



**MEMORANDUM ORDER**

No. 2016- 01

JUL 08 2016

**SUBJECT:    AUDIT OF ALL OPERATING MINES AND MORATORIUM ON  
              NEW MINING PROJECTS**

In line with the pronouncement on responsible mining by *His Excellency, President Rodrigo R. Duterte*, that "There will be a **comprehensive review of the mining claims of concessions given**," and in the interest of the common good and to ensure that the concerns of the helpless and the impoverished are addressed, an **audit** of all operating mines and a **moratorium** on the approval of new mining projects are hereby **ordered** for the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

To fully implement this Memorandum Order, the following guidelines shall govern:

**SECTION 1. Scope**

The **audit** shall cover all operating mines and mines under suspended and/or care and maintenance status while the **moratorium** shall cover the acceptance, processing and/or approval of mining applications and/or new mining projects for all metallic and non-metallic minerals.

Said audit shall be undertaken in accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7942, *the Philippine Mining Act of 1995*; Executive Order No. 79, entitled: *Institutionalizing and Implementing Reforms in the Philippine Mining Sector Providing Policies and Guidelines to Ensure Environmental Protection and Responsible Mining in the Utilization of Mineral Resources*; Department Administrative Order No. 2015-07 in re: *Mandating Mining Contractors to Secure ISO 14001 Certification* and other applicable environmental laws, and pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

**SECTION 2. Audit of All Mining Operations**

An audit of all the mining operations in the country shall be immediately undertaken for the following purposes:

1. To determine the adequacy and efficiency of the environmental protection measures of each mining operation.
2. To identify gaps in environmental protection measures.

3. To determine the appropriate penalty/ies in case of violations of the mining and environmental laws.

### **SECTION 3. The DENR Mine Audit Team**

1. A Mine Audit Team is hereby created in every region, to be composed of the following:

Department Central Office	- Team Leader
Department Regional Office	- Member
Mines and Geosciences Bureau	- Member
Environmental Management Bureau	- Member
Third Party Expert/s	- Member

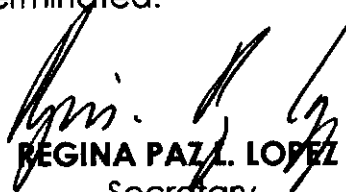
2. The Mine Audit Team shall conduct the audit of all mining operations referred to in Section 2 hereof and submit the pertinent report to the Department Secretary, thru the Senior Undersecretary, within one (1) month from receipt of this Memorandum Order.

### **SECTION 4. Repealing Clause**

All orders, circulars and directives or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Memorandum Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

### **SECTION 5. Effectivity**

This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately and remain in force and in effect until formally terminated.

  
**REGINA PAZ L. LOPEZ**  
Secretary

