

05 May 2011

Ms. Janet A. Encarnacion

Head, Disclosure Department Philippine Stock Exchange 3rd Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza Ayala Triangle Plaza Ayala Ave., Makati City

Dear Ms. Encarnacion:

We would to submit the enclosed press statement issued by our Company in response to the news report released at about 11:58AM this morning entitled, "Customs files P5-B smuggling complaint vs Phoenix" with GMA News online, and "P5-B smuggling rap filed vs Phoenix Petroleum" with ABS-CBN news.com.

We hope to clarify this matter and clear our name as soonest possible time.

Thank you

Very truly yours,

Atty. Socorro Ermac Cabreros

Corporate Secretary

May 5, 2011



Phoenix Petroleum denies charges of smuggling, nonpayment of taxes

Phoenix Petroleum Philippines expresses surprise with the news reports that the Bureau of Customs has allegedly filed charges against the company.

It is inappropriate to respond at this time as the company has yet to officially receive a copy of the charges.

The company strongly denies any allegation of non-payment of excise taxes and/or non-submission of importation documents.

The company has been paying taxes religiously and its records will clearly belie these unfounded accusations against it. As a matter of fact, the company is among the top taxpayers in Davao City, where it is based.

The company believes that the BOC should exercise caution and fairness especially if the accusation is damaging to the taxpayer. In this case, there was no such process taken, making the filing of the complaint highly unjust, arbitrary and oppressive. It unfairly damages all the hard and honest work that the company has exerted in building its name.

The company does not take this accusation lightly and is currently consulting legal counsel on all possible courses of actions.

Reference:

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