

Pará – People's Government

Partnership between Government and Mining Company foretells the opening of 3 thousand job positions.

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Communications Secretariat

Leaders of the Manganese Mining Company Mineração Buritirama S/A, located in the Southwest of Pará State, presented, in a hearing taking place in the Palácio dos Despachos with the Governor Ana Julia Carepa on Wednesday, Jan/20th, a project that involves a partnership between the Mining Company and State Government to reduce Manganese exploitation and exportation costs, as well as promote the opening of new job positions.

“With the closing of the partnership with the State Government, we’ll have some movement in the cities around the company, what may open more than 3 thousand new job positions, direct and indirectly” said Mr Ricardo Dequech, CEO for Mineração Buritirama.

According to Mr Dequech, “the idea is to verticalize the project, i.e., to be not only a Manganese producer, but also bring more industries, especially in the Metallurgical area, to this State, and yet expand Manganese use in other formats, like electrolytic, which is used in the production of batteries, animal rations and agriculture.”

The first phase of the project is the construction of a specific port in Vila do Conde for Manganese exportation, followed by the building of plants in Marabá and Breu Branco Cities for processing the ore, “which will generate from 2,5 to 3 thousand new job positions in Pará State, with an investment of around R\$ 300 million from Buritirama” assured Mr Dequech. Other representatives of the Mining Company in the hearing were Mr José Fernando Garcia, Operations Director, and Mr Luis Antonio Lacombe, Technical Manager.

Face to such a proposal, the Governor sees no impediment on supporting the project, for, according to her, the Mining Company’s interests goes in the same direction of the programs the Government has been stimulating, which is the verticalization of the mineral production, and reinforces the Government goals of attracting new

investments that can generate new job positions and transform Para's mineral resources into income, development and opportunities. "The arrival of one more industry to this region, which reaffirms itself as a great metal-mechanical polo, is important. Since using our natural resources sustainably, respecting the environment and compensating for social and environmental impacts that may have in the region" says Ana Julia.

Asphalt: Currently, the cargo must travel through a road of 140 kilometers of dirt till Maraba and then 470 kilometers more of paved roads to get to Vila do Conde, where the product is exported by sea. This represents, in practice, a reserve of 70% to pay for transportation costs, which ends up reflecting in the value of the product.

Maurilio Monteiro, State Secretary for Development, Science and Technology (Sedect), who attended the hearing along with Anibal Picanço, head of the Secretariat of the Environment (SEMA), before the request for paving the road, he proposed a partnership among Federal Government, State Government, city of Maraba, and the Mining Company for allowing the paving asphalt, since the drainage works and earthworks have already been implemented. "It's an important work not only for the company, but also for the population living in the vicinity that also makes use of this passage," said Maurilio.

Environment: Another obstacle faced by the company is on the need to carry out the works of environmental compensation. "We need to reforest 10 hectares of eucalyptus in an area up to 100 kilometers away from the factory. And, by recognizing the capability of the Government to develop initiatives for the environment, we are proposing this partnership," said Dequech.

Ana Julia anticipated and assured full support of the State Government. "When we receive proposals that meet the policies of our government and, like this one that still values the restoration of the environment, it's impossible not to participate." The application of the Mining Company will be included in the program a *Billion Trees in the Amazon*, which provides encouraging to the planting of trees throughout Para State. "They can start preparing the tree seedlings!", warned the Governor.

Energy: "It's no use having minerals of the highest content if we cannot lower the costs due to energy price," said Roberto. "The solution would be to close contract with companies that supply electricity at more competitive prices," he added.

One of the proposals made was for Mineração Buritirama S/A to enroll in the announcement of the plant of Belo Monte, which includes the logic of processing power for self-producers, what means ensuring a reserve of energy to be applied in Para production. "We cannot only make energy for the other States' benefit. When I suggested the logic of compounders, I was just thinking of keeping the dividends of the plant also in our State for those who have an interest to invest in industrial production," said Ana Julia.

New vision: Cities that receive large projects like Mining, are stigmatized by inheriting only their bad consequences, such as craters in the soil, deforestation, among others, without leaving any positive dividends for the local population. Noting this trend, and proposing a change of thought and action, the People's Government has taken as principle to guide the companies to, in the moment of hiring the labor force for their enterprises, require from the workers documents showing residence in any city of Para, for a minimum of two years.

"I make such a big effort to attract foreign investment that I cannot allow our labor force not to be employed to work on these great works. I made that recommendation to VALE and will continue doing for all companies wishing to extract wealth of our State. There must be limits and common sense at the time of hiring, so I will continue defending the job positions for the Para inhabitants" said Ana Julia.

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