

14

VB

Refer to: Committees on Environmental Protection
and Ecology/Laws and Justice and
Human Rights

noted



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY



Provincial Governor's Office

January 5, 2026

THE HONORABLE MEMBERS
Office of the Provincial Council
This Province

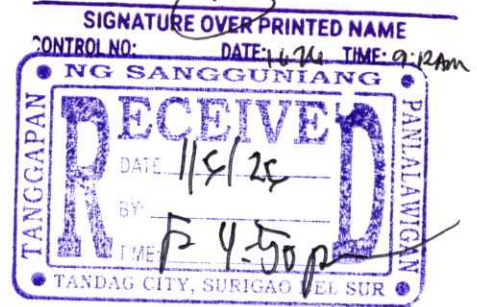
Thru: **HON. MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.**
Vice Governor & Presiding Officer

Sir:

Greetings!

May we request for an **URGENT** passage of a Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution endorsing to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Caraga Region XIII, Butuan City; the attached letter request dated December 19, 2025 of BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION.

RELEASED
PGO-SURIGAO DEL SUR



PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

Office of the Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlalawigan

Tel. No.: 086-2115832
Email: ossp@surigaodelsur.gov.ph

Date: _____

Time: _____

Received by: _____

Truly yours,

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY



BAGONG PILIPINAS

Office of the Governor

SUBJECT: LETTER DATED DECEMBER 19, 2025 REGARDING REQUEST FOR A RESOLUTION OF FAVORABLE ENDORSEMENT AND/OR ENDORSEMENT INTERPOSING NO OBJECTION TO THE NICKEL LATERITE PROJECT OF BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION AS RECOMMENDED BY MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU REGION XIII ON THE GROUDS OF PRIOR RIGHTS

1st Indorsement

January 5, 2026

RELEASED
PGO-SURIGAO DEL SUR

SIGNATURE OVER PRINTED NAME
CONTROL NO: DATE: 1-5-26 TIME: 9:12 AM

Respectfully indorsed to **Atty. Limuel L. Auza, Provincial Legal Officer**, this Province, the herein basic communication from Rolando S. Santos, Chairman, Brightgreen Resources Corporation, for your review, comments, and recommendation, for your appropriate action.

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor
By the Authority of Governor:

MARJORIE V. PAGARAN
ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED
DATE: 1-05-26
TIME: 11:15
BY: *[Signature]*
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR



DATE: December 19, 2025

FOR: Hon. Governor Johnny T. Pimentel
Provincial Governor
Province of Surigao del Sur

RE: Request for a Resolution of Favorable Endorsement and/or Endorsement Interposing No Objection to the Nickel Laterite Project of Brightgreen Resources Corporation as recommended by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau Region XIII on the grounds of Prior Rights



Dear Hon. Governor Pimentel,

Greetings!

We write in connection with the Nickel Laterite Project (the "Project") of **BRIGHTGEEN RESOURCES CORPORATION** ("BRC" or the "Company"). BRC is the holder of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement ("MPSA") No. 015-93-XI, whose mining area, as stated in the MPSA, is located in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan, and Madrid, all in the Province of Surigao del Sur.

We respectfully request your good Office with respect to the reissuance of a new Resolution endorsing BRC's Nickel Laterite Project on the basis of its Prior Rights in the Carac-an Watershed.

As a background, BRC's prior rights stems from Presidential Proclamation No. 391, Series of 1939 dated 13 March 1939, establishes all mineral deposits and mineral lands in the Province of Surigao as mineral land reservation. Further, BRC's MPSA was duly issued before the imposition of stricter protection measures remain valid and enforceable, subject to regulation and environmental safeguards.

In addition, even with the present environmental safeguards, the Carac-an Watershed, recognized as an initial component under the ENIPAS, BRC's Nickel Laterite Project is in an area not classified as a strict protection zone under the Protected Area Management Plan (PAMP). Activities consistent with sustainable development are permissible in controlled-use or multiple-use zones, provided environmental safeguards are observed.

