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**EVALUATION OF FACTORS AFFECTING THE EXCAVATION IN
WEATHERED ROCKS**

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ABSTRACT

In tropical region where thick profile of weathered zone is common, ripping is always accepted as the limit of mechanical breaking before blasting works is opted due to economical reason. However, the nature of rock and its weathering profile play a very significant role in evaluating the excavation assessment. Many issues have emerged in ripping work for sedimentary area where the occurrence of bedding, foliation and the inhomogeneity of rock can greatly influence the excavatability of the weathered rocks. This paper aims to highlight some of the problems that arise in weathered sedimentary area as what have been experienced during the surface excavation works.