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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SEC FORM 17-C **CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17** OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

1. August 25, 2020 Date of Report

2. SEC Identification No.: 91447 3. BIR Tax Identification No.: 000-190-324-000

4. SEMIRARA MINING AND POWER CORPORATION

Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter

5. **Philippines**

Province, country or other jurisdiction of incorporation

(SEC Use Only) Industry Classification Code:

7. 2/F, DMCI Plaza, 2281 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City

Address of principal office

1231 Postal Code

8. (632) 888-3000/3055 Fax No. (632) 888-3955

Issuer's telephone number, including area code

9. **N.A.**

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of the SRC or Sections 4 and 8 of the RSA Title of Each Class Number of Shares of Common Stock

(Outstanding)

Common Shares

4,250,547,620

11. Indicate the item numbers reported herein: **Item No. 5**.

We refer to the case docketed as "Semirara Mining Corporation vs. Bureau of Internal Revenue, Bureau of Customs & Department of Finance," Civil Case No. 13-1171, RTC Makati, Br. 146 (Declaratory Relief with Injunction). As a background, on May 21, 2013 SMPC was granted a Certificate of Qualification for Tax Exemption under PD 972 by the DOE for its importation of 36,000,000 liters of diesoline. SMPC made 1st partial shipment of 6,16,367 liters. BIR assessed VAT and excise tax on said shipment in the amount of PhP27,341,714.00 which was paid under protest. As a result, SMPC filed a petition for Declaratory Relief with the RTC on October 3, 2013 seeking to enjoin BIR, BOC from implementing BIR RR No. 2-2012 by imposing advance payment of VAT on SMPC's importation of diesel fuel for its own use and consumption. BIR rationalizes its issuance of RR No. 2-2012 for the purpose of curtailing smuggling. While under said regulations payment of VAT is subject to right of refund by SMPC (effectively 0% rated) being exempted from VAT under its COC and PD 972, SMPC contested the application of said regulation as it effectively diminishes its exemption granted by law and impairs the rights under its COC pursuant to the nonimpairment clause of the Constitution.

On October 30, 2013, SMPC secured a 20-day TRO and on November 21, 2013 the court issued a preliminary injunction against the BIR, BOC and DOF in so far as the implementation of said regulation specifically against SMPC. Motions for Reconsideration was filed by defendants which were denied by RTC on February 4, 2014. On February 13, 2014, the RTC resolved to grant SMPC Petition for Declaratory Relief and declared that in view of the tax exemption provided for under PD 972 and the COC, Revenue Regulation No. 2-2012 issued by the respondents is held inapplicable to SMPC 's direct importation of petroleum and petroleum products.

As a result, the DOF and BOC filed a petition for review on certiorari under Rule 45 of the Rules of Court (ROC) with the Supreme Court (G.R. No. 211188) on April 8, 2014 while the BIR on May 13, 2014 filed with the Court of Appeals (CA-G.R. No. 135364) a petition for review under Rule 65 of the ROC with prayer for TRO and/or writ of preliminary injunction. Meanwhile, SMPC filed a petition on September 2, 2015 with the Court of Tax Appeals (CTA Case No. 9133) in view of the denial by the BIR of its claim for tax refund in the amount of Php27,341,714.00 as VAT paid under protest for the shipment of its diesoline importation.

With respect to CTA Case No. 9133, the CTA promulgated on July 27, 2018 its decision granting SMPC's petition and ordering the Commissioner of Internal Revenue (CIR) to refund the amount of Php27,340,714.00. In its Resolution dated January 15, 2019, the CTA denied the CIR's motion for reconsideration. On February 15, 2019, the CIR filed a Petition for Review with the CTA *En Banc* (CTA EB No. 2005).

Today, we received a copy of the CTA *En Banc* Decision promulgated on June 30, 2020, which denied for lack of merit the Petition for Review filed by CIR on February 15, 2019 and affirmed the Decision dated July 27, 2018 and Resolution dated January 15, 2019.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Regulation Code, the issuer has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Issuer : Semirara Mining and Power Corporation

Signature and Title : **JOHN R. SADULLO**

VP-Legal & Corporate Secretary

Date : August 25, 2020