



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Visayas, Avenue, Diliman, 1100 Quezon City
Tel. No.: (632) 8925-2141 / (632) 8927-4788
E-mail Address: fmb@denr.gov.ph

Website: <https://www.forestry.denr.gov.ph>



MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services
DENR MIMAROPA

The PENR Officer
PENRO Palawan

The CENR Officer
CENRO Calamianes Islands, Coron, Palawan

The Chief, Litigation and Prosecution Division
DENR Legal Affairs Service

The Chief, Land Classification Division
National Mapping and Resource Information Authority

The Chief, Land Management Division
Land Management Bureau

FROM : The OIC, Assistant Director and
Officer-In-Charge, Office of the Director

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING RE:
UNIFIED STAND ON THE YOLANDA PERMANENT HOUSING
PROJECT (YPHP) WITHIN THE BUSUANGA PASTURE
RESERVE (BPR)**

DATE : **MAR 07 2022**

This is to furnish you a copy of the highlights of the meeting regarding the Discussion/Preparation of the unified stand of the DENR on the Yolanda Permanent Housing Project (YPHP) within the Busuanga Pasture Reserve (BPR) held last 04 March 2022.

The discussions in the meeting led to the agreement that the decision to be communicated in the upcoming TWG meeting with IATF-Yolanda scheduled on 08 March 2022 is: **Based on the result of the investigation of DENR MIMAROPA, it is not possible for the DENR to lift the hold in abeyance order therefore the project cannot proceed. With that, the DENR recommends for NHA to identify other areas that are within public lands but not within BPR anymore, which the DENR may be of assistance.**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, PLEASE.


EDNA D. NUESTRO



MEMORANDUM

FOR : The OIC, Forest Investment Development Division *Rev 1 030722*

FROM : Technical Staff, Forest Revenue Development Section

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING RE: UNIFIED STAND ON THE YOLANDA PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECT (YPHP) WITHIN THE BUSUANGA PASTURE RESERVE (BPR)**

DATE : **MAR 07 2022**

This pertains to the meeting regarding the Discussion/Preparation of the unified stand of the DENR on the Yolanda Permanent Housing Project (YPHP) within the Busuanga Pasture Reserve (BPR) held on 04 March 2022. In this regard, here are the highlights of the meeting and the corresponding agreements:

The meeting started at around 9:15 A.M. and was presided by Asec. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr. Below are the attendees of the meeting:

Name	Position/Office
Vicente Tuddao	Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services, DENR MIMAROPA
Arnoldo Blaza Jr.	CENR Officer, CENRO Coron, Palawan
Karren Cecil Panopio-Lofranco	OIC Chief, Litigation and Prosecution Division (LPD), DENR Legal Affairs Service (LAS)
Maria Emma Gille Mercado	Attorney III, LPD- DENR LAS
Donald Dwight Omega	Attorney III, LPD- DENR LAS
Rene Orallo	Special Investigator II, LPD- DENR LAS
Beata Batadlan	Chief, Land Classification Division, National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA)
Alex C. Pascua	Chief, Land Management Division, Land Management Bureau (LMB)
Ma. Sarah Mirandilla	Research Analyst II, LMB
Norlito P. Sarmiento	Officer-In-Charge, Forest Investment Development Division (FIDD)
Kathleen Q. Marasigan	Senior Forest Management Specialist, Forest Revenue Development Section (FRDS)-FIDD
Danelyn T. Delos Reyes	Forest Management Specialist II, FRDS-FIDD
Richard P. Galagate	Project Operation Control Officer (POCO), BPR Management Office (BPRMO)
Frances Nicole A. Lavapie	Project Development Officer, FRDS/BPRMO

