



**ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE: 16 October 2012**

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**PERMITTING PROCESS TO RE-COMMENCE  
FOR EXPA-000037-XIII**

The Directors of Sierra Mining Limited (“Sierra”) are pleased to advise that on 15 October 2012 its Filipino associate company, Bunawan Mining Corporation (“BMC”), was notified that the National Commission of Indigenous Peoples (“NCIP”) has passed resolution No. CEB 072-2012 allowing BMC to recommence the permitting process in relation to Exploration Permit Application EXPA 000037-XIII.

As set out in the Company’s ASX announcement of 17 June 2009, EXPA 000037-XIII was denied by the Mines and Geoscience Bureau based upon a Certification of Non-Consent issued by the NCIP, which was in turn based upon the purported failure of BMC to secure the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) of the relevant indigenous cultural communities within the relevant ancestral domains.

Subsequently BMC has secured Resolutions of Support and Memoranda of Agreement with the representatives of the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADT’s) the subject of BMC’s EXPA, namely BTCDBI and CAMMPACAMM. See the ASX announcements dated 12 April and 18 June 2012 for details of the agreements reached with BTCDBI and CAMMPACAMM.

BTCDBI and CAMMPACAMM then requested that the NCIP allow and supervise the completion of the Field Based Investigation required to determine Free and Prior Informed Consent in relation to the EXPA. The NCIP has now resolved accordingly.

This outcome is a reflection of the very co-operative relationship the company has established with BTCDBI and CAMMPACAMM. Public meetings to validate the Memoranda of Agreement signed with BTCDBI and CAMMPACAMM were held in August 2012 under the supervision of the NCIP and over 6,500 local tribal members gave their unanimous support.

Managing Director, Matt Syme, said *“This is a very important step forward in us completing the permitting process for EXPA 000037-XIII and we are very pleased with the support and co-operation we have received from the Ancestral Domain Titleholders. We look forward to working with the indigenous communities and the other stakeholders to complete the permitting process and explore this outstanding prospect as soon as possible. Our Bunawan Project is one of the most exciting gold exploration projects in the Philippines, given its proximity to the world class Co-O mine and the geological setting, particularly on EXPA 000037-XIII”*

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