Such environmental safeguards include the securing of Environmental Compliance Certificates ("ECCs") and submitted Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programs, Final Mine Rehabilitation/Decommissioning Plans, and other safeguards mandated by law. These instruments ensure that environmental impacts will be mitigated and rehabilitation measures are put in place.

The requested resolution does not seek to bypass the authority of the Protected Area Management Board; rather, it affirms that projects with prior rights are governed by the permits and ECCs to be issued, and that additional clearance is not legally required. The endorsement is intended to support local development, generate employment, and contribute to national

economic growth, while ensuring strict compliance with environmental laws and Department of Environment and Natural Resources' oversight.

By adopting this Resolution, your good office affirms its support for lawful mining operations that balance ecological protection with socio-economic advancement, consistent with the principles of sustainable development and national policy.

In this regard, we respectfully request your good office with respect to the reissuance of a new Resolution endorsing BRC's Nickel Laterite Project to harmonize with the requirements of Mines and Geosciences Bureau Region XIII. For your convenience, we have attached a sample Resolution complying with the requirement of concerned government agencies as *Annex A*.

We thank you for your prompt and favorable response, and we take this opportunity to assure your most respected office and the Province of Surigao del Sur of our continued support, cooperation, and compliance. Together, we hope and aim to contribute to the economic development and further uplifting of people's lives in the host communities. Should you have any questions or require clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact our AVP for Compliance, Bernard P. Baluda at bernard.baluda@marcventures.com.ph or 0918 919 8284.

Sincerely yours,



ROLANDO S. SANTOS

Chairman, Brightgreen Resources Corporation 

SAMPLE LGU RESOLUTION

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Surigao del Sur

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

RESOLUTION NO. __ S. 202__

**A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE PROPOSED NICKEL LATERITE PROJECT OF
BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION (BRC) WITH PRIOR RIGHTS WITHIN
THE CARAC-AN WATERSHED, SUBJECT TO STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH
ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, Brightgreen Resources Corporation ("BRC") is a domestic corporation and the holder of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement ("MPSA") No. 015-93-XI which covers the mining tenement situated in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan, and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur.

WHEREAS, the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve is also situated in the covered area of BRC's MPSA;

WHEREAS, the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve has been recognized as a vital ecological resource supporting biodiversity, water supply, and community livelihood;

WHEREAS, BRC's nickel laterite project ("Project") within the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve and covered by its MPSA and other tenurial instruments issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR") was prior to the imposition of stricter protection measures;

WHEREAS, under the Mining Act of 1995 (RA 7942) and established jurisprudence, vested rights arising from duly issued mining tenements remain valid and enforceable, subject to regulation and environmental safeguards;

WHEREAS, BRC's Project is seeking the local government unit ("LGU") support and endorsements to secure approval for (i) the Declaration of Mining Project Feasibility, (ii) the Environmental Compliance Certificate, (iii) the Special Land Use Permit, (iv) the Tree Cutting Permit and other required safeguards to ensure environmental protection and sustainable development;

WHEREAS, BRC commits to fully implement, in coordination with the LGU concerned, the Community Development Plan, Social Development and Management Plan, Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program, Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plan, Safety and Health Program and Care and Maintenance Plan;

WHEREAS, BRC's aforementioned environmental safeguards guarantees the preservation and protection of the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve;

WHEREAS, the LGU recognizes the potential of these projects to generate employment, livelihood opportunities, and revenues that will contribute to local and national development, while ensuring compliance with environmental standards;

WHEREAS, BRC is committed to comply with all the requirement and process of the Philippine Government and the LGUs to ensure that the project is technically, financially, socially, environmentally acceptable and can be operated safely.

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion duly seconded, be it:

RESOLVED, that the [LGU/Body] hereby endorses BRC's Project pursuant to its prior rights and notwithstanding its location within the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve, subject to strict compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including environmental safeguards, stakeholder consultations, and DENR monitoring requirements;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this endorsement shall be transmitted to the DENR and other concerned agencies for appropriate action and coordination, without prejudice to the exercise of regulatory authority by competent bodies.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2025 at _____.

