

Republic of the Philippines

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

7/F DENR Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila Telefax No. (+632) 8536-0215 / (+632) 5310-1369 Email: region4b@mgb.gov.ph



The same

08 August 2023

ATTY. NOEL E. AQUINO

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer PG-Environment and Natural Resources Office Provincial Government – Palawan Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

Dear Atty. N. E. Aquino:

This refers to the 14 July 2023 letter of D.L.R.Y. Millenium Realty Development Corporation addressed to the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, requesting the issuance of an order against IBC-BCT Joint Venture to stop its on-going Coron Airport rehabilitation project due to non-compliance with pertinent environmental laws.

The above letter was duly referred by the DENR to this Office on 31 July 2023, for our appropriate action.

In this regard, please be informed of the following:

1. During the Cease-and-Desist Order (CDO) monitoring of this Office conducted on 05 – 09 March 2023, the representative of BCT Construction Inc. (BCT) affirmed that it has stopped sourcing quarry materials extracted in its CDO area in Barangay Decalachao, Coron, Palawan for the construction of the Coron Airport. The same was observed by the monitoring team during the said undertaking. However, it was noted that the extent of the illegal quarry operation in the area is massive which may result to erosion and mass movement.

The representative of BCT also mentioned that Phase 3 of the construction of the Coron Airport will soon begin, and the project will need more quarry materials.

- On 25 April 2023, this Office reminded the BCT and other illegal mountain quarry operators on the agreements during the 26 May 2022 interagency meeting which requires the illegal mountain quarry operators and the Local Government Unit – Coron to submit a rehabilitation plan for the mountain quarry areas (copy attached); and
- 3. On the same date, this Office requested PENRO Palawan through CENRO Coron to monitor the areas with issued Cease-and-Desist Orders in Coron and Busuanga, Palawan.

Note that the Provincial Government of Palawan through the Provincial Government – Environment and Natural Resources Office is mandated to "be in the frontline of the delivery of services concerning the environment and natural resources, particularly in the renewal and rehabilitation of the

environment during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities" pursuant to Section 484.4 of Republic Act No. 7160.

Further, the Provincial Governor, pursuant to Chapter VIII of Republic Act No. 7942, has the sole authority to issue quarry and sand and gravel permits. Being the issuing entity, the Office of the Governor has the sole function also to suspend or cancel the permits it has issued.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



FELIZARDO A. GACAD, JR. Regional Director

Enc'l:

As stated

The Assistant Secretary
Finance, Information Systems and Mining Concerns Department of Environment and Natural Resources Office Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

The Regional Executive Director Department of Environment and Natural Resources MIMAROPA Region

The PENRO – Palawan Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

The CENRO - Coron Community Environment and Natural Resources Office Coron, Palawan

The President
D.L.R.Y. Millenium realty Development Corporation #52 Urbano Velasco Ave. Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City





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25 April 2023

The President
BCT Construction Inc.
Coron, Palawan

Dear Ma'am/Sir:

This refers to the monitoring of areas issued with Cease-and-Desist Orders (CDO) in the Municipalities of Coron and Busuanga, Busuanga Island, Province of Palawan conducted by this Office on 05 - 09 March 2023.

During the said activity, several quarry areas of BCT Construction Inc. (BCT) were inspected by the monitoring team and found that none of them has been rehabilitated yet. The said quarry areas show signs of mass movement and poses threat to nearby communities.

Please be reminded that the inter-agency task force of Coron has instructed several quarry operators, including BCT, to rehabilitate their areas. Moreover, per the 26 May 2022 inter-agency meeting, BCT was recommended to submit a rehabilitation plan to this Office based on the actual ground surveys for its mountain quarry areas in Coron, Palawan.

Due to the hazard of these unrehabilitated areas may pose to the nearby communities, BCT is instructed to immediately submit the rehabilitation plan for the mountain quarry areas, for this Office's evaluation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

GLENN MARCELO C. NOBLE

Regional Director

The Regional Executive Director

Department of Environment and Natural Resources MIMAROPA Region

The PENRO and Concurrent Acting PMRS Chairperson Provincial Environment and Natural Resource Office Department of Environment and Natural Resources The Mayor - Coron Office of the Mayor Coron, Palawan

The CENRO – Calamianes Island
Community Environment and Natural Resource Office
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Coron, Palawan





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25 April 2023

The President
428 Hi-Tech Group Inc.
Sitio Pakunan, Brgy. San Nicolas
Coron, Palawan

Dear Ma'am/Sir:

This refers to the monitoring of areas issued with Cease-and-Desist Orders (CDO) in the Municipalities of Coron and Busuanga, Busuanga Island, Province of Palawan conducted by this Office on 05 - 09 March 2023.

During the said activity, several quarry areas operated by 428 Hi-Tech Group Inc. (428) were inspected by the monitoring team and found that none of them has been rehabilitated yet. The said quarry areas show signs of mass movement and poses threat to nearby communities.

Please be reminded that the inter-agency task force of Coron has instructed several quarry operators, including 428, to rehabilitate their areas. Moreover, per the 26 May 2022 inter-agency meeting, 428 was recommended to submit a rehabilitation plan to this Office based on the actual ground surveys for its mountain quarry areas in Coron, Palawan.

Due to the hazard of these unrehabilitated areas may pose to the nearby communities, 428 is instructed to immediately submit the rehabilitation plan for the mountain quarry areas, for this Office's evaluation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

MIMAROPA Region



Regional Executive Director
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

The PENRO and Concurrent Acting PMRB Chairperson Provincial Environment and Natural Resource Office Department of Environment and Natural Resources The Mayor - Coron Office of the Mayor Coron, Palawan

The CENTRO - Calamianes Island
Community Environment and Natural Resource Office
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Coron, Palawan

"MINING SHALL BE PRO-PEOPLE AND PRO-ENVIRONMENT IN SUSTAINING WEALTH CREATION AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE."