

Republic of the Philippines

Email: region4b@mgb.gov.ph

# Department of Environment and Natural Resources MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU MIMAROPA Region

7/F DENR Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila Telefax No. (+632) 536-0215 / (+632) 310-1369



25 January 2021

#### **MEMORANDUM**

FOR

THE PENRO AND

**CONCURRENT ACTING PMRB CHAIRPERSON** 

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Province of Palawan

**FROM** 

THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

This Office

SUBJECT

8888 CITIZENS COMPLAINT RE: ALLEGED

ILLEGAL QUARRYING IN THE MOUNTAINS OF

CORON, PALAWAN

This refers to the Memorandum Report dated 22 January 2021 of For. Ferdinand Gatchalian, OIC CENRO-Coron, re: "8888 CITIZENS COMPLAINT RE: FOLLOW-UP COMPLAINT ON THE ALLEGED ILLEGAL QUARRYING IN THE MOUNTAINS OF CORON, PALAWAN" which was received by this Office on 25 January 2021.

Based on the above, it was disclosed that the Provincial Government of Palawan, thru the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board –Coron, is allowing BCT Construction to extract quarry materials for government projects without the necessary mining permits.

In this regard, may we request for an explanation as regards to the reported exemption of government projects from securing the appropriate mining permits in the extraction of guarry materials in Coron, Palawan.

For your appropriate action.

ROLAND A. DE JESUS, CESO V

Regional Director

CC:

The DENR Action Center/Hotline Visayas Ave. Diliman, Quezon City

denr@8888.gov.ph

Ticket Reference Number SMS-G-20210118-96-82

The Regional Executive Director DENR – MIMAROPA

The CENRO Coron, Palawan





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Coron, Palawan

#### **MEMORANDUM**

FOR

THE REGIONAL OFFICE DENR 8888

Manila

THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DENR MIMAROPA Roxas Blvd. Manila

THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

MGB MIMAROPA Roxas Blvd. Manila

THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

EMB MIMAROPA Roxas Blvd. Manila

THE PENRO

Concurrent PMRB Chairperson

FROM

THE CENRO

Coron, Palawan

SUBJECT. :

8888 CITIZENS COMPLAINT RE: FOLLOW UP

COMPLAINT ON THE ALLEGED ILLEGAL

QUARRYING IN THE MOUNTAINS OF CORON,

PALAWAN

DATE

January 22, 2021

This pertains to the memorandum from the Regional Director of Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB-MIMAROPA) to the PENRO Palawan and from the DENR Office 8888 hotline re: the 8888 Citizens complaint with ticket Reference number SMS-G-20210118-96-82 dated January 2021 of the above noted subject.

Please be informed that on December 2, 2020, this office conducted a technical conference attended by the BCT Construction Inc: the proponent on the quarry operation at Sitio Pamatpatan, Inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserve, Brgy. Decalachao, Coron, Palawan and also with the concerned offices such as CAAP, PMRB, Barangay, BAI (Bureau of Animal Industry), DENR FMB-BPR and EMB.

Below are the outcomes of the technical conference:

- The quarry project is operated by the BCT Construction Inc. for the embankment of the proposed Busuanga Airport Expansion Project.
- The quarry operation is inside the Bureau of Animal Industry which had a MOA from the DENR FMB.
- The DOTr-CAAP in Busuanga Airport had no idea for what is inside the MOA Between the Contractors and CAAP pertains to Busuanga Airport Project.
- 4. The BCT can't secure further clearances from the DENR and other agencies because the BAI decline to give them authority on the area but they have a verbal agreement to the BAI only regarding the operation.
- The Busuanga Airport expansion project was in the Build Build build project by the National Government.
- As far as DENR FMB-BPR is concerned the project operation does not have any request or approval from their office.
- The PMRB in Calamian Islands had accommodate the Quarry operation of BCT because of the coordination to the Provincial Government of Palawan and it is because for the sake of the government project.
- As far as DENR EMB is concerned the project operation had no approved Environmental Compliance Certificate.

