

MEMORANDUM

FOR:

THE PAB BOARD SECRETARY AND LEGAL

COUNSEL

Pollution Adjudication Board

FROM:

THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

EMB-MIMAROPA Region

SUBJECT:

REQUEST FOR UPDATE RE: PPC SLF PAB CASE

DENR PAB CASE NO. 4B-00948-19

DATE:

18 July 2022

This Office is respectfully asking for information on the status or any update relative to the case of Puerto Princesa Sanitary Landfill located at Brgy. Sta. Lourdes, Puerto Princesa, Palawan. The Water Pollution case was docketed as 4B-00948-19. The said case is among the agenda discussed during the 3rd DENR One MIMAROPA Regional Management Conference.

Also attached herewith is the report from the inspection/monitoring conducted last 18 April 2022 for your information, reference, and/or further instruction.

JOE AMM M. SALINO

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Environmental Management Bureau
Regional Office No. IV - B MIMAROPA

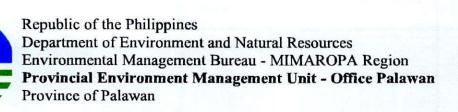
20 JULY 2022 MEMORDSALINO-07

R4B-2022-013329

Cc:

The Regional Executive Director DENR MIMAROPA

PENRO Palawan





April 26, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

EMB-MIMAROPA Region

1515 L & S Building, Roxas Boulevard,

Ermita, Manila

Dulives

THRU : THE CHIEF, PEMÚ

DENR -PENRO Compound, Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

FROM : SupEMS MERCEDITA B. ALMORFE

Chief, EMS-PPC

SUBJECT : "DIRECTIVE TO IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT AND

SUBMIT COMPLETE STATUS REPORTS RELATIVE TO

THE PAB CASES OF ESTABLISHMENT LISTED

BELOW"

In compliance with your Memorandum dated March 14, 2022 that captions the above cited subject which was referred on April 8 via IIS, please be informed that the undersigned together with EnMo Peter G. Abobot proceeded at the Office of Mr. Alan Barte, Operations Officer of Puerto Princesa City- Sanitary Landfill at Barangay Sta. Lourdes on April 18, 2022 to gather updates relative to this memorandum directive.

It must be recalled that this SLF of City Government has an standing Cease and Desist Order issued on April 05, 2019 as one of the recommendations made in the Comprehensive Report made by this Office per Memorandum dated August 17, 2018 of SEMS Leonora F. Mansueto. The CDO was the offshoot of the Notice of Violations issued to the City Government after failure to implement ECC condition Nos. 2,4,5,14,16 and 17 for quite long period of time given.

From the time the CDO was served by the Regional Office staff, who executed the CDO via insertion of a ball on the on the Leachate Treatment Plant's (LTP) outlet and sealed it as a manifestation of disallowing effluent discharge, this visit confirmed its same position.

Information gathered from City ENRO staff Ms. Mary Ann Joylle Madrinan, the last water sampling they initiated for the parameters such as: pH BOD, TSS, DO, and Oil and Grease was conducted sometime before pandemic in year 2019 which water samples were brought to DOST for laboratory analysis. Prior to water sampling, an "effective microorganism" treatment was done, accordingly. Results of analysis tested failed the effluent standards for Landfill per DAO 2016-08 and DAO 2021-19 (Updated Water Quality Guidelines and General Effluent Standards for Selected Parameters), Ms. Madrinan said. A copy of that laboratory analysis was requested.

This inspection reveals another LTP constructed just adjacent to the first LTP of the same design and capacity. The first LTP was still not functional as reported in the previous reports. Since the LTP is not yet effectively functional the reason why parameters for landfill management cannot pass the effluent standards, the approach to manage wastewater is still via pumping it back and fort to the landfill. Inquiry related to the effect of storm Odette on the operation of landfill, Mr. Barte cited that they were opted to temporarily open the outlet on that specific period due to heavy pour of rainstorm to prevent overflow which can be a force majeure incident.

In the landfill itself, it is high time that the phase 1 parcel of the disposal site be now subjected to Safe and Closure Rehabilitation following the prescribed outline for its implementation. The effort of the Operation Officer Mr. Barte in trying to reduce erodability of the mountainous -like garbage as in benching approach is no longer ideal and effective due to the present landfill elevation. If pursued, it may lead eventually to the collapse of the landfill.

