



January 10, 2013

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE INC.
3F Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza
Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue
Makati City

Attention: Ms. Janet A. Encarnacion
Head, Disclosure Department

Dear Ms. Encarnacion;

Please see attached press release disclosing the Company's full year 2012 shipments by volume and value.

Very truly yours,



Emmanuel Samson
Senior Vice President

PRESS RELEASE

NICKEL ASIA 2012 SHIPMENT VOLUME INCREASES BY 12.5%

The total volume of nickel ore sold and delivered from the Company's four operating mines reached 11.7 million wet metric tonnes (WMT) in 2012, an increase of 12.5% compared to the 10.4 million WMT sold and delivered in 2011. This is the highest volume of ore shipments achieved by the group in its history.

The Company's Rio Tuba mine accounted for 48% of total volume shipped during the year. The Rio Tuba mine shipped and delivered 2.3 million WMT of saprolite ore and 3.4 million WMT of limonite ore. The Company's Taganito mine, which is the site of the new HPAL nickel processing plant currently under construction, shipped a total of 1.7 million WMT of saprolite ore and 710 thousand WMT of limonite ore, which combined accounted for 20% of the Company's total volume. The Hinatuan mine shipped a total of 2.6 million WMT of limonite ore, while the Cagdianao mine shipped a total of 290 thousand WMT of saprolite ore and 795 thousand WMT of limonite ore. These two mines accounted for 23% and 9% of the Company's full year shipments, respectively.

Despite an increase in the volume of shipments, the Company's total estimated value of nickel ore shipments fell by 7.4% to P11.2 billion in 2012 from P12.1 billion reported in 2011, mainly due to a lower realized LME nickel price.

The realized LME nickel price applicable to 4.7 million WMT of ore shipped in 2012 was at an average of \$8.10 per pound of payable nickel as against \$10.53 per pound of payable nickel in 2011. The balance of the shipments, which are mainly the low and medium grade variety ore sold to Chinese customers, were sold on the basis of a negotiated price per WMT of ore which averaged

\$24.41 per WMT of ore compared to \$24.47 per WMT of ore in 2011.

For the current year, the Company has to-date executed contracts with various customers for the delivery of 11.7 million WMT of saprolite and limonite ore. This includes 3.2 million WMT of limonite ore to be delivered to the Coral Bay processing plant and another 1.8 million WMT of limonite ore to be delivered to the new Taganito nickel processing plant, which is expected to commence operations during the first half of the year. In 2014, which will be the first full-year of operations of the Taganito nickel processing plant, total ore deliveries to the plant from our Taganito mine is expected to reach 4.5 million WMT.