Please be informed also that the DENR FMB-BPR had conducted survey on the quarry operation to determine the actual size of the quarry project in the area, and it shows that the project have a total area of 4.8 hectares and falls inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserved.

Please be informed further that on January 22, 2021, personnel from this office together with the EMB embedded personnel had conducted an on-site validation on the area to determine the current status of the site. As the time of inspection there was no operation on the area, and according to the residents live on the area, the last operation of the proponent is in December last year, but it will continue because the Airport expansion is ongoing.

As we already know the area of the project, we will endorse this concern to the EMB because the project is operating without an approved ECC, and to the PENRO; the Concurrent PMRB Chairperson to have an instruction to the proponent in terms for their operation.

## RECOMMENDATION:

- First of all, the proponent needs to secure a Proof of Authority over the project area, the area is located inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserve and occupied by the Bureau of Animal Industry with a current MOA to the DENR FMB.
- Even the proponent had the permission to PMRB, they need to secure first an approved ECC and other clearances from concerned offices, because this project can affect the existing environment on the area.
- 3. To request a Technical Person from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau MIMAROPA Region, because in Calamian, there are many ongoing government projects so that the MGB can help us in the evaluation and assessment for all the sources of aggregates, soil or non-metallic minerals in all government projects including the private entity projects.

Attached herewith are the geotagged photos during inspection, the Minutes of Meeting during technical conference and the map showing the actual size of the project.

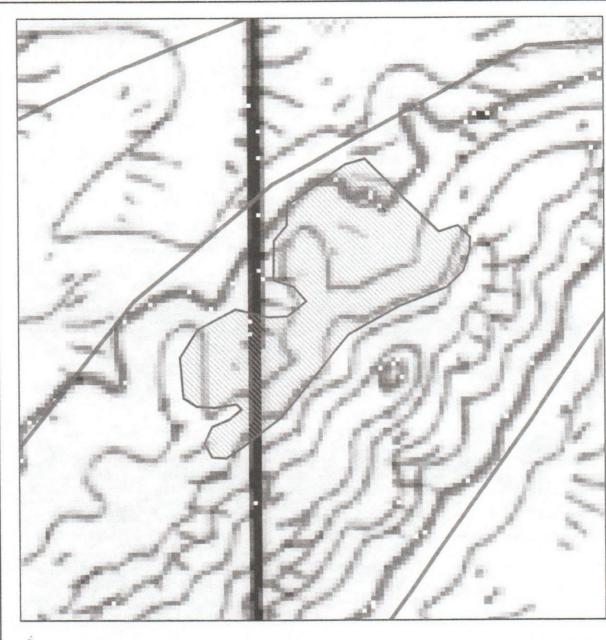
For information, record and further instruction/s.

For and in the absence of the OIC CENRO.

FOR. FERDINAND GATCHALIAN
Forester III

(In-charge, Office of the CENRO)

SERIAL MO CON OURO



NOTE

The herein describe/plotted area is subject for precise survey.

LOCATION MAP

SHOWING THE QUARRY AREA
WITHIN BPR

LOCATION
Banningsy
Murricipality
Coron
Province
BANAD
BAN NBCRDC

COUNTY Area

AREA = 47.722 sq. m. of 4.8 ha

AREA = 47.722 sq. m. of 4.8 ha

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O 0.015 0.03

AREA = 47.722 sq. m. of 4.8 ha

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Environmental Management Bureau - MIMAROPA Region
Provincial Environment Management Unit - Office Palawan
Province of Palawan



### **MEMORANDUM**

FOR

THE CENRO

Coron, Palawan

FROM

THE UNDERSIGNED

Coron, Palawan

SUBJECT. :

8888 CITIZENS COMPLAINT RE: FOLLOW UP

COMPLAINT ON THE ALLEGED ILLEGAL QUARRYING IN THE MOUNTAINS OF CORON,

PALAWAN

DATE

January 22, 2021

This pertains to the memorandum from the Regional Director of Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB-MIMAROPA) to the PENRO Palawan re: the 8888 Citizens complaint with ticket Reference number SMS-G-20210118-96-82 dated January 2021 of the above noted subject.

