



February 16, 2023

MS. MARY ANN MONTESA
Province of Romblon
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**Re: REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION ON DPWH PROJECT ALONG THE SEASHORE
AREA OF CALATRAVA, ROMBLON**

Madam:

Greetings in conservation!

This refers to your concern lodged to the DENR with tracking number DENR-ECO-OSEC-2022-003252 that recently received by this Office on 14 February 2023 requesting to conduct investigation on the DPWH Project along the seashore of Calatrava, Romblon.

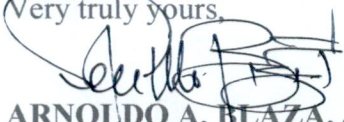
Please be informed that this Office conducted field investigation on the said subject matter in collaboration with DENR-Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), DPWH-District Engineering Office (DEO) and Municipal LGU of Calatrava, Romblon on 8 February 2023. It ascertained that the said beachfront do not possess critical habitat like sea grass/mangrove ecosystem and not even declared as marine protected area.

Accordingly, the DENR-EMB MIMAROPA Region issued Notice of Violation (NOV) dated 10 February 2023 on the basis of constructing a causeway project with reclamation component without approved Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) under Item 3.5.3 of EMB MC No. 2014-005. Thus, this memorandum provides that a causeway project with reclamation component require an ECC prior to project implementation.

Since it falls under reclamation, the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) has jurisdiction over the said project and the proponent shall apply "AREA CLEARANCE" from the DENR as one of the requirements.

Moreover, Regional Director Joe Amil M. Salino already directed the DPWH-DEO to SUSPEND any further developments relative to the construction and operation of the causeway project including the reclamation activities upon receipt of the said Order.

Again, thank you very much and we hope that we have addressed this concern accordingly.

Very truly yours,

ARNOLFO A. BLAZA, JR.
OIC, PENR Officer

Cc: *USEC for Field Operation*
Luzon, Visayas and Environment

Regional Executive Director-MIMAROPA Regional Office
ARD for Technical Services