



Resource Development (Phils.) Inc.

F E A T U R E S T O R Y

Responsible Mining Convinces Academe, Wins Advocates



A green awakening. Members of the academe visit one of TVIRD's nurseries located in the company's Canatuan mine site. So far, the department had planted over 360,000 trees around the MPSA area, which is over 5 times the number trees affected by the mining operations of the company. The mine tours is part of TVIRD's Open Door Policy for various sectors to witness the actual operations of the company and its social and environmental programs.

Canatuan, Zamboanga de Norte / February 2013 – Public school teachers and local government workers in the adjacent Kabasalan and Diplahan towns that comprise Sibugay province are convinced by responsible mineral development practices during a recent mine tour the TVI Resource Development Philippines Inc. (TVIRD) mine site in Canatuan, Zamboanga del Norte. The company's concept and practice of Responsible Mining provided an eye-opener for the tour participants as it showcased its copper-zinc operations as well as environmental protection and management practices.

"False beliefs about large-scale mining made me an anti-mining advocate. And now I realize that there is no truth that large-scale mining operations are destructive to the environment. Instead, it is the illegal miners that destroy the environment by not providing proper waste disposal," said Claudette Sadmon, a teacher of Diplahan National High School (DNHS), during the exit conference at the end of the one-day tour.

World-class tailings dam, environmental initiatives

Sadmon and her group set foot at the crest of the enormous mines tailings impoundment dam, which took the company five years and nearly Php1.0 billion to build in order to prevent harmful wastes from contaminating the vast rice lands of Siocon below. It is designed and built to withstand a tremendous amount of rainfall and seismic activity to safeguard the environment.

The group was also escorted to the reforestation area where the company planted and grew more than 360 thousand trees since its pre-operation period - replacing over five (5) times the number of trees affected by its mining operations.

Sadmon was one of 15 Diplahan government teachers who came along with Local Government officials of Kabasalan in the one-day mine tour.

Diplahan and Kabasalan are located next to the town of Bayog, Zamboanga del Sur where the company's Balabag gold-silver project is located. TVIRD's mining operations will mirror the Canatuan project, the management assured the visitors. The company is set to commence its operations once it has the go-signal from the government through the issuance of an Environment Compliance Certificate (ECC).

Transparency convinces critics

"To see is to believe," said Miladel Capitania, agriculture technician from the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist. She expressed her gratitude to the company in opening its doors to other critics to see the truth about the practices of responsible mining.

Capitania also works for a church-backed Non-Government Organization and was also popularly known in the community as an anti-large scale mining advocate.

"We have seen with our own eyes how a mining company like TVIRD operates responsibly in the process of doing their business," the participants concluded. "We can't wait for them to operate in Bayog where we can also benefit as the neighboring town," Capitania added.

Through its open-door policy, the company has regularly held mine tours in its mine site facilities for interested groups who wish to see its operations. Every tour is capped with an exit conference and debriefing where the visitors meet the management team and have the chance to ask questions, give suggestions or give comments on what they have seen.

Press photos:



- 1 **Caring for the Subanons.** A partnership between TVIRD and Gawad Kalinga formalized a project to build 100 houses for Subanons in Tanuman Village. The beneficiaries themselves built

the houses in the spirit of Bayanihan – a key formula of Gawad Kalinga in building sustainable communities – and are set to finish the first 40 come summertime this year.



- 2 Straight from the mill.** Mill Operations Supervisor Engr. Henry Tamala, explains to guests how copper and zinc concentrates are produced. TVIRD does not use the harmful chemical cyanide in processing its minerals.

About TVI

TVI Resource Development (Phils.) Inc., is the Philippine affiliate of TVI Pacific Inc. (TSX: TVI), a publicly-listed Canadian mining company focused on the exploration and production of precious and base metals from district scale large system, high margin projects located in the Philippines.

We are committed to exploration and mining practices that promote transparency, responsible stewardship of the environment, and the inalienable rights to life, dignity, and sustainable development of our host communities.

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