

December 14, 2020

The Philippine Stock Exchange, Inc.

Disclosure Department 6th Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Tower 28th Street, corner 5th Avenue Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

Attention : Ms. Janet A. Encarnacion

Head, Disclosure Department

Re : <u>COVID-19 Situation in Maco Mine, Davao De Oro</u>

Gentlemen:

We would like to inform the Exchange that as of this writing, sixty-nine (69) employees and contractors of Apex Mining Co., Inc. ("Company") working in Maco Mine, Davao de Oro have been found COVID positive.

On December 4, upon learning that two (2) employees travelling for a home leave tested positive for COVID-19 from swab test conducted in a DOH accredited testing center in Davao City, the Company immediately notified the Local Government of Maco and requested its assistance to conduct contact tracing. Out of the three hundred thirty-eight (338) identified direct contact employees and contractors who are mostly office staffs and surface workers, sixty-two (62) have been found COVID-19 positive based on the RT-PCR test conducted last December 10. The other five (5) positive cases were tested in other testing facilities within the Davao region.

The Mine has been reinforcing all its safety protocols as contained in the Company's COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan. All offices and work areas of the identified COVID-19 patients were temporarily closed and disinfected. The Company's Polyplex Dormitory and Senior Staff House were placed on a lockdown and have been designated as a quarantine house to prevent any further spread of the virus. The Company has temporarily suspended communal eating in the site and all food is being delivered to employees' respective rooms.

At the moment, the Mine's Medical Unit, in coordination with the local government, is conducting a contact tracing for employees who may have a direct contact with the new sixty-seven (67) positive cases in preparation for the second batch of mass testing.



With a part of its work force in quarantine it is expected that the Maco Mine underground operations and mill plant will operate at a reduced capacity. The mine will return to normal capacity only after the minesite is declared Covid-free. Alternative work arrangement for the office employees has been implemented to minimize the disruption of support activities.

We shall update the Exchange for any development related to this matter.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

LUIS R. SARMIENTO President & CEO