



19 April 2022

MS. LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV
THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DENR MIMAROPA Region IVB
1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd.
Ermita, Manila

RE: Approval of FLAgT Application in favor of Sulubaai Environmental Foundation, Inc.

Dear Madam Claudio,

Good day!

I am writing to humbly request your good office to give us consideration and to expedite the issuance of **Certification of Exemption in Legal Easement** that will be use to present in the Office of the DENR-CENRO for him to sign the **Approval Sheet** of our **Comprehensive Development Management Plan (CDMP)**, a pre-requisite for the **Approval of the Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT)** in favor of Sulubaai Environmental Foundation, Inc. located in Pangatalan Island, Brgy. Depla, Taytay, Palawan. The said application was submitted in the office of DENR-CENRO on December 16, 2016 wherein until now is on-going due to boundless additional requirements that I do not understand “why” at this moment. In this letter, I will describe the interaction and process that our application had been through for your convenience, to comprehend our concern and we are willing to submit supporting documents as you probe. Please see attached Table of the FLAgT application process that the foundation went through.

For your information, Sulubaai Environmetal Foundation, Inc. is a Philippine non-profit organization established in 2012 and the main objective is to protect the natural resources of Palawan. On the following year, the foundation rehabilitated Pangatalan Island which was already devastated due to human ruthless practices before 2011. For almost ten years, we have dedicated not only our time and effort but our own money to relive both terrestrial and marine flora and fauna. As of the moment, the foundation untiringly created several programs that is supported by the Local Government Units (LGUs), and soliciting cooperation with the local communities who are primarily beneficiary of the environmental projects that we are organizing. Moreover, we are helping residents in nearby places by giving them job opportunities in the island and currently employed more than twenty people.



In addition, the Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation, Inc. is an active member of Taytay-Palawan Tourism Development Council and likewise recognized as a platform of communication and internationally promoting their projects herein Palawan, Philippines. Furthermore, we have signed several Memorandum of Agreement and/or Understanding, altogether pertaining to the protection, conservation, restoration and management of the natural resources of Palawan. Below are the following different government agencies and offices who have joined and supported our missions:

1. Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) in 2018
2. Western Philippines University (WPU) in 2019
3. Marine Science Institute, University of the Philippines (MSU-UP) in 2020
4. Department of Education (DEPED), Taytay District Schools in 2021
5. Municipality of Taytay, Palawan in 2022
6. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) submitted in your good office last November 15, 2021 and now forwarded to the Office of DENR-CENRO and still waiting for update as of April 9, 2022

In 2020, the foundation commenced an international project in cooperation with the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) focusing in establishing four (4) Marine Protected Areas. We are applying for FLAgT not only to develop a sustainable eco-tourism in Pangatalan Island but to educate and spread awareness and effective management plan on how we can restore the marine biodiversity.

There are several structures and improvements that we have built in an eco-friendly way and does not affect the existing vegetation and ecosystem that the foundation has already restored and taken care of. To add, if our FLAgT is approved the income that will be coming from the limited visitors who will come to the island will be used for the maintenance and sustainability of the foundation.

In this connection, I would like to request your good office for the following concerns:

First, help us understand the FLAgT process and requirements to avoid further delay of our application, as you know, I am a foreign in this country but already adopted the Filipino culture whom just wanted to do something good and leave impact for the betterment of Philippine Marine Ecosystem primarily in the province of Palawan.



Second, to have a discussion and clarify who is categorically in-charge with the issuance of the Certificate of Exemption in Legal Easement and allow us to personally justify and explain our side.

Lastly, to give us consideration to waive the penalty for the annual rental that we need to pay. That if in case the penalty can be waived, it will go to a good cause and can be used for the implementation of our programs for the local communities.

I am fully aware that one of the causes of delay is that it was hard for me to communicate due to language difficulty but I do hope that you could render a portion of your precious time to assist our foundation to accomplish our FLAgT and support our missions and programs as well. It has been six (6) years and until now the approval of our FLAgT seems impossible for us to attain.

Hoping for your immediate action and compassionate consideration regarding this matter. Thank you!

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Frédéric Tardieu", written over a horizontal line.

