

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
First Regular Session }

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

P. Senate Resolution No. 143

Introduced by Senator Madrigal

**A RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE GENERAL WELL-BEING OF THE WOMEN, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES INHABITING LUNGSOD SILANGAN, A TOWNSITE RESERVATION ESTABLISHED BY VIRTUE OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 1283 ISSUED ON 18 APRIL 1977, AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 1637, IN LIGHT OF THE QUARRYING OPERATIONS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY HARDROCK AGGREGATES IN THE AFOREMENTIONED LOCALITY**

WHEREAS, in recognition of the State's duty to protect and preserve the general well being of its citizens, especially of its women and children, then President Ferdinand Marcos issued on 18 April 1977, Presidential Proclamation No. 1637, amending Presidential Proclamation No. 1283, thereby establishing Lungsod Silangan, a townsite reservation in the municipality of Antipolo and San Mateo, Province of Rizal;

WHEREAS, in light of the aforementioned Presidential Proclamation, Lungsod Silangan is currently occupied by approximately five hundred thousand (500,000) informal settlers, majority of which, if not all, are families with young children;

WHEREAS, on 17 June 2004, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through then DENR Secretary Elisea G. Gozun, issued Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. 205-2004-IV, authorizing Hardrock Aggregates, Incorporated to develop a 45-hectare basalt and andesite quarry in Sitio 7, Barangay Cupang, Antipolo City, Rizal that would supposedly allot P 58,951,360 for its 3-year work program and P 250,000 per year for environmental programs;

WHEREAS, the said quarrying operations was opposed by the residents therein based on, amongst other grounds, the following:

- The immense adverse effects of the quarrying operations on the environment which could lead to occurrences similar to the Cherry Hill and Ormoc tragedies which led to the deaths of thousands of people due to quarrying operations;

- The adverse effects of the quarrying operations on their livelihood since the land where the operations are being conducted is the land they till and is duly classified by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) as agricultural land;
- The repeated threats, abuses and harassment by the security guards and personnel of the quarrying operator against the person of the residents and their families;
- The construction by the quarrying operator of a fence without a permit and beyond the purported area where they are operating, thus, denying the residents of a right of way going to their respective residences;
- The quarrying operator, Hardrock Aggregates as well as other companies which previously carried on quarrying operations in Lungsod Silangan have been previously subjected to cease and desist orders issued by the DENR in 1993 and 1996;
- The granting of the reopening of the quarrying operations to proceed would effectively displace the farmers in said area who have been tilling the land for more than forty (40) years;


WHEREAS, the said barangay road has been completely closed off by the aforementioned perimeter fence installed by Hardrock Aggregates, Inc., the inhabitants thereof have been forced to go up and down a very steep ravine just to cross the road;

WHEREAS, due to the steepness of the said ravine and the adamantly inhumane policy of the said company to disallow the crossing or passage of the said barangay's inhabitants in order to go to and fro their settlement, it has been reported that a pregnant woman was forced to deliver her baby in the stream at the bottom of the aforementioned ravine due to her inability to climb the same so as to get to the hospital;

WHEREAS, it has likewise been reported that the said ravine has already taken the life of a sick child due to injuries sustained when the child fell down while he was being transported by his parents to the hospital;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, directing the Senate Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the general well-being of the women, children and families inhabiting Lungsod Silangan, a townsite reservation established by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 1283 issued on 18 April 1977, amending Presidential Proclamation No. 1637, in light of the quarrying operations being undertaken by Hardrock Aggregates, Inc., in the aforementioned locality.

Adopted,

  
**M.A. MADRIGAL**