



Republic of the Philippines
Regional Development Council
MIMAROPA Region

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REGIONAL PROJECT MONITORING COMMITTEE

Ref No. **11-059**

November 25, 2021

ENGR. GERALD A. PACANAN

Regional Director

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) MIMAROPA
Quezon City

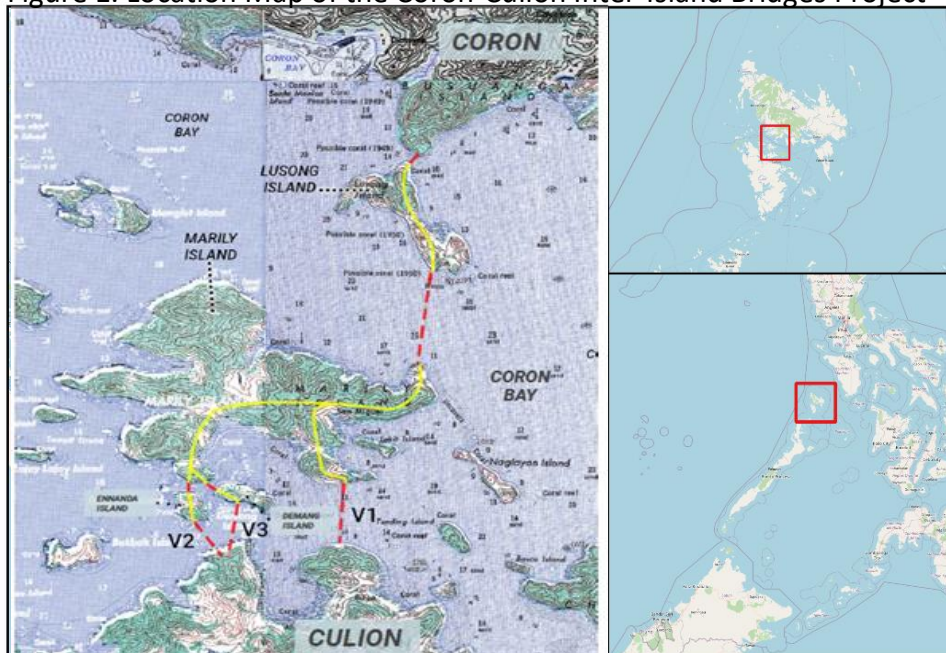
Subject: Coron-Culion Inter-island Bridges Project (CCIBP)

Dear Director Pacanan:

Greetings from Calapan City!

This refers to the Coron-Culion Inter-island Bridges Project (CCIBP) of DPWH. It has a total project cost of Php 4.29 billion, with initial funding of Php 250 million under the FY 2020 General Appropriations Act. It involves the construction of four new roads with an aggregate length of 17.54 kilometers (km) and three bridges with length of 2.63 km to interconnect Coron via Lusong Island with Marily Island in Culion. Figure 1 shows the project location map.

Figure 1. Location Map of the Coron-Culion Inter-Island Bridges Project



Source: DPWH MIMAROPA

During the 07 April 2021 meeting of the MIMAROPA Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC), it was reported that DPWH has yet to secure the required clearances from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD).

As such, DPWH agreed to suspend project implementation until all clearances and permits are obtained or complied with from agencies and local government units. The work suspension order issued by DPWH dated 07 April 2021 is found in Annex A.

During the MIMAROPA RPMC meeting on 16 November 2021, it was informed that construction activities have resumed on the basis of a resolution issued by the Katutubong Pamayanang Calamian Tagbanua dated 12 September 2021 (Annex B) allowing DPWH to continue the conduct of surveys and road opening works while the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) process is ongoing.

It was also reported during the meeting that the project feasibility study and the environmental impact assessment /statement (EIA/EIS) have yet to be completed due to pandemic-related travel restrictions. The DENR, EMB, NCIP and PCSD requested DPWH to submit the requisite project documents for the processing of the tree cutting permit, environmental compliance certificate (ECC), FPIC/certificate of precondition (CP), and strategic environmental plan (SEP) clearance, respectively.

