

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

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MINING COMPANIES NEED NOT TO MESS WITH ENVI SEC. GINA LOPEZ

KAPAG nagpapakita talaga ng tapang at malasakit ang isang presidente, tiyak na ganoon din ang gagawin ng kanyang mga Gabinete.

At isa na sa kanila si Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Gina Lopez na talagang humahataw ngayon laban sa mga mapang-abusong Chinese mining companies.

Kung hindi tayo nagkakamali, apat na Chinese mining companies na ang ipinasuspendi ni Envi Sec. Gina Lopez diyan sa Zambales.

Lahat sila ay may export activities patungong mainland China.

Sabi nga ni Envi Sec, "Our people's well being is more important than the money you make. If you want your money, go home bye bye!"

Gusto nating ipaalam kay Madam Gina na hindi lang sa Zambales 'yan, marami rin 'yan sa Mindanao.

Naalala nga ng inyong lingkod noong nasa isang hotel kami sa Surigao, naitanong namin kung bakit maraming Chinese nationals sa nasabing hotel.

Inakala pa nga naming turista sila.

Pero sabi sa atin mismo ng hotel manager, hindi sila turista kundi mga Chinese miners sila.

Sonabagan!!!

Pati raw kasi mga nagtatrabajo sa minahan, lalo na sa black sand mining ay galing pa sa China.

Lahat ng nakukuha nilang produkto o likas-yaman ay ipinadadala sa China.

Tama ba 'yun?!

Pumasok sila rito na laway lang ang dala konting salapi tapos pinapayagan wasakin ang ating kapaligiran at ang likas-yaman ay dinadala sa ka-nilang bansa?!

Wattafak!

Gobyernong Intsik lang ang nakinabang at hindi ang gobyernong Filipino.

Sana nga ay magtuloy-tuloy na ang paghihigpit na ito ni Envi Sec Gina Lopez.

Lalo na sa black sand mining. Marami po 'yan sa Norte at Mindanao.

Alam nating hindi ganoon kadali ang paglilinis na 'yan pero malaking bagay kung mauumisahan ngayon.

Go, Envi Sec. Gina Lopez!

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Duterte threatens to cancel permits, lift tax exemptions of erring mining firms

By GENALYN D. KABILING

Irresponsible mining firms, beware.

President Duterte has threatened to lift the "privilege of tax exemptions" enjoyed by the rich as well as cancel the permits of mining companies if they are found remiss in their reforestation commitments.

Duterte identified the Gutierrez-owned mining company as skirting the country's laws and causing environmental damage in Agusan del Norte.

"Gutierrez, he did not only destroy Tubay in Agusan del Norte," the President said in his remarks during a reunion with San Beda classmates in Malacañang last Sunday night.

"Sa logging na parang dinaro niya, wala na akong nakitang... You're supposed to plant trees. Ngayon, pag wala akong makita na kahoy tumutubo dyan, I'll cancel your paper. Kung multinational ka... Wala [In logging which he has ploughed, I have not seen... ►6

Duterte threatens to... ◀1

You're supposed to plant trees. Now, if I don't see trees growing there, I'll cancel your paper. If you're a multinational firm, it will be gone]," he added.

Duterte was apparently referring to the San Roque Metals, Inc. (SRMI), reportedly owned by Miguel Alberto Gutierrez and Eric Gutierrez, which has been implicated in controversial nickel mines in the coastal town of Tubay, Agusan del Norte. The President even named Gutierrez as among those who enjoyed tax exemption.

The small-scale mining company has

been ordered closed after authorities found the exceeded the extraction limit of minerals. The firm challenged the government ruling but lost the case before the Supreme Court, which affirmed it was guilty of excessive extraction of minerals.

Eric Gutierrez was earlier linked to leasing hi helicopters and airplanes to Liberal Party presidential bet Mar Roxas. He supposedly obtained tax perks due to his connections in government but has denied the charges.

"Itongnga elitista, pati itong mga yu-

maman, living off the fat of the land of the Philippines, walang mga ginawa kung hindi mag-koneksyon nila online," said Duterte.

"Corruption will stop and I will take away the privilege of mga tax exemptions na malalaki. 'Di niyo alam 'yung mga helikopters nila, mga eroplano. Do not do that to me. Bayad kayong lahat," he added.

Duterte, however, made clear that he is not out to ruin the business of mining companies. He issued a strong reminder though that they must follow the country's laws.

"I do not intend to pull you down. Basta lahat, sumunod lang kayo sa batas. Walang bending," he said.

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Gov't suspends Berong nickel operations in Palawan

The Philippines has suspended a third nickel mine in less than two weeks and again warned miners not to violate environmental laws, the cabinet secretary overseeing mining told a radio station.

