#### Department of Environment and Natural Resources

#### **Region IV- MIMAROPA**

#### COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

Barangay III (Poblacion), Roxas, Palawan Contact No. 09171606578 / 09175028647

Email address: cenroroxaspalawan@denr.gov.ph

July 22, 2022

#### **MEMORANDUM**

:

**FOR** 

: The PENRO

Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

**FROM** 

The CENRO

Roxas Palawan

SUBJECT

REPORT ON THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SAND AND

GRAVEL MATERIALS AGAINST 'YURICH BUILDERS AND CONSTRUCTION' IN THE MUICIPALITY OF ROXAS,

**PALAWAN** 

Respectfully forwarding the memorandum report of our MGB Embedded Personnel dated 14 July 2022 regarding the above-cited subject.

For your action and recommendation.

Cc:

The Regional Director

Mines and Geosciences Bureau - MIMAROPA Region

The Regional Executive Director

Department of Environment Natural Resources - MIMAROPA Region

The Provincial Mining and Regulatory Board

Province of Palawan

The Executive Director

Palawan Council for Sustainable Development

RELEASED

DATE. JUL 2 2 2022

DO NO 20 22 - 07 - 115



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July 14, 2022

#### **MEMORANDUM**

:

FOR

The CENR Officer

Community Environment and Natural Resources Office

Roxas, Palawan

FROM

The Undersigned

SUBJECT:

REPORT ON THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SAND AND

GRAVEL MATERIALS AGAINST 'YURICH BUILDERS AND CONSTRUCTION' IN THE MUICIPALITY OF ROXAS,

**PALAWAN** 

#### **Background Information**

A complaint on '103.1 Brigada News FM - Palawan' by a concerned citizen in Brgy. Nicanor Zabala on the alleged extraction of sand and gravel materials, and an active extraction in Brgy. Dumarao sighted by the Cenro-Roxas' Forest Rangers (assigned in Sector 2) was brought to the attention of the undersigned.

In coordination with the PCSD, a four-man team was assembled. The undersigned, together with Mrs. Rhoda Roque, Mrs. Cristy Rodriguez Malirong and Mr. Mark Ace Dela Cruz investigated the matter at hand on 06 July 2022.

#### **Findings and Observation**

- 1. On 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 the undersigned together with PMRB personnel, Mr. Phing Evio, Mr. Pio Viray and Mr. Marvin Dacacin intercepted and seized one dump truck hauled with 16 cubic meters of Sand and Gravel materials with corresponding plate number of NBP 2816.
- 2. The seized conveyance is owned by Yurich Builders and Construction (Photo 1). A seizure receipt was issued by the undersigned. (Annex 1a and 1c).



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- 3. The undersigned entrusted the custody to Brgy. Nicanor Zabala.
- 4. The undersigned then recommended an issuance of Cease and Desist Order based on the field findings on the written 'Report on the apprehended conveyance owned by Yurich Builders & Construction loaded with sand and gravel materials in Brgy. Nicanor Zabala, Roxas, Palawan, dated April 11, 2022.
- 5. PMRB issued a Release Order dated April 11, 2022 for the Apprehended Vehicle in Brgy. Nicanor Zabala. (Annex 1c)
- 6. On July 5, 2022, Forest Rangers assigned on Sector 2 reported to the undersigned that an extraction of SAG materials on Barbacan river near the Dayadante bridge located in Brgy. Dumarao was being conducted by Yurich Builders and Construction (Photo 2 and 3).
- The extracted SAG materials are utilized for a government road project according to Mr. Fred Luna. Mr. Luna identified himself as a representative of Yurich Builders.
- 8. On the same day, PCSD personnel Cristy Malirong informed the undersigned on the interview between **Brigada News FM Palawan** and a concerned citizen (link: <a href="https://fb.watch/dXPwnC-TBT">https://fb.watch/dXPwnC-TBT</a>) reporting an illegal quarry activity on Brgy. Nicanor Zabala. (Photo 4 and 5)
- On July 6, the team conducted field verification and investigation on Brgy. Nicanor Zabala. Kagawad Alfredo S. Venturillo accompanied the team in inspecting the of abandoned extraction area.
- 10. Attached photo shows irresponsible quarry activities by the Yurich Builders & Construction as verified by the team (Photo 6 to 9)
- 11. There are no valid permittees within the area of Brgy Nicanor Zabala and Brgy. Dumarao wherein the Yurich Builders & Construction are extracting SAG materials.



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#### FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Based on the field findings, Yurich Builders and Construction was found to be in violation of Section 103 of RA 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, which provides:

Section 103. Theft of Minerals – Any person <u>extracting minerals and disposing the same without a mining agreement, lease, permit, or license</u> or steals minerals or ores or the products thereof from mines or mills or processing plants shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned from six (6) months to six (6) years to pay a fine from Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00) to Twenty thousand pesos (P 20,000.00), or both at the discretion of the appropriate court. In addition, he shall be liable to pay damages and compensation for the materials removed, extracted, and disposed of.

#### A Cease and Desist Order must be issued to affect the same

- The increasing trend for the demand of sand and gravel materials utilized for construction and maintenance of roads and other infrastructures can pose a negative environmental impact if the extraction is unmonitored, done excessively and irresponsibly.
- The Barangay Officials of Nicanor Zabala and Barangay Dumarao are advised to
  monitor and police extractions of sand and gravel operation within their area of
  jurisdiction and report any illegal activities to the MGB-Embedded personnel of
  CENRO-Roxas.
- 4. The Provincial / Local Government of Palawan is recommended to secure a Government Gratuitous permit in such government projects wherein there is a need for SAG materials.



