



FROM THE OFFICE OF PARLIAMENT
HON. ALHAJI YUSIF SULEMANA
MP FOR BOLE – BAMBOI CONSITUENCY



28/06/2024

For immediate release

**RE: RE: BOLE MP ACCUSES LANDS MINISTER OF UNILATERALLY GRANTING
CONCESSIONS TO FOREIGNERS**

1. My attention has been drawn to a Press Statement issued by the Minerals Commission (the Commission) as a response to interviews I granted in the week ending 21st June 2024.
 2. In my interview, I raised three main issues that the Commission has addressed:
 - i. The number of licenses issued to large-scale miners by the current Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.
 - ii. The lack of or inadequate stakeholder engagement before the issuance of licenses in the area.
 - iii. The brutalization of some youth when the military was dispatched to protect Chinese individuals supposedly prospecting in the area.
 3. The Commission, in their response, confirms that the Minister has issued seven (7) prospecting licenses in the Bole area since taking office. These include:
 - i. Three (3) prospecting licenses granted to Ghana Manganese Company Limited in January 2024 for locations in Bole, Ntereso and Seripe (*see number 2 of the Commission's response*).
 - ii. Two (2) prospecting licenses granted to Tradex Global Limited in December 2023 for locations in Buanfo and Borda (*see number 3 of the Commission's response*).
 - iii. One (1) prospecting license granted to P. Charn Ghana Limited in March, 2024 for a location in Wakawaka (*see number 4 of the Commission's response*).
 - iv. One (1) prospecting license granted to JH Resources Exploration Ghana Company Limited in January, 2023 (*see number 5 of the Commission's response*).
 4. In addition to the above, the Commission also recently issued notices in respect of a number of companies including **QX 10 Resources Limited** and **PRP Company Limited**.
 5. Regarding stakeholder engagement before the issuance of these licenses, the Commission asserts that there were adequate engagements. I ask the following:
 - i. Did they adequately consult the Bolewura, who is the Paramount Chief of most of these areas? If so, why did the Bolewura:
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- recently summon a meeting of key stakeholders, including the Assembly, sub-chiefs, and myself, to discuss the wanton apportioning of lands and issuance of licenses for mineral-related activities without adequate consultation?
 - write multiple times to the District Chief Executive and the Commission on 23rd September 2022, 2nd April 2024, and 18th April 2024, requesting a meeting between the Traditional Authority, the Commission, and the various beneficiary companies?
- ii. When the Gbenfuwura wrote to the Commission in response to their letter numbered MCWA/SF/G.24(59) of March 25, 2024, did the Commission provide the guidance he requested?
6. Concerning the involvement of foreigners, I do not recall stating during my interview that "*these lands have been granted to only foreigners*" as mentioned in the Commission's response. What I said was, "*they were brutalized because some ministers have asked the military to go and protect the Chinese who are doing whatever they call it.*" This statement is accurate. The area where the youth were brutalized has Chinese operators. If the Commission contends that these operators are there illegally, I call on them and the security agencies to immediately pursue and arrest them.
7. In conclusion, my interest is not to indict my younger brother, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, nor to engage the Commission in back-and-forth banter. My priority is the preservation of peace and tranquillity in my area. I also seek to encourage meaningful engagement with stakeholders to ensure we fully benefit from our mineral deposits while minimising the potential negatives associated with mining.
8. I am pleased that the Commission has initiated engagements with the chiefs and people of the area over the past few days. However, I must state for the record that, without comprehensive and productive engagements, the incoming NDC government will revoke all these licenses. End.

....Signed....

ALHAJI YUSIF SULEMANA (MP)
Ranking, Committee on Trade, Industry and Tourism
Member, Public Accounts Committee
Chair, Savannah Regional Parliamentary Caucus
