



April 11, 2014

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.  
3F Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza  
Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue  
Makati City

Attention: Ms. Janet A. Encarnacion  
Head, Disclosure Department

Dear Ms. Encarnacion;

Please see attached press release disclosing information regarding the Company's shipments by volume and value for the 3-month period ending March 31, 2014.

Very truly yours,



Emmanuel L. Samson  
SVP & Chief Financial Officer

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Nickel Asia's Shipment Volume Increases by 52% in Q1'14**

Manila, April 11, 2014 - Nickel Asia Corporation (PSE:NIKL; NAC) sold an aggregate 2.65 million wet metric tonnes (WMT) of nickel ore in the first three months ending March 31, 2014, as compared to 1.74 million WMT in the same period last year, or an increase of 52%.

The total estimated value of the Company's shipments in the first quarter of 2014 likewise increased to P1.45 billion, 21% higher than the P1.20 billion reported in the comparable period last year. Higher revenues were achieved despite lower prices when compared to the same period last year. It will be recalled that last year nickel prices were at fairly high levels during the early part, and started to trend downwards towards the second half of 2013. Thus, the estimated realized nickel price applicable to 2.0 million WMT of ore shipped in the first quarter, which were benchmarked against LME prices, averaged \$6.59 per pound of payable nickel as against \$7.82 per pound in the comparable period last year.

This shipment volume represents ore sales of high grade saprolite to Japan and of limonite to the Coral Bay and Taganito processing plants. Due to the Indonesia ore ban, current prices of similar saprolite ore to China have risen significantly. As a result, despite our long-term sales contracts to our Japanese buyers with pricing linked to the LME, pricing of saprolite ore sales to Japan will, in the interim, be benchmarked against China prices effective April 2014.

The balance of the Company's ore shipments for the quarter of 650 thousand WMT, consisting of medium grade saprolite and low-nickel, high iron limonite, were sold on the basis of negotiated prices per WMT of ore, which averaged \$19.93 per WMT of ore compared to \$22.21 per WMT of ore in the same period last year.

As in previous years, our lowest shipment volumes occur in the first quarter of the year as operations at the Company's Taganaan and Cagdianao mines typically do not commence until the second quarter, following the rainy season in the southern part of the country. For this first quarter, the Company's Rio Tuba mine shipped and delivered 474 thousand WMT of saprolite ore and 1 million WMT of limonite ore, of which, 871 thousand WMT were limonite deliveries to the Coral Bay processing plant. The Taganito mine shipped and delivered a total of 202 thousand WMT of saprolite ore and 931 thousand WMT of limonite ore, the latter to the new Taganito plant that is now on its first year of commercial operations.

"Our first quarter shipment volumes increased substantially as we begin to realize the effects of the commercial operations of the new Taganito processing plant. Our Taganito mine is scheduled to deliver over 4 million WMT of limonite ore to the plant this year", said Gerard Brimo, President and CEO of NAC. "We are also looking forward to much improved ore prices for our various products, in time for our peak shipment season starting in the second quarter of this year", Mr. Brimo added.