



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel Nos. 929-6626 to 29; 929-6633 to 35
929-7041 to 43; 929-6252; 929-1669
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph> E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

NOV 02 2022

MR. DEOGRACIAS VELASCO

Managing Director

Explore Nature Environmental Management Consultancy

c/o dsvrealty0322@gmail.com

Dear **Mr. Velasco**:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter, endorsed to DENR by Director Cherry Pie Felisse M. Maraya, Office for Facilitation of Presidential Assistance, Presidential Management Staff, Office of the President, requesting assistance to suspend the implementation of Administrative Order No. 2021-07 (Guidelines on the Establishment of Legal Easements along the Seas, Rivers, Lakes, Esteros and Creeks), as the policy affects the tourism in Palawan.

In this regard, please be informed that we have referred the matter to the Office of Undersecretary for Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment for appropriate action and to provide you with their actions taken on the subject matter. You may also directly coordinate with the said office at telephone numbers 8925-2328, 8926-2567 for the latest updates.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Very truly yours,

MARILOU G. ERNI

Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

cc: **Director Cherry Pie Felisse M. Maraya**
Office for Facilitation of Presidential Assistance
Presidential Management Staff
Office of the President

The Regional Executive Director
DENR Region IVB (MIMAROPA)



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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Undersecretary**
Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment

FROM : **The Undersecretary and Chief of Staff**

SUBJECT : **REQUEST OF MR. DEOGRACIAS VELASCO FOR
ASSISTANCE TO SUSPEND THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-07**

DATE : **NOV 02 2022**

Respectfully referred, for information and appropriate action, is the attached letter dated 04 October from Director Cherry Pie Felisse M. Maraya, Office for Facilitation of Presidential Assistance, Presidential Management Staff, Office of the President forwarding the request of Mr. Deogracias Velasco for assistance to suspend the implementation of Administrative Order No. 2021-07 (Guidelines on the Establishment of Legal Easements along the Seas, Rivers, Lakes, Esteros and Creeks), as the policy affects the tourism in Palawan.

Please inform party/ies concerned and the undersigned of the action taken on the matter.


MARILOU G. ERNI

cc: **Mr. Deogracias Velasco**
Managing Director
Explore Nature Environmental Management Consultancy
[c/o dsvreally0322@gmail.com](mailto:c/o_dsvreally0322@gmail.com)

Director Cherry Pie Felisse M. Maraya
Office for Facilitation of Presidential Assistance
Presidential Management Staff
Office of the President
PMS-202209-3471

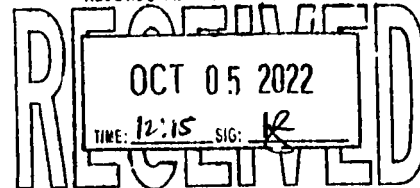
The Regional Executive Director
DENR Region IVB (MIMAROPA)



Office of the President of the Philippines
PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT STAFF
Malacañang

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

October 4, 2022



Secretary MA. ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
DENR Building, Visayas Avenue
Diliman, Quezon City
osec@denr.gov.ph

Attention: Mr. CHITO B. REYES
Deputy Head, DENR Action Center/Hotline 8888
askyonkalis@denr.gov.ph

Dear **Madam**:

May we respectfully forward, for your appropriate action, the attached email of Mr. Deogracias Velasco requesting assistance on the issuance of a suspension order to prevent the implementation of Administrative Order No. 2021-07 of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources entitled, "Guidelines on the Establishment of Legal Easement Along the Seas, Rivers, Lakes, Esteros, and Creeks," which allegedly affected the tourism industry in Palawan.

Kindly evaluate the merits of the concern, *in accordance with your existing guidelines and applicable laws, rules, and regulations*. **Please note that this letter should not, in any way, be construed as an intercession for or against the letter-sender.**

Your office may provide updates to Mr. Velasco, copy furnished the Presidential Management Staff, citing tracking no. PMS-202209-3471 as reference.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,


CHERRY PIE FELISSE M. MARAYA
Director, Office for Facilitation of Presidential Assistance

cc: **Mr. DEOGRACIAS VELASCO**
Managing Director
Explore Nature Environmental Management Consultancy
c/o dsvrealty0322@gmail.com
0906-0134439/0961-0201861

DENR Tourism projects in Palawan province.

Deogracias Velasco <dsvrealty0322@gmail.com>

Thu 22/09/2022 3:53 PM

To: PMS Mails <info@pms.gov.ph>; pcc@malacanang.gov.ph <pcc@malacanang.gov.ph>

Cc: Deogracias Velasco <dsvrealty0322@gmail.com>; Flora Martinez <floral_fauna@yahoo.com>; gvm29@yahoo.com <gvm29@yahoo.com>; dennisaldrin.velasco@gmail.com <dennisaldrin.velasco@gmail.com>; Jolly Gomez <jollygomez5@gmail.com>; guymazzoni@gmail.com <guymazzoni@gmail.com>; j.oroceo@skylodgeresort.com.ph <j.oroceo@skylodgeresort.com.ph>; Urs Kradolfer <urs310@gmail.com>; Robert Luo <robertllc@yahoo.com>; Charles McCulloch <CHARLESMCCULLOCH@hotmail.com>; vince.perez@nextpartners.com <vince.perez@nextpartners.com>; FLORAL TRAVEL <floralpalawan@gmail.com>; Johan Viola <johan.viola@gmail.com>; Mark Worsdell <ceo.sprc@gmail.com>; Benedict Lim <Slim1500@gmail.com>

Ms. Naida Angping
Presidential Management Staff
Malacanang, Manila

Madam,

This has regards to my special concern specifically with the implementation of some rules with the DENR affecting the Tourism Industry in the Province of Palawan.