Attested by:

S_ Secretary

Approved by:

Chairman

Members

Republika ng Pilipinas
LALAWIGAN NG SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY

Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan
(Office of the Provincial Council)

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 53RD REGULAR SESSION OF THE 20TH SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF SURIGAO DEL SUR HELD AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL, CAPITOL OF THE SOUTH, KAHAYAG, BISLIG CITY, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR ON JULY 25, 2023

PRESENT:

Hon. Manuel O. Alameda, Sr.	- Vice Governor (Presiding Officer)
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Regular Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members:

District I	District II
Hon. Ruel D. Momo	Hon. Conrad C. Cejoco
Hon. Antonio C. Azarcon	Hon. Margarita G. Garay
Hon. Valerio T. Montesclaros, Jr.	Hon. Gines Ricky J. Sayawan, Sr.
Hon. Jose Dumagan Jr.	Hon. Anthony Joseph P. Cañedo
	Hon. Raul K. Salazar

Ex – Officio Members:

Hon. Jimmy I. Guinsod	- Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representative, Surigao del Sur
Hon. Charles P. Arreza	- President, Panlalawigang Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Amado M. Layno, Jr.	- Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Hon. John Paul C. Pimentel	- President, Philippine Councilors' League, Surigao del Sur Chapter
Hon. Melanie Joy M. Guno	- President, Provincial Chapter of the Liga ng mga Barangay sa Pilipinas

ABSENT:

None

RESOLUTION NO. 1034-23
(Series of 2023)

A RESOLUTION INDORSING TO THE MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU (MGB) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), CARAGA REGION XIII, BUTUAN CITY AND INTERPOSING NO OBJECTION TO THE APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED NICKEL LATERITE PROJECT OF BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION (BRC) IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CARRASCAL, CANTILAN AND MADRID, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

AUTHOR:

HON. JOSE DUMAGAN, JR.

WHEREAS, a Letter dated May 10, 2023 addressed to the Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel, Provincial Governor from Engr. Eduardo M. Francisco, President and General Mine Operations Head, BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) requested for the indorsement of the proposed Nickel Laterite Project within the Municipalities of Cantilan, Carrascal and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur;

WHEREAS, BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) is a Filipino Corporation and a holder of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. 015-93-XIII covering the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan and Madrid, Surigao del Sur. BRC commits to fully implement in coordination with the Local Government Units (LGUs) concerned the Community Development Plan (CDP), Social Development and Management Plan (SDMP), Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program (EPEP), Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plan (FMR/DP), Safety and Health Program (SHP) and Care and Maintenance Plan (CMP);

WHEREAS, Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel, Provincial Governor, in his letter dated May 11, 2023 to the Honorable Members thru Hon. Manuel O. Alameda, Sr., Vice Governor, this Province forwarded the above-mentioned Letter for legislative intervention;

WHEREAS, during the Committee Hearing of the Committee on Environmental Protection and Ecology on June 7, 2023 which was conducted to aid the August Body for a favorable indorsement, the same was attended by not only the representatives of different Barangays of the LGUs concerned but also, by the representatives of different Civil Society Organizations and Religious Leader, Bishop of the Diocese of Tandag, Most Reverend Raul B. Dael who opposed for the indorsement of the same since some of the areas that will be covered by the project are allegedly part of critical watershed/protected areas pursuant to Section 19 and Section 49 of Republic Act No. 7942 and Presidential Proclamation No. 1747 which identified a total of 43,601 hectares in Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Norte as critical watershed forest reserves;

WHEREAS, furthermore, during the 53rd Regular Session of the 20th Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Hon. Jose Dumagan, Jr., Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan expressed that it is imperative to favorably indorse to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and to interpose no objection to the application of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) the proposed Nickel Laterite Project of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur subject to the following conditions:

1. the Resolution of Indorsement, should ever be granted, shall only be applied to the application of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) and shall not be assigned to another mining corporation;
2. the favorable Indorsement has only a life span of until the life span extension of MPSA 15-93-11;
3. that mining operations of BRC will be limited to the areas that are not covered by Presidential Proclamation No. 1747 and other prevalent laws defining watersheds as well as the pertinent provisions of the terms and conditions of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement No. 015-93-XI;
4. all the endangered species that may be found within the area should be protected and damaged areas be rehabilitated and it should provided in the Development Plan of BRC;

5. the following documents as required by Hon. Gines Ricky J. Sayawan, Sr. should be submitted to the Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan (TSP) before the release of the Resolution of Indorsement, viz:
 1. clearly defined corporate social responsibility especially on the health problem issues and;
 2. Environmental Protection Plan; and
6. that BRC shall undertake the required steps to obtain the clearance from the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) recognizing its location within Carac-an Watershed Area and BRC's prior rights as MPSA Holder.