Regina Lopez, secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), told the Manila station DZMM on Saturday a suspension order was slapped on Friday on Berong Nickel Corp's mine in Palawan because of a spill that affected corals.

Palawan, in the southwest Philippines, has become popular with tourists in recent years.

Lopez said while the spill was not intentional, company authorities "really need to get their act together."

She described Palawan as "the number one (tourist) island destination in the entire planet."

A top official of unlisted Berong's stakeholder DMCI Holdings, Inc. said on Sunday he was not aware of the suspension order and the spill incident.

"Sorry, I am not aware. Will check tomorrow," Isidro Consunji, chairman and CEO of DMCI, said in a text mes-

sage to Reuters.

DMCI owns Toledo Mining Corp, which has management control over the Berong project. Berong Nickel, which last year produced 868,000 tons of nickel ore, is a joint venture of Toledo Mining and another Philippines-listed firm, Atlas Consolidated and Mining Development Corp.

The Palawan nickel mine is the biggest of five slapped with suspension orders in the past two years, including two early this month.

The crackdown on miners by the government of President Rodrigo Duterte has sparked some concerns about ore supply to China, the world's biggest nickel consumer. At present, the Philippines is the top supplier of nickel ore to China.

A one-month audit of all Philippine mines starting July 8 is under way and Lopez, a staunch environmentalist, said she was unhappy with the initial reports.

"If they (miners) are not doing well and they are not following the law, we will withdraw the ECC (environmental clearance certificates)," she said on radio. (Reuters)

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Duterte threatens to cancel logging contracts

BY JOCELYN MONTEMAYOR

PRESIDENT Duterte on Sunday night warned logging firms, including multinationals, that he will cancel their contracts if they fail to comply with the laws and exercise responsible logging like planting trees to replace the ones they cut down.

The President, in addressing the members of batches 1971 and 1972 of the San Beda College of Law during a reunion and fellowship dinner in Malacañang, cited an example in Tubay in Agusan del Norte after trees that were cut down were not replaced.

Duterte said a certain "Gutierrez" was responsible, and said he is ready to cancel contracts if he does not see a single tree grow in the area.

"In logging, you destroyed it... You're supposed to plant trees. Now, if I do not see any trees growing, I'll cancel your paper. If you're a multinational, none. But I do not intend to pull you down. All should follow the law, there should be no bending," he said.

The President said Gutierrez enjoys some tax exemptions and was the one who lent his company helicopters to Liberal Party standard bearer and defeated presidential candidate Manuel Roxas II. Duterte defeated Roxas in the May presidential elections.

"Corruption will stop and I will take away

the privilege of huge tax exemptions... Do not do that to me. Bayad kayong lahat. Marami dito: Gutierrez. Cannot only destroy Tubay in Agusan del Norte," he said.

Duterte, during the campaign, said Eric Gutierrez, CEO of SR Metals Inc., was supporting Roxas' campaign and had been using the businessman's helicopters in his campaign.

He also mentioned then that Gutierrez' nickel-mining firm in Tubay has been destroying the environment.

Meanwhile, Duterte said he is unlikely to honor an international agreement that required the country to limit its carbon emissions.

The President, in a speech during the send-off for the Philippine Team to the Rio Summer Olympics, said he got mad at an ambassador, and would have liked to kick him, as the latter reminded him that the Philippines is a signatory to an agreement that requires the country to cut its carbon footprint.

He did not identify the agreement and the ambassador.

He said he told the ambassador that just because his country already succeeded, but along the way "spewed a lot of contaminants and emissions" and contributed to the destruction of the climate, does not mean it can impose something that would limit the Philippines' progress.

"We are here, we have not reached the age of industrialization. We are going into it. But you are trying to stymie us with an agreement na hanggang dito lang kayo... we'll maintain the present emission. Sabi ko, 'That's stupid.' Sabi ko, 'I will not honor that,'" he said.

"That was not my signature. (It's) somebody else's, not mine... I will not follow," he recalled telling the envoy.

"We will make a new one or we do not honor at all. That's nonsense," he added.

The Philippines agreed to bring down its carbon emissions when it signed the Paris Agreement on Climate Change at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) in France in December 2015.

Under the agreement, the Philippines, along with the 174 other countries that signed it, promised to reduce its carbon emissions by 70 percent by the year 2030.



Balita

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Duterte: Walang tanim, walang logging permit

Mga irresponsable logging firms, mag-ingat. Nagbabala si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na kakanselahan ang mga permit ng logging companies sa oras na makaligtaan nila ang kanilang responsibilidad na magtanim.

