



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Benguet
Municipality of Itogon
Office of the Municipal Mayor
Email Address: vic.palangdan@gmail.com

FILE

SARADUNANG BATAN OFFICE
ITOGON, BENGUET

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 17
Series of 2020

RECEIVED

DATE: 6/1/2020 9:20 AM

CONTINUING ENFORCEMENT OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES, POLICIES, ISSUANCES, RULES AND REGULATIONS TO STOP ILLEGAL SMALL SCALE MINING ACTIVITIES AND ALL FORMS OF UNAUTHORIZED MILLING AND PROCESSING OPERATIONS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ITOGON.

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Memorandum dated January 6, 2009 issued by then DENR Secretary Jose L. Atienza, a MORATORIUM on any mining activities was declared in the entire Antamok Mining Area, further directing the DENR/MGB-CAR and the Local Government Unit to disallow dwelling units and development activities in the immediate areas experiencing instability and ground settlement;

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2018, DENR Secretary Roy P. Cimatu issued a STOPPAGE ORDER on small scale mining in the entire Cordillera Region and at the same time, ordered the revocation of all small scale mining permits and processor's permits that had been previously issued;

WHEREAS, based on the findings of MGB-CAR, the Office of Civil Defense directed the issuance of an Order declaring identified areas in barangays Ampucao, Gumatdang, Loacan, Ucab and Virac as "No Build Zones" due to its high hazard susceptibility rendering said areas as dangerous and non-habitable;

WHEREAS, while response efforts were being carried out in the after math of Super Typhoon Ompong, the National Task Force Mining Challenge intensified its campaign against illegal small scale mining activities in the municipality which resulted to the arrest of several individuals that were caught violating the Stoppage Order;

WHEREAS, to carry out other related functions and mandate of the National Task Force Mining Challenge in the local level, the Local Chief Executive issued Executive Order No. 04, series of 2019 which established the Municipal Task Force against Illegal Mining in Itogon, Benguet;

WHEREAS, despite coordinated efforts to effect closure of several adits/tunnels and processing facilities in compliance with the moratorium on all mining activities and the Stoppage Order which are both in force and effect up to the present, and the demolition of structures and shanties used by illegal small scale miners within declared "No Build Zones", it was observed that illegal small scale mining activities have resumed along with the reconstruction of structures and reoccupation of old shanties or makeshift camps by small scale miners in the areas where demolitions were carried out;

WHEREAS, our environment has already suffered heavy damages due to mining activities and unless we intensify our efforts to protect our remaining natural resources and restore ecological balance, the present and future generations will have to pay for the high cost arising from irresponsible and selfish acts employed by companies and individuals that resulted into grave environmental degradation;

WHEREAS, aside from environmental protection, the public welfare and safety of our inhabitants from the negative impacts of man-made and natural hazards has to be given primordial consideration over personal gains and interests of only a few;

6-1-20 Virac

6/1/20 Gumatdang
AMPUCAO - g.

Received by PSCy Pion, E. June 01, 2020

DILE - ITOGON

By: [Signature] 6/01/2020

RECEIVED
JUN 01 2020

BY: [Signature]

FORNATION - ZAN
6/1/2020

[Handwritten mark]

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers vested in me as Municipal Mayor of Itogon, Benguet, I, **ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, hereby ORDER as follows:

Section 1. The Municipal Government through the Municipal Task Force on Illegal Mining shall pursue continuous actions against illegal small scale mining activities and unauthorized milling and processing operations in the municipality of Itogon. Towards this end, demolition of all shanties, structures and makeshift camps within areas declared as "No Build Zones" or "Danger Zones duly identified in the Order issued by the undersigned Local Chief Executed dated 27 September, 2018 shall be carried out. Provided further, that unless authorized under a valid small scale mining contract or approved processor's permit, all illegal small scale mining operations including milling and processing activities shall be stopped. Provided finally that in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations, all illegal mining adits shall be closed and all tools and equipment used in processing ores and mine tailings shall be confiscated.

Section 2. Aside from those already identified in the September 27, 2018 Order, demolition of shanties, structures and makeshift camps in areas at Balatoc and Acupan, barangay Virac where illegal small scale mining activities occur shall be carried out along with the confiscation of tools and equipment used in illegal milling and processing of ores and mine tailings.

Section 3. Cessation of operations of all illegal processing plants such as Carbon-in-Pulp and Carbon-in-Leach as contained in the Memorandum issued by the Local Chief Executive on August 5, 2019 shall be carried out within the municipality most especially those near or along water bodies.

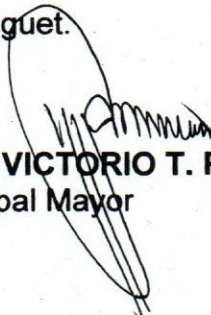
Section 3. Personnel of Benguet Corporation, ISRI or Philex Mining Corporation shall undertake the demolition of structures within their respective mining tenements. Barangay Officials and barangay tanods of the barangay where demolition shall be carried out including members of the Philippine National Police must be present on-site to maintain peace and order while demolition is on-going. Provided however that members of the PNP shall undertake the confiscation of tools and equipment used in unauthorized milling and processing of ores and mine tailings along with the filing of appropriate charges against operators or owners thereof.

Section 4. Repealing Clause. All Administrative Orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Administrative Order or parts hereof are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Separability Clause. If for any reason, this Administrative Order or parts hereof has been declared invalid by competent authority, parts of which not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

Section 6. Effectivity. This Administrative Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this 27th day of May, 2020 at Itogon, Benguet.


ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN
Municipal Mayor

Copy furnished:

- All Members, Municipal Task Force Against Illegal Mining
- DILG-MLGOO
- MGB-CAR
- The Honorable Sanguniang Bayan
- file