

MEDIA RELEASE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU-REGION X

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Underground Mine Workings/tunnels dismantled and padlocked

The technical staff of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau X, legal officers from DENR-CENRO (Initao and Iligan City), personnel from City Environment and Management Office (CEMO) Iligan City, Task Force Kalikasan, Iligan City, Iponan MOA Signatories, personnel from the Environment and Natural Resources Office (ENRO)-Misamis Oriental, Cagayan de Oro City Local Environment and Natural Resources Office (CLENREO), Philippine National Police -10, Regional Public Safety Battalion (RSPB)/ Regional Mobile Force Battalion(RMFB) and 4th Infantry Division Philippine Army closed, dismantled and padlocked three (3) mine workings illegally operating at Sitio Kilablab, Brgy. Mahayahay, Municipality of Manticao, Misamis Oriental adjoining boundary of Barangay Mainit, Iligan City and Sitio Gawgawon, Brgy. Limunda, Opol, Misamis Oriental.

The operation was conducted on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 where the team successfully closed mining facilities of the three underground mine workings/tunnels with one carbon-in-pulp plant operating for gold and other minerals in the said area.

Also recovered during the operation were mineral samples for laboratory testing, and Confiscated equipment consisting of Ball mills, Generator 7.5 KW, Air Compressor 700 RPM, Single Phase Induction Motor, MBP Power belts and Submersible pump 220V Which are now under the custody of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau-X awaiting deliberation.

The Team recommends immediate deliberation of the confiscated equipment by the concerned agencies and the issuance of a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) to completely Stop Illegal Mining Operation consistent with the issued Memorandum Circular No. 2016-03 of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau.