



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU
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NOV 11 2021

MR. MARCELINO P. ESCALADA, JR.

General Manager
National Housing Authority
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City



Dear **Gen. Manager Escalada:**

Greetings from the Forest Management Bureau.

This pertains to the proposed Yolanda Permanent Housing Project (YPHP) located at So. Pinagkulungan, Brgy. San Nicolas, Coron, Palawan. Accordingly, the said area was originally covered by OCT No. G-6688 issued to Mariano Celedonio on 01 July 1949 and was later transferred to Villarino Celedonio under TCT No. T-8335 on 07 March 1984. Pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 663, series of 2013 (PP 663)¹, the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) has the jurisdiction and authority over the administration, protection, management of Busuanga Pasture Reserve (BPR).

Upon comprehensive review by this Office, together with the DENR MIMAROPA Regional Office and DENR Legal Affairs Service, the area subject to the proposed housing project is *found to be within the boundaries of BPR*. Pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 1387, s. 1975, the area is withdrawn from sale, settlement, or any other form of disposition, exploration or exploitation and reserved as a pasture reserve. Further, based on the projection of the technical description stipulated in TCT No. T-8335, the same falls within the *Unclassified Public Forest of Coron, Palawan*.

Although private rights over pasture lands are recognized under Presidential Proclamation No. 1387, s. 1975 (PP 1387)², it must be taken into consideration that the maps disclosed that the area where the housing project is being constructed is part of the Unclassified Public Forrest. Thus, there may be a possibility of irregularities in obtaining and in the issuance of OCT No. G-6688 as well as TCT No. T-8335 since Unclassified Public Forest area cannot be subject to land titling.

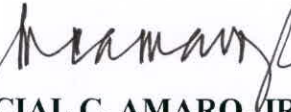
¹ Repealing Proclamation No. 2057 and Transferring Administration of Busuanga Pasture Reserve to FMB of DENR, 14 October 2013.

² Establishment of a Pasture Reserve in a Certain Parcel of Land of Public Domain in Busuanga Island, Palawan, 13 February 1975.

In view of foregoing premises, we are requesting your good Office as well as the contractor, Front Nine Konstruct (Builders and Realty Development) Corporation to immediately **hold in abeyance** the construction of the aforesaid housing project within BPR until such time that the authenticity and legality of the titles are proven.

Please be guided accordingly.

Very truly yours,



MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR., CESO III
Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects, and
Director, in concurrent capacity

cc

Cabinet Secretary, Office of the President
Executive Director, IATF-Yolanda
Head Executive Assistant, DENR Secretary
DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment
DENR Undersecretary for Legal, Administration, Human Resources and Legislative Affairs
DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement, Mining & Muslims Affairs and Supervising Undersecretary for Forest Management Bureau
DENR Assistant Secretary for Field Operations – Luzon
Executive Director, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
Regional Executive Director, DENR MIMAROPA
PENR Officer, Palawan
CENR Officer, Coron-Calamianes Islands
OIC, BPR Management Office
Front Nine Konstruct (Builders and Realty Development) Corporation