



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Benguet
Municipality of Itogon

Office of the Municipal Mayor

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 33

Series of 2016

IMPLEMENTING PREEMPTIVE MEASURES TO ABATE ANY DAMAGES TO LIVES, ACCIDENTS AND OTHER SIMILAR INCIDENTS IN HIGH RISK AREAS DUE TO NATURAL AND/OR MAN MADE HAZARDS AGGRAVATED BY THE PREVIOUS SUPER TYPHOON LAWIN.

WHEREAS, tension cracks on earth surface which have relatively increased in number and width were observed in the sitios of Camanggaan and Batuang at Barangay Virac, First Gate and L-070 at Barangay Ucab and Luneta at Barangay Loacan, recently just after Super Typhoon Lawin hit the locality;

WHEREAS, huge volumes of water brought by Super Typhoon Lawin have left our soils over saturated that even a little amount of rain that fall in the succeeding days may cause soil subsidence, mud/landslides and collapse of existing mine adits/tunnels;

WHEREAS, volumes of surface run-off which filled the L440 open pit and the continuing rising thereof due to the existence of water bodies directly flowing thereat, aggravated by the clogged water outlets, have placed the sitios of Luneta, Antamok, Liang and other adjoining communities under imminent danger due to possible occurrence of mud flows, landslides, flooding, cave-in and sudden rise of water level along water bodies as what happened sometime in October 27, 2016;

WHEREAS, public safety is among our primordial considerations hence, the need to implement preventive measures to ensure that our inhabitants who are immediately at risk shall be saved from any impending hazards;

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

Section 1. Automatic Suspension of Small Scale Mining Activities, Quarrying and Gold Panning: All underground small scale mining activities within Gold Fields, Pink Tunnel, Luneta, Antamok and in all other areas not herein specifically mentioned but where tension cracks and soil subsidence are present and/or where there is probability of ground movement shall be suspended automatically during ordinary rainy days. Similarly, this provision shall apply during typhoons and at the occurrence of monsoon rains or lengthy rainy days. Provided further that all small scale mining organizations and/or officers shall police their own ranks by disallowing the entry of miners in their respective tunnels, and/or by immediately directing miners inside to pull out upon observation that an impending rain is approaching. This provision shall likewise apply in similar manner to quarrying and gold panning activities along Ambalanga River and Lower Agno particularly at Barangays Poblacion, Tinongdan and Dalupirip. Provided finally that in anticipation of the sudden burst of mud/water coming from L440 open pit which may find its way out through any of the existing surrounding tunnels resulting to sudden rise in water level or mud flows along downstream river systems, small scale mining, quarrying and/or gold panning activities in the affected sitios of barangays Loacan, Ucab, Poblacion, Gumatdang, Tinongdan and Dalupirip are temporarily suspended until all water contents of L400 open pit is fully drained subject, however to existing weather conditions.

Section 2. Preemptive Evacuation. Residents staying in areas where progressive tension cracks are present and near landslide prone areas are hereby directed to vacate and stay on safer grounds. Non-residents however are advised to return to their respective home provinces if they have nowhere to stay temporarily in the municipality. Provided further that affected residents may opt to stay temporarily in the designated evacuation centers, or at the house of their respective relatives or friends, or at their own expense in transient houses, apartments and the like within or outside the municipality.

Section 3. Provision of Support Services. The MDRRMO in coordination with the MSWDO, PNP, Barangay Officials and SSM Associations shall conduct an assessment of the affected areas or those identified in this Order as under high risk category for contingency planning, profiling and identifying the kind of assistance that may be provided to the affected communities or individuals.


Section 4. Force Evacuation. Pursuant to existing laws, rules and regulations, forced evacuation shall be implemented as the situation warrants. For this purpose, the PNP, together with other law enforcement bodies are hereby advised to implement this provision.

Section 5. Repealing Clause. All Administrative Orders and executive issuances inconsistent with this ORDER or parts hereof are deemed repealed accordingly.

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

LET copies of this ORDER be furnished all concerned for information.

DONE this 3rd day of November, 2016 at Itogon, Benguet.


ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN
Municipal Mayor

Cc:

- Hon. Crescencio C. Pacalso, Provincial Governor and Chairman, PDRRMC
- Sangguniang Bayan
- OCD-CAR
- DENR-CAR-MGB
- DENR-CAR-EMB
- MSWDO
- Itogon PNP
- MDRRMO
- Itogon – BFP
- Municipal Health Office
- The BLGU's of Itogon
- All SSM Associations of Itogon
- File