

## Region IV- MIMAROPA

### COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

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

Email address: cenroroxaspalawan@denr.gov.ph

October 21, 2022

#### **MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** 

The PENRO

Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

**FROM** 

The CENRO

Roxas Palawan

SUBJECT :

REPORT ON THE MONITORING ACTIVITY ON THE ISSUED CEASE AND DESIST ORDER TO

ISSUED CEASE AND DESIST ORDER TO MR. FRANCISCO REFIL FOR THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SAND AND GRAVEL IN

BARANGAY III, ROXAS PALAWAN.

Respectfully forwarding the memorandum report of our MGB Embedded Personnel dated 19 October 2022 regarding the above-cited subject.

For your action and recommendation.

Cc:

The Regional Executive Director

Department of Environment Natural Resources – MIMAROPA Region

The Regional Director

Mines and Geosciences Bureau - MIMAROPA Region

UERR-CENRO ROXA

DATE. OCT 2 1 2022

75.Nr.2022-10-1644



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October 19, 2022

#### **MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** 

The CENR Officer

Community Environment and Natural Resources

Roxas, Palawan

**FROM** 

The Undersigned

SUBJECT

REPORT ON THE MONITORING ACTIVITY ON THE

ISSUED CEASE AND DESIST ORDER TO MR. FRANCISCO REFIL FOR THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SAND AND GRAVEL IN

BARANGAY III, ROXAS PALAWAN.

#### **Background Information**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2022, the Undersigned together with PMRB personnel, Mr. Felipe Evio Jr., and Mr. Boboy Savilla Vicera, conducted mining monitoring activities in Brgy. 3, Municipality of Roxas, Palawan. A barangay agreement was written between PMRB-Representative Felipe Evio Jr. and Mr. Francisco Refil, stating that the latter vows to refrain from extracting sand and gravel within his fishpond (dated 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2019). However, the field investigation finds Mr. Francisco Refil to be in violation of Section 103 of RA 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 for the continuous extraction and commercial disposition of sand and gravel utilized for hollow blocks production. The Regional Office of MGB MIMAROPA issued CDO to Mr. Refil dated 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2022.

#### **Findings and Observation**

 On 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022, the undersigned conducted Monitoring Activity on the issued Cease and Desist Order to Mr. Francisco Refil in Brgy III, Roxas Palawan.



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- 2. Upon arriving in the residence of Mr. Francisco Refil, it was observed that there is an ongoing extraction of SAG materials in the fishpond (photo 1)
- 3. The undersigned then reiterated to Mr. Francisco Refil that there is a CDO issued by the Regional Office of MGB-Mimaropa.
- 4. The undersigned and CENRO Pablo L. Cruz summoned Mr. Francisco Refil herein this office on 5<sup>th</sup> August to remind and impose the issued CDO.
- Mr. Refil then expressed that the rising cost of SAG materials is economically disadvantageous on his part, such that he resorts to illegal extraction of sand and gravels on his fishpond.
- The CENRO emphasized that we must follow the environmental law. The CENRO then instructed the undersigned to continuously monitor the illegal extraction activity.
- 7. On 14<sup>th</sup> to 15th October, 2022, the Undersigned together with Forest Protection Officer Donne Sabroso conducted Cease and Desist Monitoring issued to Mr. Refil based on the field findings of the report "REPORT ON THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SILICA SAND IN BRGY 3, MUNICIPALITY OF ROXAS, PALAWAN" dated 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2022.
- 8. The undersigned then asked the son of Mr. Francisco Refil, if they are still utilizing the SAG in the fishpond or outsourcing gravels as there is an ongoing hollow blocks production in the area (photo 2).
- 9. A portion of the sag from the fishpond is occasionally mixed with the gravel sourced from Sambuton trading, he replied.



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#### FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Mr. Francisco Refil continuously extracts Sand and Gravel on his fishpond despite the issuance of Sworn Barangay Agreement and Cease and Desist Order.
- It is highly recommended that the Regional Office of MGB MIMAROPA file
  the complaint with the proper court for the continuous violation of Mr.
  Francisco Refil to Section 103 of RA 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine
  Mining Act of 1995
- 3. Intensive Information and Dissemination Campaign to combat illegal mining activities is recommended.

For the CENRO'S consideration and further instruction

DOMINIK L. ECHANO

Science Research Specialist II



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### PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Photo 1. Extraction observed during the CDO monitoring on August 1, 2022.



Photo 2. No extraction was observed during the follow-up CDO monitoring on October 14, 2022



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Photo 3. Hollow Blocks production in Brgy. III, Roxas, Palawan

### **MAPS**



Figure 1. Location Map

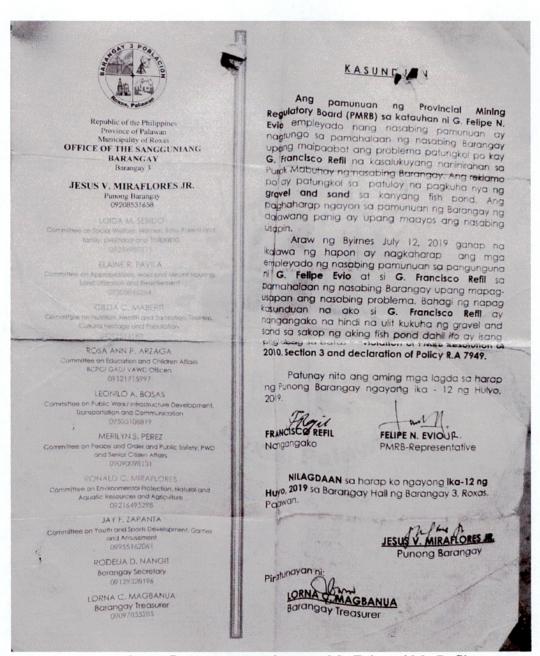


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#### Annex



Annex . Sworn Brgy. agreement between Mr. Evio and Mr. Refil