Bilang halimbawa sa kanyang kampanya laban sa mga irresponsable logging firms, inihalimbawa ni Duterte ang Gutierrez mining company sa paglabag sa mga batas at nakapipinsala sa kapaligiran sa Agusan del Norte.

"Marami dito: Gutierrez, (you) cannot only destroy Tubay in Agusan del Norte," pahayag ng Pangulo sa reunion nila ng kanyang mga kaklase sa San Beda.

"You're supposed to plant trees. Ngayon, 'pag wala akong makita na kahoy tumutubo dyan, I'll cancel your paper. Kung multinational ka... Wala," dagdag niya.

Ang tinutukoy ni Duterte ay ang San Roque Metals Inc (SRMI), na pagmamay-ari umano nina Miguel Alberto Gutierrez at Eric Gutierrez, na iniugnay sa kontroversiyal na nickel mines sa Tubay, Agusan del Norte. "I do not intend to pull you down. Basta lahat, sumunod lang kayo sa batas. Walang bending," sambit ni Pangulong Duterte.

Genalyn Kabiling

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Duterte won't honor int'l climate change agreement

By ELENA L. ABEN

President Duterte yesterday said he will not honor an international agreement on climate change adopted by almost 200 countries, including the Philippines, in December, 2015.

"That's stupid. I will not honor that," Duterte said during the send-off ceremony for the Philippine delegation to the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

He stressed this as he narrated an instance wherein a foreign ambassador, whom he did not name, asked him if the Philippines would be able to limit its carbon emissions.

The President said he was mad at the ambassador.

"He was reminding me about this emissions and the carbon footprints and I said, Yes, we are a signatory to that agreement. 'And would you be able to maintain your emissions?' Sabi ko, 'no, I cannot tell,' the President said.

He went on to narrate that the ambassador told him, "it will be distributed pro rata," to which he replied, "You know, you do not do it that way, Mr. Ambassador. You who have reached your apex and along the way spewed a lot of contaminants and emissions and went ahead in destroying the climate, good for you."

"We are here, we have not reached the age of industrialization. We are going into it. But you are trying to stymie us with an agreement na hanggang dito lang kayo.... Sabi ko, that's stupid. . I will not honor that," Duterte continued.

The President called the limits on carbon emissions as being "kaklokohan (nonsense)."

When told by the ambassador that the Philippines signed the agreement, Duterte said he replied: "That was not my signature... It's not mine... I will not follow." He added, "We will make a new one or we do not honor at all."

Duterte did not mention which particular agreement he was referring to, but in December last year, the Philippines was among 195 nations that approved the historic Paris agreement, which for the first time, committed almost every country to lower planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions to help stave off the most drastic effects of climate change.

HATAWE!

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CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENT KALOKOHAN — DUTERTE

ISANG malaking kalokohan ang Climate Change Agreement na nilagdaan ni Pangulong Benigno Aquino at 194 bansa sa 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) sa Paris, France, ayon kay Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Inihayag ni Duterte, hindi nya ito kikilalanin dahil pabor lang ito sa malalaking bansa at de-hado ang maliliit gaya ng Filipinas.

"I won't honor Paris agreement on Climate Change," wika ni Duterte kahapon sa Malacañang sa harap ng mga Filipino athletes na nag-courtesy call sa Palasyo bago tumulak patungong Rio Olympics.

Bago nilagdaan ang Climate Change agreement sa COP 21 noong 2015 sa Paris, France ay naging chairman pa ang Filipinas sa Climate Vulnerable Forum na pinangunahan ni dating Pangulong Aquino kasama ang

20 bansa.

Kabilang sa CVF ang mga bansang Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, Maldives, Nepal, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, at Vietnam.

Taliwas ito sa naunang pahayag ni Pangulong Duterte noong inaugurasyon niya, na igagaling ang mga international agreement at obligations na pinasok ng nakaang administrasyon.

Naunang sinabi ni Duterte, ang developed countries ang mas nag-bubuga ng carbon emissions simula pa noong

ni ROSE NOVENARIO

Industrial Revolution hanggang sa Great Depression.

"It was really booming, smoke here and there, while the Philippines still primitive. They were...booming and they were really flooding the contaminants sa air. Now that they are rich, we are still rural. We have hand-me-down machinery and they tell us to cut our emissions and limit productivity," pahayag ni Duterte, ilang araw makaraan manalong pangulo noong Mayo.

Aniya, hindi makatuwiran ang panawagang ito sa underdeveloped at developing countries tulad ng Filipinas, mula sa rich countries.

"Akala ko ba equal itong mundong ito? Sila ang nasa taas, pinipigilan tayo ngayon. Magkaka-

roon ako ng policy. Ang policy ko, bayaran mo kami. You pay us and then we will comply," git na Duterte sa kanyang press conference sa Davao City noong Mayo 26.

