



February 9, 2023

BILSHAN F. SERVAÑEZ

Taxpayer
Province of Romblon
bilshanfs@yahoo.com

Re: CONSTRUCTION OF CAUSEWAY ON CALATRAVA BEACHFRONT

Sir:

Greetings in conservation!

This refers to your concern lodged to *denr8888mimaropa@yahoo.com* dated 8 February 2023 regarding the "Construction of Causeway on Calatrava Beachfront" being implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways Romblon-District Engineering Office (DEO) funded under FY 2022 DPWH Infrastructure Program amounted to Php 91,201,467.88 that started on 25 July 2022 and to be completed on 24 June 2023.

The above-mentioned issue was referred to this Office on 8 February 2023 around 2:00 in the afternoon. Then, this Office conducted field investigation in collaboration with DENR-Environmental Management Bureau, DPWH-DEO and Municipal LGU of Calatrava, Romblon.

Based on the result of investigation, it ascertained that the said beachfront do not possess critical habitat like sea grass/mangrove ecosystem and not even declared as marine protected area. In addition, the construction of causeway serves as one of the mitigating measures against storm surges. Hence, the project will protect houses and others structures from strong waves.

Accordingly, the DENR-EMB issued Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) with Reference No. CNC-OL-R4B-2022-07-01162 on 01 July 2022. It has a declared project size of 0.46 Hectare situated at the shoreline beside the port, particularly at the salvage zone and intertidal zone.

Please be informed of EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2014-005 which provides that causeway projects that has a project area less than or equal to one (1) hectare (without reclamation) is only required to secure a CNC. Meanwhile, causeway projects with a project area greater than or equal to fifteen hectares (with reclamation) are required to secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate.

However, if this 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.

As per allegation of your letter citing that there was no consultations conducted, based on the documents presented by the LGU, there was consultation and dialogue with the barangay officials and fisher folks conducted by the MLGU- Calatrava held at Calatrava Municipal Fish Port on August 22, 2022 regarding the construction of causeway.



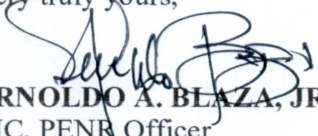
Furthermore, the Municipal LGU of Calatrava, Romblon through the Office of the Sangguniang Bayan passed a Resolution No. 67 S.2022 dated 28 November 2022 re: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTINUATION OF THE CAUSEWAY OR RECLAMATION PROJECT IN ITS PRESENT SITE, THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE MUNICIPAL FISH PORT, AS THE DECISION IS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE WILL OF MAJORITY OF THE CALATRAVANHONS."

As a result, the DPWH-DEO issued Work Resumption Order No. 1 dated 7 December 2022 to the Sunwest Construction and Development Corp. to resume construction operations at the project site effective 9 December 2022.

At present, there is on-going operation of the causeway like sheet piling and land covering/filling works along the beach covering an area of 115 meters in length and 40 meters in width.

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

Very truly yours,


ARNOLDO A. BLAZA, JR.
OIC, PENR Officer

cc:

DENR MIMAROPA Regional Office (8888 Focal)

**Consultation and Dialogue at
Calatrava Municipal Fish Port
on Aug. 22, 2022**



Kagawad Marian summarized the opinion of Barangay Officials and Fisherfolks.



Mayor Mariet, Vice Mayor Dishan, Engr. Ulysses Ancheta in front for the dialogue.



Engr. Fajutnao explained the side of the Planning Unit of DPWH Romblon



DPWH-ROMBLON DEO
RECEIVED

By:
Date:

12/5/2022

2:30 P.M.

December 5, 2022

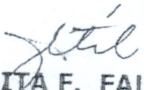
ELENA M. CASTILAN
DISTRICT ENGINEER
DPWH Odiongan, Romblon

Madam;

Submit herewith copy of Resolution No. 67 S. 2022, A Resolution Approving the Continuation of the Causeway or Reclamation Project in its present site, the Eastern Portion of the Municipal Fish Port, as Decision is in Consonance with the will of majority of the Calatravanhons.

Hoping for your immediate action and untiring support.

Respectfully yours,


JUANITA F. FALCUTILA
Staff, Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Calatrava

Municipality of Calatrava
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN
Municipal Hall – Calatrava, Romblon

14th SB OF CALATRAVA

HON. DISHAN F. SERVAÑEZ
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

Sangguniang Bayan Members

HON. ELIZER F. FIEDACAN

Chairman:
a. Education Science and Technology
b. Health and Public Sanitation
AOR – Barangay Poblacion

HON. RONALD JAY P. FABELLA

Chairman:
a. Tourism
b. Infrastructure, Public Works and Special Projects
AOR – Barangay Poblacion

HON. MERLITO M. SIXON

Chairman:
a. Housing and Land Utilization
b. Power, Water, and Communication Utilities
AOR – Barangay Poblacion

HON. ELMER N. FORTU

Chairman:
a. Food, Fishery and Agriculture
b. Environmental Protection and Ecology
AOR – Barangay Poblacion

HON. RAMON F. MAGBATA, JR.

