

March 5, 2013

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.

3rd Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Attn.: **Ms. Janet A. Encarnacion**Head, Disclosure Department

Gentlemen:

This is to inform the Exchange that today, March 5, 2013, the Department of Energy (DOE) has given Semirara Mining Corporation the clearance to do preparatory activities at the North Panian area (northside of Pani-an), which we quote as follows:

"After the review/evaluation of the work program for the North Panian area and the additional safety and operational measures/program to be incorporated in the preparatory activities, we give you permission to proceed with the preparatory activities for the North Panian area.

We will regularly monitor the progress of your work and the safety measures being implemented during the preparatory activities.

Please be informed that before actual coal mining activities are commenced, this Office will review the safety and operational measures implemented.

Further, this permit to start preparatory activities for the North Panian area is without prejudice to possible sanctions that may be imposed depending on the results of the on-going investigation on the West Wall rockslide incident and the search and recovery operations should continue."

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

JOHN R. SADULLO

Corporate Information Officer