA; Joe Amil M. Salino, Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Regional Director - MIMAROPA; and Lormelyn E. Claudio, CESO IV, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Regional Executive Director - MIMAROPA. This Joint Order was issued on the basis, among others, of the Notices of Violation (NOVs) that you have previously issued to us. We received a copy of the said Joint Order on February 7, 2023 but prior thereto or as of February 6, 2023, APMC has voluntarily stopped exploration and related activities. We nonetheless filed a Motion For Reconsideration of the Joint Order on February 22, 2023 and APMC eagerly awaits the issuance of a Joint Resolution.

Your records will show that as of February 14, 2023, APMC has timely submitted its replies and Position Paper to the Notices of Violation (NOVs) that your office has issued. APMC is now in a quandary how come ground validations and tree re-inventory are being sought per subject letters only after the issuance of those NOVs and while the same are pending resolution by your office.

In response to your invitation for a Technical Conference per your subject letter dated February 7, 2023, APMC is ready and willing to have a dialogue with you together with representatives from MGB and EMB Region 4B-MIMAROPA on March 9, 2023, Thursday, at 2:00 p.m. at the DENR-MIMAROPA Office, Ermita, Manila. Please confirm if this schedule is all right with you and other attendees from MGB and EMB Region 4B-MIMAROPA.

Truly yours,


 Mr. HANNIEL T. NGO
 President - APMC

1901 TYCOON CENTER, PEARL DRIVE, SAN ANTONIO, ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY
 TEL. NO. 7958 3533; E-MAIL ADDRESS: altalcorpo@gmail.com

Copy Furnished:

Ms. LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV

Regional Executive Director

DENR-MIMAROPA Region

3rd Floor DENR By the Bay Building

1515 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila 1000

DENR MIMAROPA RECORDS SECTION RECEIVED	
MAR 02 2023	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INCOMING	<input type="checkbox"/> OUTGOING
DATE: <u>3-2-23</u>	DAYS NO. _____
TIME: <u>11:50 AM</u>	

Mr. JOE AMIL M. SALINO

Regional Director

Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)

6th Floor DENR By the Bay Building

1515 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila 1000

Engr. GLENN MARCELO C. NOBLE

Regional Director

Mines and Geosciences Bureau – MIMAROPA

7th Floor DENR By the Bay Building

1515 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

RECEIVED	
Date	: <u>3-2-23</u>
Name/Signature	: <u>[Signature]</u>
Division/Section	: <u>[Signature]</u>
MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU - MIMAROPA REGION	

RECORDS SECTION
EMB-MIMAROPA REGION

03/02/2023

RECEIVED BY
[Signature]



March 3, 2023

HANNIEL T. NGO

President, ALTAI Philippines Mining Corporation
1901 Tycoon Center, Pearl Drive
San Antonio, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Sir:

Makakalikasang araw po sa inyo!

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 28, 2023, in response to our letters dated February 7 and 16, 2023. As stated in the previous letters, we reiterated our request to conduct the re-inventory of trees within the 20-hectare of APMC's area of operation at Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon.

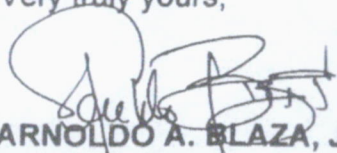
However, the Inspection Team was not allowed to enter said area of operation despite several attempts. The purpose of said re-inventory is to verify the allegations of clearing and/or removal of trees without an approved tree cutting permit.

In the exigency of the service and to explicitly verify the said allegation, this office would like to inform you that the Inspection Team will conduct the re-inventory of trees immediately at the APMC's area of operation within the 20 hectares area, including Parcels 1, 2 and 3, all located at Sitio Bato, Brgy. España, San Fernando, Romblon. Please send a representative/s to accompany the Inspection Team during the said re-inventory.

Furthermore, this office would like to invite you to a Technical Conference to discuss other related concerns, on March 8, 2023, at 9 o'clock in the morning, to be held at PENRO Romblon Conference Room, Brgy. Tabing-dagat, Odiongan, Romblon.

Your immediate attention and cooperation on this matter is highly appreciated.

Very truly yours,


ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.
OIC, PENR Officer