



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU
MIMAROPA Region

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19 November 2021

Mr. Vergillo C. Hortaleza
VCH Construction
Brgy. Tagusao, Quezon
Palawan

Dear Mr. V. C. Hortaleza:

Please be informed that on 18 November 2021, CENRO – Quezon confirmed that VCH Construction is conducting sand and gravel extraction in Lamican River, Sitio Marayparay, Barangay Tagusao, Quezon, Palawan for the construction of the Missing Links/New Roads Sofronio Espanola – Quezon Cross Country Project of the Department of Public Works and Highways without a mining permit.

The above-cited extraction and disposition of sand and gravel materials without the necessary mining permit is equivalent to theft of minerals pursuant to Section 103 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7942¹, which provides that:

***"Theft of Minerals** – Any person extracting minerals and disposing the same without a mining agreement lease, permit, license, or steals mineral or ores or the products thereof from mines or mills or processing plants..xxx"*

Hence, VCH Construction is hereby ordered to immediately **CEASE AND DESIST** from conducting sand and gravel activities in the said area. This is without prejudice to the filing of appropriate charges with the proper court for violation of the applicable provisions of RA No. 7942.

Please be guided accordingly. Thank you.

Very truly yours,


GLENN MARCELO C. NOBLE
Regional Director

cf. **The 8888 Citizen's Complaint Hotline**
Office of the President
complaints@8888.gov.ph
Ticket Reference No. P20211111-134-37-1

The DENR Action Center/Hotline
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
denr@8888.gov.ph

The Regional Executive Director
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region

The PENRO and Concurrent Acting PMRB Chairperson
Provincial Environment and Natural Resource Office
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

The CENRO - Quezon
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
National Highway, Brgy. Alfonso XIII, Quezon, Palawan

The Mayor – Quezon
Office of the Mayor
Quezon, Palawan

The Punong Barangay
Barangay Tagusao, Quezon, Palawan

¹ The Philippine Mining Act of 1995

**"MINING SHALL BE PRO-PEOPLE AND PRO-ENVIRONMENT
IN SUSTAINING WEALTH CREATION AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE."**

