



## SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION

January 9, 2009

**Philippine Stock Exchange**

Disclosure Department  
Listing and Disclosure Group  
4th Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Center  
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center  
Pasig City

Attention: **Atty. Pete M. Malabanan**  
**Head - Disclosure Department**

Gentlemen:

We reply to your request for clarification of the news article entitled "SMC to pay \$10M for right to buy indirect Petron stake," published in the January 9, 2009 issue of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. The article reported in part, that:

"SAN MIGUEL CORP. HAS COMMITTED TO pay British fund Ashmore Group around \$10 million for the right to purchase an indirect controlling stake of up to 50.1 percent in oil refiner Petron Corp. SMC president Ramon S. Ang said in a text message to the INQUIRER that the \$10 million or P470 million only covers the "cost of the option agreement" to maintain exclusive talks with Ashmore for two years. This does not include the actual cost of the acquisition.."

We confirm that SMC has committed to pay the Ashmore Group approximately \$10 million as consideration under the Option Agreement.

Very truly yours,

  
**FERDINAND K. CONSTANTINO**  
Corporate Information Officer