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing and on motion of Hon. Jose Dumagan, Jr. and unanimously seconded by all the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members present;

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao del Sur to indorse to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), CARAGA Region XIII, Butuan City and interposing No Objection to the application of the proposed Nickel Laterite Project of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur.

RESOLVED FINALLY: To furnish copies of this Resolution to to Engr. Larry M. Heradez, Regional Director, DENR - Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Regional Office No. XIII, Km. 2, National Highway, Surigao City and to Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel, Provincial Governor, this Province, for their information and appropriate action and to Engr. Eduardo M. Francisco, President and General Mine Operations Head, BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC), 4th Floor CitiBank Center, 8471 Paseo de Roxas St., Makati City and to Mr. Nonito M. Tamayo, CESO III, Regional Executive Division, all of DENR CARAGA Regional Office, Brgy. Ambago, Butuan City, for their information and guidance.

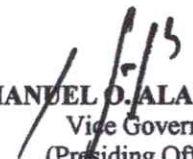
ADOPTED this 25th day of July, 2023 at the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao del Sur by unanimous votes of all Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members present.

X-----X

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Resolution.


MARITES COMA ARREZA
Acting Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED
TO BE DULY ADOPTED:**


MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.
Vice Governor
(Presiding Officer)



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

Office of the Provincial Vice Governor



1st Endorsement
January 6, 2026



Respectfully forwarded to Mr. Edgar G. Perez II, JD., Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, a request for the urgent passage of a Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution dated December 19, 2025 to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of Bright Green Resources Corporation.

Attached is a copy of the letter request for your perusal.

For your information and appropriate action.


MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.
Vice Governor
Presiding Officer
21st Sangguniang Panlalawigan



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY



Provincial Governor's Office

January 5, 2026

THE HONORABLE MEMBERS
Office of the Provincial Council
This Province

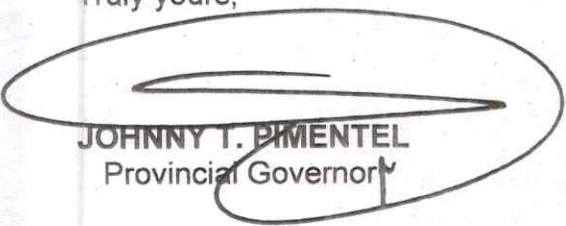
Thru: **HON. MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.**
Vice Governor & Presiding Officer

Sir:

Greetings!

May we request for an URGENT passage of a Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution endorsing to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Caraga Region XIII, Butuan City; the attached letter request dated December 19, 2025 of BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION.

Truly yours,


JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor

RELEASED
PGO-SURIGAO DEL SUR

SIGNATURE OVER PRINTED NAME
CONTROL NO: DATE: 1-6-26 TIME: 9:12 AM

VICE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

(RECEIVED)
DATE: 01/06/26 TIME: 4:47 PM



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY



BAGONG PILIPINAS

Office of the Governor

SUBJECT: LETTER DATED DECEMBER 19, 2025 REGARDING REQUEST FOR A RESOLUTION OF FAVORABLE ENDORSEMENT AND/OR ENDORSEMENT INTERPOSING NO OBJECTION TO THE NICKEL LATERITE PROJECT OF BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION AS RECOMMENDED BY MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU REGION XIII ON THE GROUNDS OF PRIOR RIGHTS

1st Indorsement

January 5, 2026

RELEASED
PRO-GO-SURIGAO DEL SUR

SIGNATURE OVER PRINTED NAME
CONTROL NO: DATE: 1-5-26 TIME: 9:12AM

Respectfully indorsed to **Atty. Limuel L. Auza, Provincial Legal Officer**, this Province, the herein basic communication from Rolando S. Santos, Chairman, Brightgreen Resources Corporation, for your review, comments, and recommendation, for your appropriate action.