Ang dapat aniyang gawin ng mga mayaya-mang bansa ay tulungan ang Filipinas kaugnay sa epekto ng Climate Change.

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Duterte kinampihan sa basura

Nakahanap ng kakamisa Senado si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa plano nitong imbestigahan ang discretionary funds ng local government units (LGUs) lalo na sa usapin ng basura.

Nanindigan si Sen. Loren Legarda na walang lusot ang LGUs sa hindi pagsunod sa batas ng solid waste management dahil bukod sa mayroon silang discretionary funds, ipinag-uutos din ng batas ang solid waste management.

Ayon kay Legarda, may 15 taon nang umiral ang Ecological Solid Waste Management (EWSM) Law o ang Republic Act 9003. Hangarin ng batas na magkaroon ng malinis na kapaligiran sa pamamagitan ng paggamit ng sistema ng solid waste management mula sa segregation ng basura, "segregated transporta-

tion, processing, treatment and proper disposal of solid waste."

Ineengganyo din ng batas ang recycling upang mabawasan ang basurang itatapon sa sanitary landfill.

Nalulungkot si Legarda na mayorya ng LGUs ay hindi pa makasunod sa probisyon ng RA 9003, partikular sa decentralization ng waste collection, submission of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Plan, paglikha ng local SWM boards, pagtayo ng Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF), pagsasara ng lahat ng open and controlled dumpsites, at ang mandatory waste diversion.

Sa ulat ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), sa katapanan ng 2015, nasa 36 percent lang ng LGUs ang sumunod. (Boyet Jadulco)

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SA KANTO'T SULOK

ni NATS TABOY

NATUMBOK ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang tunay na dahilan ng pagbaha sa mga kalunsuran kapag sumasapit ang tag-ulan. Ito ay ang problema sa basura.

Ayon sa Pangulo, ang pagbara ng mga basura sa daluyan ng tubig patungo sa mga imburnal ang panganahing dahilan kung bakit hindi nawawala ang pagbaha sa mga lungsod.

Direktang tinukoy ng Pangulo na ang pagbaha ay kasalanan mismo ng mga alkalde ng bawat bayan o lungsod na kadalasang binabaha.

Sinabi ng Presidente na ang mga local executive ang dapat lumulutas sa pagbaha at ito'y kayang-kaya nilang gawin subalit kanilang pinatababaan.

"The Philippines is so dirty, the mayors are not doing anything," ang upak ni Duterte.

"There is trash and garbage around and yet we have to wait for the plastic to enter the drainage so everytime there's a downpour, excessive rain, water, there is clogging," aniya pa.

Nadale mo, Mr. President! Aba'y tumpak naman

NADALE MO, PRESIDENT DUTERTE!

talaga ang ating Pangulo.

Kung seseryosohin lang naman talaga ng mga mayor, lalo na sa Metro Manila, ang pag-uutos na maging malinis sa basura ang kanilang nasasakupan ay wala namang pagbaha.

Ang totoo kasi, marating alkalde na ginagawang negosyo iyang mga basura.

May mga mayor na sinasadyang maging makalat sa basura ang kanilang nasasakupan para magkaroon ng malaking kita. Ika nga kasi, may pera sa basura. Mabilis pagkakitaan ang problema rito.

E hindi ba't sila ang may kontrol o 'di naman kaya'y sila ang nagmamay-ari ng mga garbage truck na

nangongolekta ng mga basura na binabayaran mula sa pondo ng lungsod.

At kapag may baha, diyan nila naiisip na magpagaawa o magpataas ng kalye kaya may dahilan na naman sila para kumikbak.

May mga mayor din na sila ang may kontrol sa mga landfill, isang napakalaking negosyo sa basura.

May alam tayo na mga local executive na nagpatayan at nagkasuhan dahil sa landfill.

At natural kapag may baha na nakasalanta ng buhay at mga ari-arian, madding ideklara na nasa "state of calamity" ang isang syudad.

Dahil diyan, pondo na naman ng bayan ang malu-

lustay.

Mabilis para kay mayor na galawin ang anomang pondo ng kanyang lungsod o bayan 'pagkat diskresyon niya ito, sa ngalan ng salitang kalamidad.

Salamat na lang at mayroon tayong Pangulong Duterte na hindi bulag sa mga diskarteng bulok ng mga mayor na ginagawang raket o negosyo ang basura.

Alam niya ito dahil matagal siyang naging mayor ng Davao City na tunay na hahangaan sa kalinisan, kawayusan at disciplina ng mamayahan.

Itanong nga natin sa mga mayor: Saan nga ba napupunta ang pondo ng city hall para sa pagkolekta ng mga basura?