

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: www.LayanEnvironmental.com

Layan Residential Group Downplays SunHills' Claims on Court Order, Vows to Continue Legal Fight on Multiple Fronts

CHERNG TALAY, PHUKET — In response to a recent statement by SunHills Co., Ltd. regarding a procedural court order, the Layan Residential Group (LRG) has issued a clarification, emphasizing that the legal and regulatory challenges against the SunHills development are moving forward unabated across multiple fronts. LRG states that the Administrative Court's decision not to grant an immediate suspension of activities was an anticipated procedural step, not a final judgment on the merits of the case.

In a statement, Mark Ford-McNicol, lead spokesman for LRG, commented on the recent developments:

"While we acknowledge the Administrative Court's decision regarding the temporary injunction, it was not unexpected. The primary function of the Administrative Court is to conduct a thorough investigation into the legality of the project's permits, not typically to issue stop-work orders at this preliminary stage. That said, the core of our case remains firmly before the court, and we are confident that the evidence of wrongdoing is overwhelming."

Ford-McNicol highlighted that the community's legal efforts are not confined to a single court case. "The matter is far from settled. Other civil cases, which are the appropriate venue for addressing immediate damages and risks, are proceeding. Furthermore, the project is under active investigation by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and other regulatory bodies for a range of serious issues, including its deceptive mode of operation."

Key facts that have been brought to light in court by the Cherng Talay Subdistrict Administrative Organization (OrBorTor) underscore the gravity of the situation include:

- **No Valid Construction Permit:** It was confirmed in court that no construction permit has been issued for the main SunHills Hotel building.

Lack of Qualified Supervision: To date, the developers have failed to provide evidence of a qualified senior engineer on-site, a troubling omission given the recent landslides and the

inherent risks of hillside construction. Despite repeated requests, the actual qualifications of the SunHills Chief Engineer remain unconfirmed.

"These are not minor administrative oversights; they are fundamental breaches of law and safety protocols," Ford-McNicol continued. "The Administrative Court is still conducting its detailed investigation into the project's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the basis of its construction permits. We have full faith in the judicial process."

LRG and the Layan community remain resolute in their commitment to ensuring that development in the area is conducted legally, safely, and with full respect for environmental regulations.

"SunHills may attempt to portray this procedural step as a victory, but the facts tell a different story," Ford-McNicol concluded. "We will see them in court—in various courts, in fact. Our fight to protect our community and environment continues."

About the Case

The legal actions challenge the legality of several large-scale construction projects in the Layan area, focusing on alleged violations of environmental impact assessment requirements, building control laws, and public safety regulations. The Phuket Administrative Court has already formally named Sun Hills Co., Ltd. as an intervenor in the case (Black Case No. S.1/2564), compelling them to answer directly to the legal challenges brought by 14 Layan residents and enterprises.