I have worked with the DENR for the past 26 years and even become a CENR-Officer in two DENR Offices in the Province as in Brookes Point, Palawan and in Roxas, Palawan.

I have also worked as an Executive Assistant V, Office of the Governor for the past 5 years during the term of Governor Jose Ch. Alvarez.

Right now I am running a Consultancy service in Environmental Mgt. Consultancy doing documentation of Forest Land Users such as: Forest Land Use Agreement for tourism (FLAgT) purposes; Forest Land Use Agreement for Other Lawful purposes (FLAg-OLP); Other Forest Land Uses as in Plantation Projects; SIFMA; Land Titling and etc.

My concern now Madam is the so much delay in processing in some concerned Agencies, Like in the National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) where it takes 2 to 3 years before any NCIP clearance would be issued. Sometimes delay also on some attached agencies to the DENR, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) in the issuance also of SEP clearance; The ECAN Board from each of the Municipal Council will also take some delay depending on slated ECAN Board meeting. But most of it Madam, is the new Administrative Order from the DENR issued by then former Secretary Roy A.Cimatu, DENR Adm. Order 2021-07, GUIDELINES IN THE ISSUANCE OF LEGAL EASEMENTS ALONG THE SEAS, RIVERS, LAKES, ESTEROS, AND CREEKS wherein Tourism projects in our Province is the most affected and that most projects are within Timber land in status where the 40 meters legal easement onwards measured from the highest tide level is being implemented.

We know for a fact that in the Northern Palawan, most of the Tourism projects or Resorts were built in Islands where it is being categorized or assessed as Tourism Zone/Multiple Use Zone based on the ECAN Zoning of the PCSD. The Problem now is that most Islands were measured only at an average of 40 m, 50 m, and the least of 80-100 meters width measured from both sides from sea shores. So if you remove 40 meters both sides from the shore then it will become (**0 area for 40 meters Island width; 0 area for 50 meters Island width; 0 area for 80 meters width**; therefore,

you can only establish a structure within 90 meters width Island for a **measurement of 10 meters in the middle** and **20 meters for Islands having 100 meters** width. One thing is that some Islands have only portions that can be feasible in building a structure (around 20% of the area) since most Islands in the North are rocky, cliffs with bigger islands were already occupied by communities.

Here comes another problem Madam, most resorts in Palawan especially in the North were established prior to the implementation of such Administrative Order, where most of my clients now that are applying for FLAgT or Tourism Resorts and likewise the Department of Tourism in every Municipality had been alarmed by the implementation of such Administrative Order where these resort had already been notified by concerned CENRO's to voluntarily dismantled all permanent structures within the 40 meters easement.

Initially, only this Month, I advised my clients to coordinate with the Provincial/Municipal Tourism Officers to file a Position paper to the DENR to temporarily suspend the implementation of such Administrative Order and to conduct further study with regards to the distance of easement from 40 meters to a shorter distance the possibility of limiting to only 3-5 meters as in the limitation on titled properties/urban areas which is 3 meters.

In view of the above, and speaking on behalf of the Tourism Industry in the Province, and Resort Operators in the Province, may we request through your Office Madam, to please assist us in initiating this move to the DENR Secretary for the issuance of Suspension Order on the implementation of such Administrative Order and for the DENR to make further study or better regulation for the purpose.

Very truly yours,

Forester Deogracias Velasco
Managing Director
Explore Nature Environmental Mgt. Consultancy
Contact No. 09060134439/09610201861
Email Add: dsvrealty0322@gmail.com

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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Document No: DENRCO - AS RMD-2022-024840 / 28036
Sender: CHERRY PIE FELISSE M. MARAYA
Address: PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT STAFF, MALACANANG
Subject: LETTER DTD 10/04/2022 EMAIL OF MR. DEOGRACIAS VELASCO REQUESTING FOR ASSISTANCE ON THE ISSUANCE OF A SUSPENSION ORDER TO PREVENT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-07 OF THE DENR WHICH ALLEGEDLY AFFECTED THE TOURISM INDUSTRY OF PALAWAN
Addressee(s): Office of the Secretary (DENRCO.- OSEC)
CC Addressee(s):
Date/Time Received: 10/05/2022 12:15:00 PM

Print Date: Wednesday, October 05, 2022

ROUTING AND ACTION INFORMATION				
FROM	DATE/TIME RECEIVED	FOR/TO	DATE/TIME RELEASED	ACCEPTANCE REMARKS/ACTION REQUIRED/TAKEN REMARKS/STATUS
	10/05/2022 01:16:00 PM	DENRCO - AS RMD		
DENRCO - AS RMD		DENRCO - OSEC	10/05/2022 01:16:07 PM	

NA 10/6/2022

CL 10/8/22 Request submitted:
1. action document
2. brief
3. acknowledgment letter

OJFOE 11/2

Memo sgd by VMAF
R- Letter to Mr. Deogracias Velasco

Hester
NA

ANNA
11-7-22

11-11 En 202-
comm. Velasco

10/5/2022

Envi 79-175