



BenguetCorp

June 24, 2016

**PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE**

Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza  
Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue  
Makati City

Attention: **Mr. JOSE VALERIANO B. ZUÑO III**  
Head-Officer in Charge, Disclosure Department

Gentlemen:

We write in response to your request for clarification to the news article entitled “Deloso vows to suspend mining in Zambales” posted in Manila Bulletin (Internet Edition) on June 23, 2016. The article reported in part that:

“Iba, Zambales — ‘My first duty on July 1, 2016 is to suspend all mining operations in Zambales.’

With this declaration, incoming Governor Amor Deloso affirmed his certain adherence to the Supreme Court’s (SC’s) issuance of a Writ of Kalikasan against five mining companies, namely:

Benguet Corporation Nickel Mines Inc. (BNMI), Eramen Minerals Inc. (EMI), LNL Archipelago Minerals Inc. (LAMI), Zambales Diversified Metals Corporation (ZDMC), and Shangfil Mining and Trading Corporation (SMTC).

....”

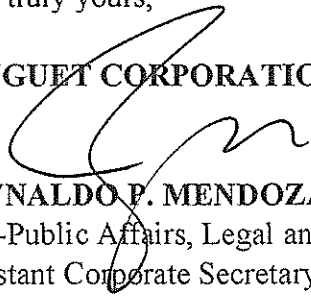
The Company’s subsidiary for nickel project, BenguetCorp Nickel Mines, Inc. (BNMI), has not received to date the Supreme Court resolution giving due course to the Petition for Writ of Kalikasan, but based on the Supreme Court’s press briefing, there was no Temporary Environmental Protection Order (TEPO) issued to restrain the mining activities of respondent mining companies. We respect the declaration of incoming Zambales Governor Amor Deloso to strictly enforce mining regulations in the province. BNMI fully adheres to the principles of responsible mining and is compliant with all environmental standards. Its full compliance with the environmental remediation conditions set by the Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau (MGB)/ Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) is the basis for the lifting of the mining suspension order last August 24, 2015. BNMI has been issued ISO 14001:2015 Certification on Environmental Management System (EMS) on March 16, 2016 as required by DENR Administrative Order No. 2015-07. BNMI will be answering the allegations in the petition within the prescribed period and will seek opportunity to present to the Honorable Governor its record of good environmental management in Zambales.

We hope that we have clarified the above matters clearly.

Very truly yours,

**BENGUET CORPORATION**

By:

  
**REYNALDO P. MENDOZA**  
SVP-Public Affairs, Legal and  
Assistant Corporate Secretary