Please be informed that on December 2, 2020, the office conducted a technical conference attended by the BCT Construction Inc: the proponent on the quarry operation at Sitio Pamatpatan, Inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserve, Brgy. Decalachao, Coron, Palawan and also with the concerned offices such as CAAP, PMRB, Barangay, BAI (Bureau of Animal Industry), DENR FMB-BPR and EMB.

Below are the outcomes of the technical conference:

- 1. The quarry project is operated by the BCT Construction Inc. for the embankment of the proposed Busuanga Airport Expansion Project.
- The quarry operation is inside the Bureau of Animal Industry which had a MOA from the DENR FMB.
- The DOTr-CAAP in Busuanga Airport had no idea for what is inside the MOA Between the Contractors and CAAP pertains to Busuanga Airport Project.
- 4. The BCT can't secure further clearances from the DENR and other agencies because the BAI decline to give them authority on the area but they have a verbal agreement to the BAI only regarding the operation.

- The Busuanga Airport expansion project was in the Build Build build project by the National Government.
- As far as DENR FMB-BPR is concerned the project operation does not have any request or approval from their office.
- The PMRB in Calamian Islands had accommodate the Quarry operation of BCT because of the coordination to the Provincial Government of Palawan and it is because for the sake of the government project.
- 8. As far as DENR EMB is concerned the project operation had no approved Environmental Compliance Certificate.

Please be informed also that the DENR FMB-BPR had conducted survey on the quarry operation to determine the actual size of the quarry project in the area, and it shows that the project have a total area of 4.8 hectares and falls inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserved.

Please be informed further that on January 22, 2021, the undersigned had conducted an on-site validation on the area to determine the current status of the site. As the time of inspection there was no operation on the area, and according to the residents live on the area, the last operation of the proponent is in December last year, but it will continue because the Airport expansion is ongoing.

As we already know the area of the project, we will endorse this concern to the EMB because the project is operating without an approved ECC, and to the PENRO; the Concurrent PMRB Chairperson to have an instruction to the proponent in terms for their operation.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

- Even the proponent had the permission to PMRB, they need to secure first an approved ECC and other clearances from concerned offices, because this project can affect the existing environment on the area.
- 2. To request a Technical Person from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau MIMAROPA Region, because in Calamian, there are many ongoing government projects so that the MGB can help us in the evaluation and assessment for all the sources of aggregates, soil or non-metallic minerals in all government projects including the private entity projects.

Attached herewith are the geotagged photos during inspection, the Minutes of Meeting during technical conference and the map showing the actual size of the project.

For information, record and further instruction/s.

ENGR. MARK ANGELO S. ROGEL

OVC, EMS

MR. ELIZALDE SEGUNDO Forest Technician II

MR. HARLAN ILOVINO

MR. JULIUS SORREDA Forest Ranger

## **INSPECTION PHOTOS**



Figure 1-the current status of the quarry area



Figure 2-the area at So.Pamatpatan inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserve

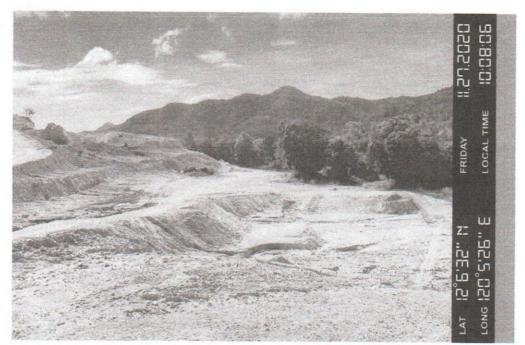


Figure 3-The photo taken last year

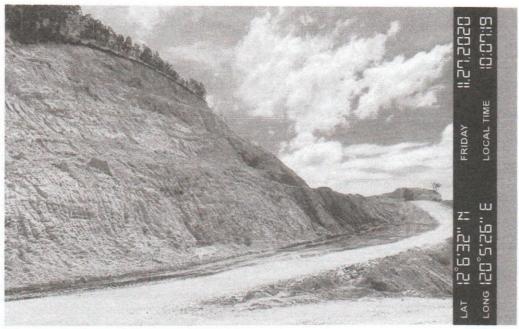


Figure 4-Status of the area last year





# MINUTES OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE RAGADING THE ALLEGED OUARRYING AT SITIO SALATPATAN. BARANGAY DECALACHAO. CORON, PALAWAN

Date:

December 2, 2020

Time:

1:30 PM

Attendees:

Wilfrando Hizarja, PMRB Salvador Manlabao Jr., BAI Emmanuel Rodriguez, CAAP Mark Angelo Rogel, DENR EMB Richard John Galagate, DENR BPR Sheena Mae Ponce de Leon, DENR EMB Gabriel Mingola Jr., OHP

Jessie Duazo, BCT

Arnold Blaza Jr., DENR - OIC, CENRO

The technical conference was started by a prayer lead by Sheena Mae Ponce de Leon and was prescribed by Mark Angelo Rogel, EMS I by giving brief information about the alleged quarrying at Sitio Salatpatan, Brgy. Decalachao, Coron, Palawan.

Rogel:

Una po natin hingiin ang panig ng Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) patungkol

sa usapin.

Manlabao: Wala pong permiso na mag-quarry sa area maliban kay BCT, ito po ay verbal agreement lamang.

Galagate: Noong 2015, ang area po ay quarrying site nap o at ito ay mayroon documentation file. Upon expansion ng airport mayroon nag-quarry para sa embankment ng runway ng airport. Ang area po ay napapaloob sa BAI based sa technical description ng memorandum of agreement between BAI and DENR. For the knowledge, wala pong request sa opisina ng quarry sa doon sa area, hindi po ako sigurado sa part ng BAI since mayroon pong MOA na, ang labas po kasi parang BAI na ang nag-mamanage ng area.

Rogel: Ang BCT po ang gumagawa ng preperasyon para sa embankment para po doon sa expansion project ng province.

Rodriguez: For information po, ang aiport manager namin ay nakaleave ngayon. With regards po sa ongoing project ng embankment ng runway, nagstart ito nang mabigyan ng area ang DOT-CAAP thru BAI-DENR ng 300 hectares at ito po ay may fence temporarily. With regards sa contract ng contractors at ng CAAP ay wala po akong idea kung mayroon po

silang mutual agreement pagdating sa materyales na kakailanganin at hindi ko din po masabi kung si CAAP ay may involvement sa quarrying activities sa area.

Rogel: Binibigyang linaw po ni sir Emmanueal Rodriguez na hindi nya po alam ang specific details sa contract ng BCT at DOT-CAAP. Ngayon hingiin natin ang opinion ng PMRB.

Casañero (via call): Ang project ng airport ay pinapafast track ni Governor since ito ay kasama sa *Built Built Built* ng Province, itong quarry na panambak sa expansion ay accommodation ng PMRB, ito ay ang tulong na binibigay ng Provincial Government sa CAAP at sa BAI as they are coordinating with the Governor. Aside from that, ang PMRB din ang headman noong mga panahon na nagkaproblema ang CAAP at BAI dahil nanggugulo ang mga pisante sa pagpapabakod ng perimeter fence sa airport expansion, it was the PRMB Coron who man the area at sa awa ng D'yos ay tuloy-tuloy ang pagbabakod at hindi na nagkaroon ng problema. It comes to the qarry materials, accordation ng Provincial quarry materials para sa project na ito though we have records of volume na nakukuha nila sa area.