FRÉDÉRIC TARDIEU
SEF Founder/ Chairman



Table Illustration of Sulubaai Environmental Foundation, Inc. FLAgT Process

DATE	PROCESS WENT THROUGH
Dec. 16, 2016	Submission of the FLAgT Application to the DENR-CENRO, Taytay, Palawan
Apr. 18, 2017	Endorsement of the FLAgT Application to the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B
Nov. 2018	Ocular Inspection on Pangatalan Island conducted by Ms. Ramina and Mr. Mantubig
Jan. 28, 2019	Personal Meeting in the Office of Mr. Mantubig in DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B
May 17, 2019	Submission of CDMP to the Office of DENR-CENRO, Taytay, Palawan
June 18, 2019	Endorsement of the CDMP to DENR-PENRO, Puerto Princesa, Palawan
Aug. 13, 2019	The CDMP was received by the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B
Oct. 2, 2019	On-Site Ocular Inspection by Mr. Alfred Lopez from the Office of DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B
Nov. 13, 2019	Personal Meeting with Mr. Mantubig in DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B Office regarding the FLAgT Map
Feb. 21, 2020	Another Meeting with Mr. Mantubig, discussing the Geo Point and SEP Clearance concerns
May 19, 2021	Deliberation of the CDMP through Online Meeting
June 3, 2021	Received a Letter from the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B regarding the modifications of the CDMP
June 9, 2021	Submission of the 2nd Version (Revised as per cited in the letter received on June 3.
June 10, 2021	Online Technical Conference was held
June 16, 2021	Received a Letter from the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B Regarding additional requirements for the CDMP
Aug. 20, 2021	Submission of the 3rd Version (Revised as per cited in the letter received on June 16)
Sept. 7, 2021	Received a Letter from the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B regarding another modifications and additional information for the CDMP
Nov. 12, 2021	Submission of the 4 th Version (Revised as per cited in the letter received on Sept. 7)
Nov. 18, 2021	Received an E-mail from the Office of the PFMS-CDD MIMAROPA regarding minor comments to correct in the CDMP
Nov. 19, 2021	*Submitted the Corrected CDMP (As per cited in the letter received on Nov. 18) *Same date, the CDMP Finally Found Compliant



DATE	PROCESS WENT THROUGH
Nov. 23, 2021	<p>*Submitted and copy furnished the Soft Copy of the CDMP to several offices in the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B</p> <p>*Same date submission acknowledged by Mr. Milner M. Macarandang, Administrative Assistant III PMD/RICU Staff with Document Tracking Number E-2021-75372</p>
Dec. 5, 2021	Submitted 3 sets of hard copies in the Regional Office of DENR-MIMAROPA IV-B
Dec. 23, 2021	*As per e-mail of PFMS-CDD MIMAROPA Office Several Chief Officers in the DENR-MIMAROPA Region IV-B already signed the Approval Sheet of the CDMP and transmitted to PENRO-Palawan as of Dec. 24, 2021
Dec. 24, 2021	The CDMP Approval Sheet was transmitted to PENRO-Palawan
Jan. 26, 2022	The CENRO-Taytay just Received the CDMP Approval Sheet, information also came from the Office of the PFMS-CDD MIMAROPA
Feb. 2022	Personally Followed Up in DENR-Taytay regarding the Status of the Approval Sheet and found out that the CENRO Mr. Allan Valle did not sign the Approval Sheet due to his reason that the CDMP is Lacking of Requirements, However, we did not received any formal letter regarding this matter, and just verbally informed us that the lacking requirement is with regards to the 40 Meters Legal Easement, They required us to make a Letter Request to Conduct an Ocular Inspection in the Island.
Feb. 7, 2022	Sent a Letter Request for Ocular Inspection Regarding the 40 Meter Legal Easement via e-mail in the Office of DENR-CENRO
Mar. 1, 2022	Ocular Inspection was made and four of the Structures was found within the easement zone, and the Inspection Team suggested to send a Letter of Request for Certificate of Exemption for DENR-CENRO, For information, the said structures is made of lightweight materials (nepa and wood) of which was already seen by the previous Inspectors in 2018 and also included in our CDMP and its purpose.
March 3, 2022	Personally submitted a Letter of Request in the Office of DENR-CENRO, Taytay and asked the status of the approval sheet of the CDMP. The CENRO told us that we have to wait for the Report of the Inspection and Endorsement to be made. He said that he is not the one in authority to issue the Certification of Exemption but the Regional Office. We further asked, how long will it take for them to make the report and e-mail it to the Regional Office and they (together with the Inspection Team) said that they will send it on March 7, 2022. We even asked if there is a way to expedite



CONTINUATION	and help us with the process of CDMP and FLAgT, because it has been six years already. And he just said, that He is not included before with any deliberation about the FLAgT application. However, his main concern is the Legal Easement. We even insisted to read our CDMP to enlighten him to help us. And again said wait for the endorsement to be made.
March 9, 2022	We followed-up through phone call to Engr. Marion Lachica if they already sent the Endorsement to the Regional Office but she said that the CENRO ordered them to send a letter for us and termed it "Show Cause Order" explaining the purpose of the structures that are within the 40 Meters Legal Easement Zone.
March 10, 2022	Received an e-mail from the Office of the DENR-CENRO, Taytay informing us to submit a written explanation relative to the structures that built within the 40-meter easement zone.
March 11, 2022	We called Sir Mr. Alfred Lopez asking about the Show Cause Order sent by DENR-CENRO and informed them re. the issuance of Certificate of Exemption and told us that it is their first time to encounter such certification.
March 15, 2022	Sent the Letter of Compliance and was acknowledged by DENR-CENRO on March 16, 2022. We also sent the same to the offices of DENR-PENRO, PFMS-CDD, LPDD.
April 5, 2022	Personally went to DENR-MIMAROPA Regional Office to clarify who will issue the Certificate of Exemption and was able to have a conversation and relaying of information to Ms. Gloria Galima.
April 14, 2022	Received a Letter from the Office of the PFMS-CDD regarding the new copy of Approval Sheet for CDMP because of new signatories.
PRESENT STATUS	Until now, the Approval Sheet for the CDMP is still pending in the Office of the DENR-CENRO, Taytay, he said that he will not sign the Approval Sheet not until we presented the Certification of Exemption from the Regional Office, however, as per Ms. Gloria Galima, the said concern needed to be discuss and clarify first.