There is an on-going construction of phase II cell which needs to be expedite so that the utilization of the phase 1 cell be immediately terminated and rehabilitated instead.

According to Ms. Madrinan, they have a standing request for the lifting of the issued CDO for reasons cited in the letter however, this Office has no record whatsoever of that request.

Attached are additional pertinent documents that will help provide further details of the status of the PPC Sanitary Landfill such as:

1. Copy of the ECC;

- 2. Copies of Notice of Violation on PD 1586, RA.9275 and R.A 6969 all dated December 18, 2020;
- 3. Copy of the Notarized Position Paper of the City Government;

4. Copy of the Cease and Desist Order dated April 05, 2019;

- 5. Copy of the undated report of Service and Execution of the issued CDO;
- 6. Copy of laboratory results dated November 26, 2018 and January 10, 2019.
- 7. Copy of the Memorandum dated August 17, 2018 re: Comprehensive Report Regarding the Issues on the Operation of Puerto Princesa Sanitary Landfill Project of the City Government located at Barangay Sta. Lourdes, Puerto Princesa City.

Recommending immediate implementation of Safe and Closure Rehabilitation Plan for the phase I cell and expedition of the construction of the phase II cell. For the condition of the two LTPs which remain un-functional up to this time for the same reasons as cited in the previous reports, it is strongly recommended that said pressing issue among others be discussed or reiterated by the top management.

Please see photos of the landfill and its surrounding areas.

For information, evaluation and appropriate action.

MERCEDITA B. ALMORFE



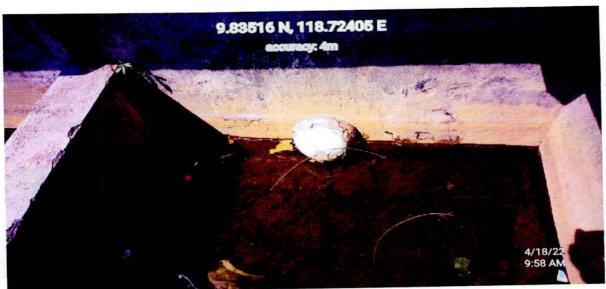
Coordination with Operation Officer Mr. Alan Barte



The mountain-like scenario of the PPC Sanitary Landfill



The under construction Phase II cell of the PPC Sanitary Landfill



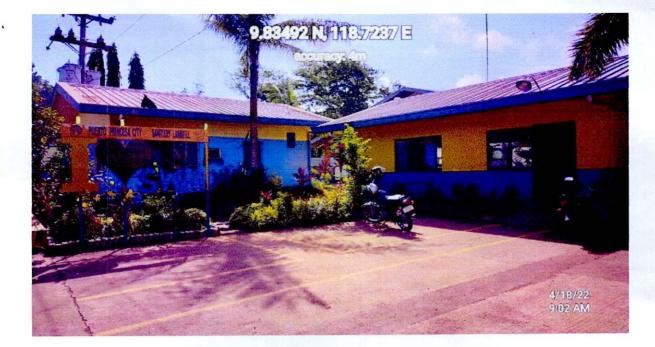
The symbol of the executed Cease and Desist Order



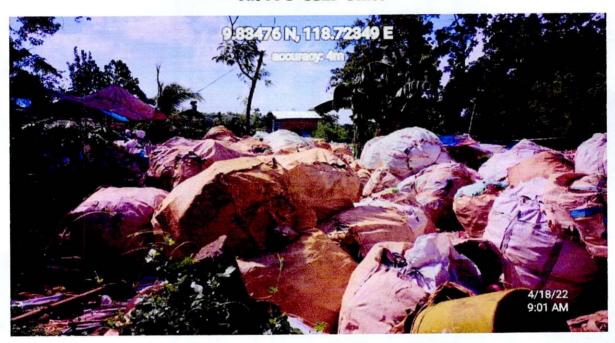
The newly constructed Leachate Treatment Plant



The newly purchased back-up generator set



The PPC-SSLF Office



The Recyclables filtered from Collections from Households



DENR - PENRO Compound Brgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan 5300 Tel. No. (048) 434-1824 e-mail address: pemupalawan@gmail.com