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL

Provincial Governor

By the Authority of Governor:

MARJORIE V. PAGARAN
ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED
DATE: 1-05-26
TIME: 11:15
BY: *[Signature]*
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR



DATE: December 19, 2025

FOR: Hon. Governor Johnny T. Pimentel
Provincial Governor
Province of Surigao del Sur



RE: Request for a Resolution of Favorable Endorsement and/or
Endorsement Interposing No Objection to the Nickel Laterite
Project of Brightgreen Resources Corporation as
recommended by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau Region
XIII on the grounds of Prior Rights

Dear Hon. Governor Pimentel,

Greetings!

We write in connection with the Nickel Laterite Project (the "Project") of **BRIGHTGEEN RESOURCES CORPORATION** ("BRC" or the "Company"). BRC is the holder of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement ("MPSA") No. 015-93-XI, whose mining area, as stated in the MPSA, is located in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan, and Madrid, all in the Province of Surigao del Sur.

We respectfully request your good Office with respect to the reissuance of a new Resolution endorsing BRC's Nickel Laterite Project on the basis of its Prior Rights in the Carac-an Watershed.

As a background, BRC's prior rights stems from Presidential Proclamation No. 391, Series of 1939 dated 13 March 1939, establishes all mineral deposits and mineral lands in the Province of Surigao as mineral land reservation. Further, BRC's MPSA was duly issued before the imposition of stricter protection measures remain valid and enforceable, subject to regulation and environmental safeguards.

In addition, even with the present environmental safeguards, the Carac-an Watershed, recognized as an initial component under the ENIPAS, BRC's Nickel Laterite Project is in an area not classified as a strict protection zone under the Protected Area Management Plan (PAMP). Activities consistent with sustainable development are permissible in controlled-use or multiple-use zones, provided environmental safeguards are observed.

Such environmental safeguards include the securing of Environmental Compliance Certificates ("ECCs") and submitted Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programs, Final Mine Rehabilitation/Decommissioning Plans, and other safeguards mandated by law. These instruments ensure that environmental impacts will be mitigated and rehabilitation measures are put in place.

The requested resolution does not seek to bypass the authority of the Protected Area Management Board; rather, it affirms that projects with prior rights are governed by the permits and ECCs to be issued, and that additional clearance is not legally required. The endorsement is intended to support local development, generate employment, and contribute to national

economic growth, while ensuring strict compliance with environmental laws and Department of Environment and Natural Resources' oversight.

By adopting this Resolution, your good office affirms its support for lawful mining operations that balance ecological protection with socio-economic advancement, consistent with the principles of sustainable development and national policy.

In this regard, we respectfully request your good office with respect to the reissuance of a new Resolution endorsing BRC's Nickel Laterite Project to harmonize with the requirements of Mines and Geosciences Bureau Region XIII. For your convenience, we have attached a sample Resolution complying with the requirement of concerned government agencies as *Annex A*.

We thank you for your prompt and favorable response, and we take this opportunity to assure your most respected office and the Province of Surigao del Sur of our continued support, cooperation, and compliance. Together, we hope and aim to contribute to the economic development and further uplifting of people's lives in the host communities. Should you have any questions or require clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact our AVP for Compliance, Bernard P. Baluda at bernard.baluda@marcventures.com.ph or 0918 919 8284.

Sincerely yours,



ROLANDO S. SANTOS

Chairman, Brightgreen Resources Corporation



SAMPLE LGU RESOLUTION

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Surigao del Sur

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

RESOLUTION NO. __ S. 202__

**A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE PROPOSED NICKEL LATERITE PROJECT OF
BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION (BRC) WITH PRIOR RIGHTS WITHIN
THE CARAC-AN WATERSHED, SUBJECT TO STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH
ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, Brightgreen Resources Corporation ("BRC") is a domestic corporation and the holder of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement ("MPSA") No. 015-93-XI which covers the mining tenement situated in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan, and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur.