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For the CENRO'S consideration and further instruction

DOMINIK L. ECHANO Science Research Specialist II



Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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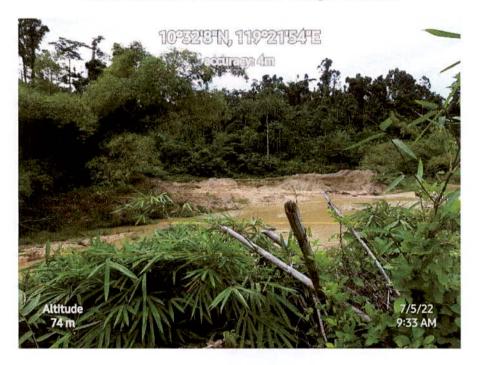
Barangay III (Poblacion), Roxas, Palawan Contact No. 09171606578 / 09175028647

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#### PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Photo 1. Apprehended Conveyance with Plate Number NBP 2816 owned by Yurich Builders & Construction on April 10, 2022





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Photo 2 and 3. Ongoing extraction and hauling by Yurich on Brgy. Dumarao (Photo taken by Forest Rangers conducting field monitoring)





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Photo 4 and 5. Screen Grab from the interview of Brigada News FM with the concerned citizen of Brgy. Nicanor Zabala.





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Photo 6 and 7. (1st location) Abandoned extracted area in Brgy. Nicanor Zabala.





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Photo 8 and 9. 2<sup>nd</sup> location of abandoned area of illegal extraction of SAG materials (in Marirong River, located upstream of the 1<sup>st</sup> location) in Brgy. Nicanor Zabala



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#### **ANNEX**

RECEIPT FO	R CONFISCATE	Pue to Princeso City  ID/SEIZED MINERALS:MINERA  NVERVANCES BUESU ANT	u ppoblices	
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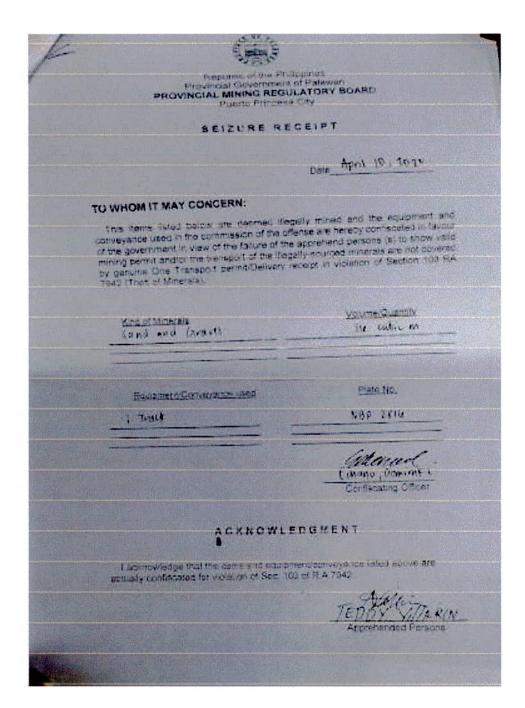


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Annex 1a and 1b. Seizure Receipt

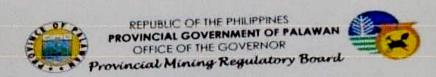


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## RELEASE OF EQUIPMENT/MOTOR VECHICLE

#### THE CHAIRMAN

Brgy. Nicanor Zabala Roxas Palawan

Upon showing full satisfaction with the penalty imposed as proved by Recelpt No. 1059128 K issued by the Provincial Treasurer's Office, you are hereby ordered to release the following equipment under your custody, to wit:

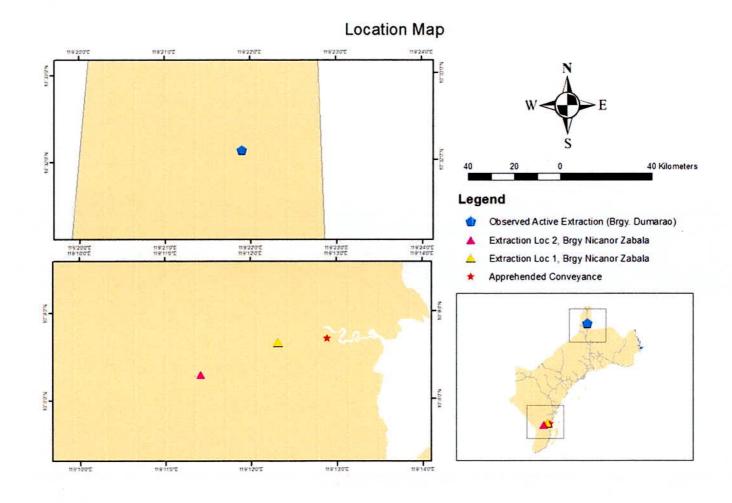
One (1) unit Dump Truck with plate no. NBP 2816 which was apprehended last April 10, 2022 at Barangay Nicanor, Roxas, Palawan.

SO ORDERED. This 11th day of April 2022 at Puerto Princesa City.

For and by Authority of the Board.

Board Secretary

Annex 1c. Release Order



Annex 2. Location Map