



Legal Watch

DTI: B2GOLD EXPANDS PH FOOTPRINT, CREATING UP TO 2,000 NEW JOBS



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SUMMARY

Canadian mining company B2Gold Corporation plans to invest approximately Php 850 million to expand its operations in the Philippines. The proposed infusion includes Php 400 million for mineral exploration in Surigao and other prospective areas in Mindanao, and Php 450 million to double the capacity of the Masbate Gold Project's solar power facility from 10 megawatts to 20 megawatts, with battery storage.

The expansion is intended to extend the operational life of the Masbate Gold Project and preserve around 2,000 existing jobs. It is foreseen that the establishment of a new mine site could create an additional 1,000 to 2,000 jobs. B2Gold has already invested approximately USD 1.1 billion in the Philippines through the Masbate project, which produces around 200,000 ounces of gold annually.

The government cited the Enhanced Fiscal Regime for Large-Scale Metallic Mining Act and the CREATE MORE Act as measures supporting responsible mining and renewable energy investments. The project also aligns with government policies promoting environmental protection, community development, and cleaner mining operations.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Mining companies, investors, contractors, and energy providers should monitor opportunities arising from B2Gold's exploration and renewable energy projects. Prospective participants should review mining permits, environmental compliance certificates, indigenous peoples' rights, local government approvals, land access, community development obligations, and occupational safety requirements.

Companies should also assess available fiscal incentives for qualified mining and self-use renewable energy projects and ensure that supply, construction, employment, and community agreements clearly allocate regulatory, environmental, and operational risks.

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