WHEREAS, the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve is also situated in the covered area of BRC's MPSA;

WHEREAS, the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve has been recognized as a vital ecological resource supporting biodiversity, water supply, and community livelihood;

WHEREAS, BRC's nickel laterite project ("Project") within the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve and covered by its MPSA and other tenurial instruments issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR") was prior to the imposition of stricter protection measures;

WHEREAS, under the Mining Act of 1995 (RA 7942) and established jurisprudence, vested rights arising from duly issued mining tenements remain valid and enforceable, subject to regulation and environmental safeguards;

WHEREAS, BRC's Project is seeking the local government unit ("LGU") support and endorsements to secure approval for (i) the Declaration of Mining Project Feasibility, (ii) the Environmental Compliance Certificate, (iii) the Special Land Use Permit, (iv) the Tree Cutting Permit and other required safeguards to ensure environmental protection and sustainable development;

WHEREAS, BRC commits to fully implement, in coordination with the LGU concerned, the Community Development Plan, Social Development and Management Plan, Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program, Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plan, Safety and Health Program and Care and Maintenance Plan;

WHEREAS, BRC's aforementioned environmental safeguards guarantees the preservation and protection of the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve;

WHEREAS, the LGU recognizes the potential of these projects to generate employment, livelihood opportunities, and revenues that will contribute to local and national development, while ensuring compliance with environmental standards;

WHEREAS, BRC is committed to comply with all the requirement and process of the Philippine Government and the LGUs to ensure that the project is technically, financially, socially, environmentally acceptable and can be operated safely.

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion duly seconded, be it:

RESOLVED, that the [LGU/Body] hereby endorses BRC's Project pursuant to its prior rights and notwithstanding its location within the Carac-an Watershed Forest Reserve, subject to strict compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including environmental safeguards, stakeholder consultations, and DENR monitoring requirements;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this endorsement shall be transmitted to the DENR and other concerned agencies for appropriate action and coordination, without prejudice to the exercise of regulatory authority by competent bodies.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2025 at _____.

Attested by:

S_ Secretary

Approved by:

Chairman

Members

**Republika ng Pilipinas
LALAWIGAN NG SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY**

**Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan
(Office of the Provincial Council)**

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 53RD REGULAR SESSION OF THE 20TH
SANGGUNIAN PANLALAWIGAN OF SURIGAO DEL SUR HELD AT THE
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL, CAPITOL OF THE SOUTH, KAHAYAG,
BISLIG CITY, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR ON JULY 25, 2023**

PRESENT:

Hon. Manuel O. Alameda, Sr.	- Vice Governor (Presiding Officer)
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Regular Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members:

District I

Hon. Ruel D. Momo
Hon. Antonio C. Azarcon
Hon. Valerio T. Montesclaros, Jr.
Hon. Jose Dumagan Jr.

District II

Hon. Conrad C. Cejoco
Hon. Margarita G. Garay
Hon. Gines Ricky J. Sayawan, Sr.
Hon. Anthony Joseph P. Cañedo
Hon. Raul K. Salazar

Ex – Officio Members:

Hon. Jimmy I. Guinsod	- Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representative, Surigao del Sur
Hon. Charles P. Arreza	- President, Panlalawigang Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Amado M. Layno, Jr.	- Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Hon. John Paul C. Pimentel	- President, Philippine Councilors' League, Surigao del Sur Chapter
Hon. Melanie Joy M. Guno	- President, Provincial Chapter of the Liga ng mga Barangay sa Pilipinas

ABSENT:

None

**RESOLUTION NO. 1034-23
(Series of 2023)**

**A RESOLUTION INDORSING TO THE MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU (MGB)
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR),
CARAGA REGION XIII, BUTUAN CITY AND INTERPOSING NO OBJECTION TO
THE APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED NICKEL LATERITE PROJECT OF
BRIGHTGREEN RESOURCES CORPORATION (BRC) IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF
CARRASCAL, CANTILAN AND MADRID, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR**

AUTHOR:

HON. JOSE DUMAGAN, JR.

