

MEDIA RELEASE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU-REGION X

DENR-X Compound, Macabalan, Cagayan de Oro City

Telefax Nos. (088) 856-2110 & 856-1331; Email:region10@mgb.gov.ph

MGB X Immediately Dispatched Composite Team to Assess Quarry Areas

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau X immediately dispatched a composite team after receipt of the Memorandum letter dated September 21, 2018 ordering suspension of all quarry operations in Region I, III, CALABARZON, V, VII, X, XI, and XIII signed by MGB Director Atty. Wilfredo G. Moncano and as per Order from DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu.

The suspension was in view of the recent landslide incidents in Itogon, Benguet and Naga City, Cebu that resulted to the deaths and missing persons, and damages to properties of communities near mining/quarry operations. The secretary has instructed identified MGB Regional Offices to conduct an immediate safety inspection and Geohazard assessment of the communities near the mining/quarry operations under their area of jurisdiction to prevent similar landslide incidents.

MGB X immediately dispatched a composite team of geologists, mining engineers and MMT Team Leaders from MGB X, technical staff from Holcim Resources and Development Corporation (HRDC), Republic Cement Iligan, Inc. (RCII), Republic Mindanao Cement, Inc. (RCMI) and Maria Cristina Chemicals Inc. (MCCI) to conduct the said safety and Geohazard assessment for a maximum of three (3) days provided, that if the situation requires further detailed assessment, the conduct of safety and Geohazard assessment may be extended only once and for a like period.

The safety and Geohazard assessment is guided by prescribed guidelines set in the Memorandum letter dated September 24, 2018 signed by Atty. Wilfredo G. Moncano.

Printed and electronic copies of the safety and Geohazard Assessment report, together with the aerial photographs shall be submitted by the assessment team to the Regional Director concerned, copy furnished the Central MGB Director.

The result of the said assessment will be the basis for the lifting of the temporary suspension ordered by the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to all quarry operations.