Rogel: According to Miss Casañero ay may accommodation from province dahil humingi ng tulong si CAAP at BAI kay Governor doon sa area at nagkaroon ng agreement. Hingian ko muna ng ouput/ suggestions an gaming CENRO.

CENRO Blaza: Narinig ko na lahat ng side ninyo at sinabi na din ni PMRB na laegit ang lahat base na din sa request on agreement ng BAI, CAAP at g Contractors. Yung source ng panambak ay may papel. Kailagan natin ng data galing ng PMRB for record purposes ng opisina.

Rogel: Sa atin po sa DENR ay wala po tayong hawak na black-and-white documents kaya medyo mahihirapan po tayong magpaliwanag since verbal agreement po lamang po mayroon sila. Wala din poi tong hawak na approved ECC.

CENRO Blaza: Kaya pinahanap ko itong DOTR folder, makakakuha tayo ng design ng project at records ng PMRB dooon sa ginagamit ngayon. Isang area lang ba ang kinukuhaan?

Duazo: Opo isang area lang. Base po sa ano ko, gagawin po sana yang housing kasi dati sinubukan na namin iaapply for quarry e sabi ng manager dati naming kasusap ng airport mahirap maghingi ng clearance/ recommendation since kukunin pa sa office sa manila kaya sabi nya ganito total kapag kami may kailangan sa inyo naman kami tumatakbo e basta maintain at ayusin nyyo nalang ang kalsada papayag kami total madami naman ang kumuha doon sa area tsaka isa may plano sila na parang may plano sila na gumawa ng housing.

CENRO Blaza: Pasok pa din ba ito sa area ng BAI? Mayroon bang propose housing sa area? Mga ilang hectares ito?

Manlabao: Opo pasok pa ito sa area sa BAI. Dati po mayroon propose na housing ngunit nabago na po ito ngayon.

Galagate: More or less 5 hectares po sir.

CENRO Blaza: Wala tayo sa volume, doon tayon sa lawak ng area kapag ito ay lumampas sa 5 hectares sakop na natin ito sa DENR (MGB) pero kapag nasa 4 hectares pababa ito ay sa PMRB.

Rogel: Kapag po ba accommodation sir Jess ano po ang binibigay sa inyo ng PMRB?

Duazo: Request lang sa kanila pero dahil hindi kami makaapply dahil nadin hindi kami mabigyan ni BAI kaya ang sabi sa amin ni PMRB kung okay naman kay BAI, sige bibigyan naming kayo ng accommodation para magtuloy-tuloy ang trabaho sa airport, ito po ay verbal lamang ang usapan.

CENRO Blaza: Ang saken ay dapat mapailiwanag sa mga tao kung ano at para saan itong project na ito, para malinawan sila kung bakit ganito ganyan ang ginagawa sa area.

Rogel: Bale po hihingi tayo ng Certification sa PMRB na pinayagan nila at naacommodate nila ang BCT ng magoperate sa area para sa expansion project ng airport. Bale, ito po ay ieendorse na naming sa MGB para mapaliwanag sa amin kung ano po ba ang kailangan na isecure sa mga ganitong project since ang PMRB naman ay under sa umbrella ng MGB. For disposition po;

- Request of certification galing kay PMRB kung ilang volume na ang nakuha ni BCT sa area regarding sa expansion project.
- Request kay BAI ng MOA ng BAI at ng BCT.
- For CAAP po hihingi tayo ng certification na itong project na ito ay kasama sa Built Built Project.
- Sa DENR naman po ay susukatin ang lugar para magkaroon ng technical description ang area.
- MAgsecure ng mga permits/ clearance sa mga concerned offices.

Time Adjourned: 2: 05 PM.

CONTRACTORS TO ALCOHOLOGY AND RECORD TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PR

MALE SENALE SCHAFFIELD CONTACT NO. HAM. ADDRESS