Said agencies committed to facilitate the review process and issuance of clearances once the applications and supporting documents are already in order.

In the context of national-local government coordination, DPWH is also requested to secure endorsements from the municipalities of Coron and Culion, and the province of Palawan pursuant to Chapter 1 Section 2.c of the Local Government Code of 1991, which provides that national agencies and offices shall consult with local government units before any project or program is implemented in their respective jurisdictions.

Moreover, DPWH may need to secure Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) clearance considering that major capital projects (MCPs) with total project cost of at least Php 2.5 billion, regardless of financing, will have to undergo ICC review and approval.

In view of the foregoing, DPWH needs to complete the basic project studies (e.g. FS and EIA/EIS) and secure the necessary clearances and endorsements at the national and local levels before proceeding with project implementation.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,


AGUSTIN C. MENDOZA
Chairperson, RPMC MIMAROPA and
Regional Director, NEDA MIMAROPA

Cc: **SEC. ROGER G. MERCADO**, DPWH
USEC. MERCEDITA A. SOMBILLA, NEDA
USEC. JONATHAN L. UY, NEDA
DIR. VIOLETA S. CORPUS, NEDA Monitoring and Evaluation Staff
GOV. JOSE R. RIANO, Province of Romblon/ Chairperson, RDC MIMAROPA
GOV. JOSE CHAVES ALVAREZ, Province of Palawan
Mayor MARIO T. REYES, JR., Municipality of Coron, Palawan
Mayor MA. VIRGINIA N. DE VERA, Municipality of Culion, Palawan
MR. RODNE R. GALICHA, PSR for Environment, RDC MIMAROPA



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
REGIONAL OFFICE IV-B
EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City

07 April 2021

Mr. NOEL R. PAHARA

Authorized Managing Officer

J.H. PAHARA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

#33 San Rafael Street, Barangay Kapitolyo,
Pasig City

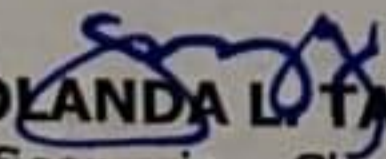
SUBJECT : WORK SUSPENSION ORDER

Sir,

You are hereby instructed to suspend construction works effective 8 April 2021 for the project: Contract ID No. 20EO0069 – Construction of Coron – Culion Inter-Island Bridges – Transverse Brgy. Bintuan in Coron to Brgy. Jardin in Culion, Palawan, until all required clearances from Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) and other requirements have been complied/approved.

Furthermore, please submit your course of action indicating mitigating measures for possible slides / erosions (for those opened sections) in the road works that might affect the shorelines in the location of the project.

Very truly yours,


YOLANDA L. TANGCO, CESO IV
Officer – in - Charge
Office of the Regional Director

KATUTUBONG PAMAYANANG CALAMIAN TAGBANUA

RESOLUSYONG NAGBIBIGAY PAHINTULOT O PAGPAYAG SA DPWH AT SA KONTRAKTOR NITO NA MAGSAGAWA NG SURVEY PARA SA FEASIBILITY STUDY AT SA PAGPAPATULOY NG KONSTRUKSYON SA ROAD OPENING SA SEKSYON SA BARANGAY BINTUAN HANGGANG SA ISLA NG LUSONG, BILANG BAHAGI NG PROYEKTONG 'CORON TO CULION BRIDGE' HABANG ISINASAGAWA ANG FREE PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT O FPIC

SAPAGKAT; ang pamunuan ng DPWH sa pamamagitan ng kanyang kontraktor sa proyektong Coron to Culion Bridge construction ay nakipag-ugnayan sa Katutubong Pamayanang Calamian Tagbanua ng Brgy. Bintuan at nagpaliwanag at nakiusap na masimulan na ang pagsurvey para sa feasibility study at pagbubukas ng kalsada sa isla ng lusong, na nasimulan nang buksan sa Brgy. Bintuan bilang bahagi ng proyektong coron to culion bridge.