Highlights	Response/Agreement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pros: issues can be resolved while temporarily halted ○ Cons: The project will be held in abeyance b. Reclassification of the subject lot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pros: This would make the project possible to continue ○ Cons: lengthy process c. Revert the OCT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pros: the subject lot would be of the public domain again ○ Cons: lengthy process d. Issue a tenurial instrument e. Identify other areas for the project to take place 	<p>forestlands for housing/resettlement purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only option left is for NHA/IATF-Yolanda to look for other possible areas.
<p>ARD Vicente Tuddao:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reiterated that the area is not suitable for agricultural production due to the area being acidic, based on a study conducted by the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP). • There is a government land outside BPR that is not under any proclamation that may be suitable for the project instead. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asec. Amaro instructed to validate the availability of areas outside BPR
<p>Proposed decision to be communicated in the upcoming TWG meeting:</p> <p>Based on the result of the investigation of DENR MIMAROPA, <u>it is not possible for the DENR to lift the hold in abeyance order therefore the project cannot proceed.</u> With that, the DENR recommends for NHA to <u>identify other areas that are within public lands but not within BPR anymore</u>, which the DENR may be of assistance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objections were raised with the decision proposed by Asec. Amaro. • CENRO to identify other possible areas for NHA as projects sites • DENR LAS will issue a reply to the February Memorandum of FMB containing their legal findings and what they had expressed in this meeting.
<p>ARD Tuddao re: clarification on the inconsistency between the reports on NAMRIA and DENR MIMAROPA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAMRIA reported that there is no approved land classification in the area where the subject title is located. Meanwhile, DENR MIMAROPA reported that the area falls within Unclassified Public Forest (UPF) since all areas with no approved land classification are considered as UPF. Therefore, both reports are consistent with each other. 	<p>Ms. Batadlan of NAMRIA agreed and has no further comments.</p>



Screen capture of attendees

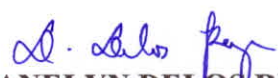
Highlights	Response/Agreement
<p>Before the discussion, For. Sarmiento presented the background of the issue regarding the YPHP within BPR, antecedents, result of the investigation of DENR MIMAROPA and the land suitability and hazard risk analysis of the area covered by TCT No. T-8335 using GIS.</p>	
<p>Mr. Alex Pascua of LMB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even if the land is suitable for housing, or is not susceptible to hazards such as flooding and landslide, the accessibility to economic opportunities should also be considered • If the project pushes through, the people might encroach the area outside the resettlement area since the 23.96 hectare-area is not sufficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asec. Amaro agreed on the possibility of encroachment to other areas due to the growth of settlements and reiterated that since bulk of the area is for strict protection and protection buffer, very little area would be made available for the project.
<p>Atty. Panopio-Lofranco:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the decision would be to proceed with the project, the title should be revoked first, then reclassify the area into alienable and disposable lands. 	
<p>Atty. Dwight Omega:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current laws cannot back up the project in terms of legality. • Options to resolve the issue re: YPHP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Stop the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re: the 4th option, Asec. Amaro mentioned that it is contrary to forest laws to allow legitimate use of

Highlights	Response/Agreement
<p>Mr. Pascua on the possibility of filing a case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inquired with Legal whether the DENR is ready to file the case for the reversion of the subject title using the report of DENR MIMAROPA. 	<p>Atty. Panopio-Lofranco responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DENR can file the reversion proceedings against the subject land title. It can be handled by the Anti-Illegal Land Titling Committee under the LAS.
<p>Other Matters:</p> <p>Draft Presidential Proclamation entitled "Repealing Proclamation No. 663 series of 2012 and transferring the administration of the Busuanga Pasture Reserve to the MIMAROPA Regional Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisions made were the re-ordering of the Whereas-clauses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atty. Mercado mentioned that the DENR LAS has no further comments on the draft proclamation and is ready for recommendation of Usec. Adobo to the DENR Secretary. However, the document might be returned for the change in signatory. Since there are multiple reported total areas of the BPR, it is agreed to mention the total area of the BPR based on both the proclamation (more or less 40,000 hectares) and the actual land survey of the FMB (37,047.80 hectares).

There being no additional matters to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

FOR INFORMATION, CONSIDERATION, AND FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS, IF ANY.


FRANCES NICOLE LAVAPIE
 Project Development Officer


DANELYN DELOS REYES
 Forest Management Specialist II


KATHLEEN O. MARASIGAN
 Senior Forest Management Specialist
 OIC, Forest Revenue Development Section