

17 June 2022

Mines and Geosciences Bureau

MGB Compound, North Avenue

Diliman, Quezon City 1100

Philippines

Good day!

I am writing this letter to raise awareness to a particular issue in Sibuyan Island. It has come to our attention that there is an ongoing road construction happening in the island that leads to the sea shore for a proposed pier. However, despite its location in a private property, it is evident that there are no permits issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) or even the local level. The construction of bunkhouses, the destruction of vegetation, and even clearing of the site must be investigated immediately.

This site is located in the areas of Sitio Talaba in Barangay Taclobo and Barangay Espana, both of which are in San Fernando Sibuyan. This have affected the protected areas and the buffer zone of Mt. Guiting Guiting National Park and also the easement in shorelines and mangrove areas. We have reason to believe this is in line with the proposed mining site in the same area, which also has been shut off to prying eyes under the guise of “private property”.

We are urgently requesting DENR officials, especially from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), and Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), to investigate in the matter. It would also be appreciated if they make policy recommendations to the local government units involved.

We hope to hear from you the soonest.

Helly Y. Asoy

A concerned Sibuyan local