SAPAGKAT; ayon sa kaniyang paliwanag na kapag hindi pa nasimulan ang naturang proyekto lalo pa at matagal ang proseso ng FPIC at mayroon silang hinahabol na oras para masimulan at kapag hindi masimulan ay maaring maapektuhan ang kabuuang budget ng proyekto at maibalik ito sa national treasury na posibleng maging sanhi na hindi na maituloy ang proyekto at wala nang magiging magandang bunga kahit pa ito ay mag FPIC.

SAPAGKAT; ang katutubong pamayanan ay naunawaan ang naturang sitwasyon ng DPWH at kontraktor nito at ang naturang proyekto ay kagustuhan din ng pamayanan na matuloy basta mayroong mga kondisyon na kailangang mapag-usapan

SAPAGKAT; ang katutubong pamayanan ay nag desisyon na bigyan ng paunang pagpayag ang DPWH at kontraktor nito na simulan na ang pag survey para sa feasibility study at sa pagpapatuloy ng konstruksiyon sa road opening sa seksyon sa barangay bintuan hanggang sa isla ng lusong at upang hindi maapektuhan ang kabuuang proyekto na hindi maituloy sa kondisyon na ang katutubong pamayanan ay may kahilingan at sa pinal na pagpayag sa proseso ng FPIC ay aming ilalatag ang iba pang mga posibleng kahilingan.

SAPAGKAT; ang kahilingan ng katutubong pamayanan ay ang mga sumusunod:

1. Maisama sa pagtatrabaho ng kalsada ang mga kasaping katutubo na may alam sa gawaing konstruksiyon.
2. Ipag patuloy ang FPIC sa lalong madaling panahon, upang maipaliwag ng malinaw ang proyekto.
3. Ipag patuloy ang pakikipag ugnayan sa mga katutubong calamian tagbanua at mag bigay ulat kung ano na ang natapus at gagawin pa.

SAPAGKAT; ang katutubong pamayanang calamian tagbanua ay may karapatang ipatigil ang gawain sa naturang proyekto na pagsesemento ng kalsada kapag mayroong mga paglabag na makita katulad ng paggawa ng ibang gawain na hindi kasama sa paunang pinayagan lamang.

NA KUNG KAYA'T DAHIL DITO, sa mungkahi ni Manig-erekelen Elfron Languyo na pagtibayin ang resolusiyong nagbibigay pahintulot o pagpayag sa dpwh at sa kontraktor nito na

simulan na ang survey para sa feasibility study at sa pagpapatuloy ng konstruksiyon sa road opening sa seksyon sa barangay Bintuan hanggang sa isla ng lusong, bilang bahagi ng proyektong 'coron to culion bridge' habang isinasagawa ang free prior informed consent o fpic

PINAGPASYAHAN PARIN, na ipaparating ang sipi ng resolusyong ito sa tanggapan ng DPWH at kontraktor nito at tanggapan ng NCIP para sa kanilang kabatiran

Pinagpasyahan ngayong ika - 12 ng Setyembre 2021, dito sa Barangay Bintuan, Coron, Palawan

Mga Nagpatibay,

PANGALAN	KATUNGKULAN	LAGDA
1. Ronnie Abella	Apang Dakula	R A
2. Elfren Langguyod	Manig-erckelen	E. L.
3. Zaldy Apuen	Manig-erckelen	Za
4. Polisto Aguilar	Manig-erckelen	P. A
5. Angelito Darol	Manig-erckelen	A D
6. Andrew Magallanes	Chairman	A - M
7. Louiner Aguilar	Vice Chairman	L - A
8. Niko Abella	Kagawad	N A
9. Amar Abella	Kagawad	A. A.
10. Joey Donsimon	Kagawad	Joey D
11. Warren Duarte	Kagawad	Warren Duarte
12. Anna Aguilar	Kagawad	anna aguilar
13. Perlita Estillero	Kagawad	Perlita Estillero
14. Ma Susan Abella	treasurer	Ma Susan Abella
15. Josephine Darol	Auditor	Josephine Darol