

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SEC FORM 17-C

CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17
OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE
AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

1. ...April 6, 2017.....
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
2. SEC Identification Number ...11341..... 3. BIR Tax Identification No.000-051-037.....
4.BENGUET CORPORATION.....
Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter
5. ..Metro Manila, Philippines..... 6. (SEC Use Only)
Province, country or other jurisdiction of incorporation Industry Classification Code:
7. ..7th Floor, Universal Re Building, 106 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City... ..1226.....
Address of principal office Postal Code
8.812-1380 / 751-9137.....
Issuer's telephone number, including area code
9.N/A.....
Former name or former address, if changed since last report
10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of the SRC or Sections 4 and 8 of the RSA

Title of Each Class	Number of Shares of Common Stock Outstanding and Amount of Debt Outstanding
Convertible Preferred Class A	217,061
Common Class A	370,246,461*
Common Class B	244,816,422*

(*) Net of Treasury Shares

Total consolidated outstanding principal debt as of December 31, 2016 - P687 Million

11. Indicate the item numbers report herein: **Item 9**

In compliance with the disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), please be informed of Benguet Corporation's Press Release entitled "Lopez Wrong on BenguetCorp Zambales Mine Rehab", which shall be published in the newspapers as follows:

LOPEZ WRONG ON BENGUETCORP ZAMBALES MINE REHAB

The statements made by DENR Secretary Gina Lopez that Benguet Corporation ("Benguet") is to blame for the condition of the Open Pit in San Marcelino, Zambales are false, misinformed, misleading and the same unfairly and maliciously impugns the reputation of Benguet. A basic, elementary, and cursory look at DENR record would have shown that Benguet is not the errant party here.

She erroneously assailed Benguet for abandoning the Dizon Mine and failing to rehabilitate it during her recent visit to the site with the media in tow. Engr. Leo Jasareno, her trusted and private Senior DENR Consultant, who was MGB Director before, had full knowledge of the fact that Benguet is not the responsible party for the rehabilitation of Dizon Mine. A simple due diligence, and verification of the facts beforehand would have shown that her tirade should have been directed at Dizon Copper and Silver Mines Inc. (DCSMI) which is the Claim Owner of the project under its Mining Lease Contracts. Benguet was the Operator but DCSMI subsequently in 1997, or more than 20 years ago, took over the control and management of Dizon Mine as well as the full responsibility for its continued operation, maintenance and rehabilitation.

When Benguet transferred back its operating rights to DCSMI, the mine was still operating and had plans for development of additional orebody. Further, all environmental infrastructures were in place - the waste dump, tailings storage facility and silt dams were well maintained and in good condition, notwithstanding the fact that in 1991, the mine was severely affected by the eruption of nearby Mt. Pinatubo. By reason of his official position before, Engr. Jasareno had access to the following correct information regarding the Dizon Mine and should have properly advised Secretary Lopez of the truth and the facts which show that Benguet operated the Dizon Copper Property from 1975 to 1997 by virtue of an operating agreement with DCSMI. In 1997, DCSMI opted to buy out Benguet's remaining interest in the project. Benguet and DCSMI executed a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") and Deed of Assignment ("DOA") on December 12, 1997, under which Benguet transferred its operating rights and turned over all responsibilities in the mine to DCSMI.

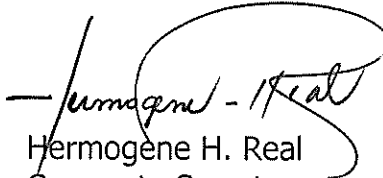
The agreements were registered in the Mines Recorder Office on September 03, 2002 and duly approved by then DENR Secretary Heherson Alvarez on December 11, 2002. When DCSMI took over the project in 1997, it was still a viable and operating mine and there was no declaration of end-of-mine life. Mine rehabilitation or decommissioning was not yet required. DCSMI had planned to continue operating the mine. The validity of the MOA and

DOA on the transfer of rights and responsibilities in the Dizon project was confirmed by the Court of Appeals in its decision dated February 15, 2006 in CA-GR SP No. 87738 and upheld by the Supreme Court in a resolution dated August 28, 2006 in GR No. 173131 in a case involving the issue of which company has liability to maintain the Dizon mine.

It is unfortunate and regrettable that inaccurate and misleading statements continue to be made not only about Benguet but even of other mines. Benguet hopes that Secretary Lopez will correct the untruthful statements she has made on this matter.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Regulation Code, the issuer has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.


Hermogene H. Real
Corporate Secretary

Date: April 6, 2017

* Print name and title of the signing officer under the signature.