WHEREAS, a Letter dated May 10, 2023 addressed to the Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel, Provincial Governor from Engr. Eduardo M. Francisco, President and General Mine Operations Head, BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) requested for the indorsement of the proposed Nickel Laterite Project within the Municipalities of Cantilan, Carrascal and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur;

WHEREAS, BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) is a Filipino Corporation and a holder of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. 015-93-XIII covering the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan and Madrid, Surigao del Sur. BRC commits to fully implement in coordination with the Local Government Units (LGUs) concerned the Community Development Plan (CDP), Social Development and Management Plan (SDMP), Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program (EPEP), Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plan (FMR/DP), Safety and Health Program (SHP) and Care and Maintenance Plan (CMP);

WHEREAS, Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel, Provincial Governor, in his letter dated May 11, 2023 to the Honorable Members thru Hon. Manuel O. Alameda, Sr., Vice Governor, this Province forwarded the above-mentioned Letter for legislative intervention;

WHEREAS, during the Committee Hearing of the Committee on Environmental Protection and Ecology on June 7, 2023 which was conducted to aid the August Body for a favorable indorsement, the same was attended by not only the representatives of different Barangays of the LGUs concerned but also, by the representatives of different Civil Society Organizations and Religious Leader, Bishop of the Diocese of Tandag, Most Reverend Raul B. Dael who opposed for the indorsement of the same since some of the areas that will be covered by the project are allegedly part of critical watershed/protected areas pursuant to Section 19 and Section 49 of Republic Act No. 7942 and Presidential Proclamation No. 1747 which identified a total of 43,601 hectares in Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Norte as critical watershed forest reserves;

WHEREAS, furthermore, during the 53rd Regular Session of the 20th Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Hon. Jose Dumagan, Jr., Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan expressed that it is imperative to favorably indorse to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and to interpose no objection to the application of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) the proposed Nickel Laterite Project of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur subject to the following conditions:

1. the Resolution of Indorsement, should ever be granted, shall only be applied to the application of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) and shall not be assigned to another mining corporation;
2. the favorable Indorsement has only a life span of until the life span extension of MPSA 15-93-11;
3. that mining operations of BRC will be limited to the areas that are not covered by Presidential Proclamation No. 1747 and other prevalent laws defining watersheds as well as the pertinent provisions of the terms and conditions of Mineral Production Sharing Agreement No. 015-93-XI;
4. all the endangered species that may be found within the area should be protected and damaged areas be rehabilitated and it should provided in the Development Plan of BRC;

5. the following documents as required by Hon. Gines Ricky J. Sayawan, Sr. should be submitted to the Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan (TSP) before the release of the Resolution of Indorsement, viz:

1. clearly defined corporate social responsibility especially on the health problem issues and;
2. Environmental Protection Plan; and

6. that BRC shall undertake the required steps to obtain the clearance from the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) recognizing its location within Carac-an Watershed Area and BRC's prior rights as MPSA Holder.

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing and on motion of Hon. Jose Dumagan, Jr. and unanimously seconded by all the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members present;

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao del Sur to indorse to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), CARAGA Region XIII, Butuan City and interposing No Objection to the application of the proposed Nickel Laterite Project of BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC) in the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan and Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur.

RESOLVED FINALLY: To furnish copies of this Resolution to to Engr. Larry M. Heradez, Regional Director, DENR - Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Regional Office No. XIII, Km. 2, National Highway, Surigao City and to Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel, Provincial Governor, this Province, for their information and appropriate action and to Engr. Eduardo M. Francisco, President and General Mine Operations Head, BrightGreen Resources Corporation (BRC), 4th Floor CitiBank Center, 8471 Paseo de Roxas St., Makati City and to Mr. Nonito M. Tamayo, CESO III, Regional Executive Division, all of DENR CARAGA Regional Office, Brgy. Ambago, Butuan City, for their information and guidance.

ADOPTED this 25th day of July, 2023 at the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao del Sur by unanimous votes of all Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members present.

X-----X

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Resolution.


MARITES COMA ARREZA

Acting Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED
TO BE DULY ADOPTED:**


MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.
Vice Governor
(Presiding Officer)