Chairman:
a. Finance, Budget & Appropriation
b. Rules, Laws & Privileges
AOR – Barangay Poblacion

HON. ROGER M. SIXON

Chairman:
a. Transportation and Traffic
b. Games and Amusement
AOR – Barangay San Roque

HON. ROBERTO M. FESALBON

Chairman:
a. Peace & Order & Human Rights
b. Women and Family Welfare, Gender & Development
AOR – Barangay Pangulo

HON. DILBERT S. MOTIN

Chairman:
a. Local Economic Enterprise
b. Ways and Means
AOR – Barangay Poblacion

HON. RAMON REANDELAR
IPMR/SB MEMBER

Chairman:
a. People Empowerment & Governance, & Cooperatives
b. Heritage, Culture & Arts

HON. DANICA JOY F. BORRAMEO

SKMF/EX-OFFICIO MEMBER
Chairman:
a. Youth & Sports Development

HON. DOMINADOR N. OGATIA

LnB PRES/EX-OFFICIO MEMBER
Chairman:
a. Barangay Affairs
b. Trade & Industry & Employment
LnB/Pres

Office of the Secretary

MR. JOSEPH M. FEDELICIO
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

MS. ARLYN F. ESPINO
Administrative Aide IV

MS. MARYTES F. FAJARITO
Legislative Staff/Data Encoder

MR. ALLAN F. FAJUTAGANA
Legislative Staff/Messenger

MR. MARLOWE F. AGNO
Legislative Staff

Excerpt from the Minutes of the Twentieth Regular Session of the 14th Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava, Romblon held at the Municipal Session Hall on November 28, 2022.

Present:

Hon. Dishan Servañez

Hon. Elizer Fiedacan

Hon. Merlito Sixon

Hon. Elmer Fortu

Hon. Ramon Magbata, Jr.

Hon. Roger Sixon

Hon. Dilbert Motin

Hon. Ramon Reandelar

Hon. Dominador Ogatia

Absent:

Hon. Ronald Jay Fabella

Hon. Roberto Fesalbon

Hon. Danica Joy Borromeo

Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer
SB Member

-do-

-do-

-do-

-do-

-do-

IPMR/SB Member

LnB President/Ex-Officio Member

SB Member

-do-

SKMF President/Ex-Officio Member/OT

SB RESOLUTION NO. 67 S. 2022

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTINUATION OF THE CAUSEWAY OR RECLAMATION PROJECT IN ITS PRESENT SITE, THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE MUNICIPAL FISH PORT, AS THIS DECISION IS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE WILL OF MAJORITY OF THE CALATRAVANHONS.

Authors: Hon. Elizer Fiedacan, Hon. Merlito Sixon, Hon. Ramon Magbata, Jr.,
Hon. Roger Sixon, Hon. Dilbert Motin, Hon. Ramon Reandelar,
Hon. Dominador Ogatia

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava, through SB Resolution No. 156 S. 2021 has requested from then DPWH Secretary Mark Villar to fund the construction of a seawall/causeway in Barangay Poblacion, this municipality;

WHEREAS, DPWH Romblon District Engineering Office, on August 2022, has informed LGU Calatrava that a fund allocation of around Ninety One Million plus Pesos (P91,000,000+) for 2022 for the seawall/causeway in Poblacion, this municipality was approved and its implementation was supposed to have started last July 2022 or a month after LGU Calatrava was informed of the fund project approval;

WHEREAS, during the August 24, 2022 consultation-dialogue conducted both by the DPWH Romblon Planning Office Staff and Sunwest Contracting Firm as the contractor of the project, Mayor Marieta Babera, the Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava, the heads of local offices, the Poblacion Barangay Officials and the fisherfolks present requested for the transfer of the seawall/causeway project from the eastern side of the port to the western portion by arguing that there is already an existing seawall in the eastern portion, just as the project, with a total area of approximately 100 meters by 40 meters will eat up a portion of the beach fronting the Poblacion;

WHEREAS, the request of transfer during the consultation - dialogue was followed up by the letter of Mayor Babera and by Resolution No. 18 S. 2022 of the

Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava, addressed to the DPWH Romblon District Office copy furnished the Honorable Congressman Eleandro Jesus Madrona, reiterating the request for transfer of the project to the western portion of the Calatrava Fish Port;

WHEREAS, in its letter addressed to the Hon. Mayor Marieta Babera dated September 15, 2022, DE Elena M. Castilan of the DPWH Romblon District Engineering Office denied the request for transfer citing the following as reasons:

1. Geo-tagged photos were submitted as one among requirements prior to the release of funds. Thus, relocating the project would require approval from the department and would require technical justifications, resulting to extensive delay of project; and
2. Relocation of the project requires revision of approved plan which will incur more than 10% variance from original plan which may brought (sic) our designers liable to the penalties prescribed for violation of reasonable office rules and regulations.

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava, in its Resolution No. 37 S. 2022 has again strongly reiterated its request for transfer, copy furnished DE Elena M. Castilan of DPWH Romblon District Engineering Office, DPWH Region 4B, DPWH Central Office, the Honorable Governor Jose Riano and the Honorable Congressman Eleandro Jesus Madrona, whereas the Honorable Mayor Marieta Babera has likewise sent again her letter request for transfer;

WHEREAS, sometime this October during the distribution of medicines to the Senior Citizens of Calatrava by the Honorable Governor Jose Riano and the Honorable Congressman Eleandro Jesus Madrona, most if not all the Senior Citizens present responded positively to the continuation of the project even if this could not be transferred to the western side of the Municipal Fish Port;

WHEREAS, during the October 28, 2022 consultation meeting called by the DE Elena M. Castilan of the Romblon District Engineering Office through Municipal Mayor Marieta Babera, the structural and environmental advantages of the causeway project when located in the eastern side of the port were pitted against the possible disappearance of 100 meter beach area of Poblacion and the lack of prior consultation both with LGU Calatrava and its people which is supposedly in violation specially of Section 27 of RA 7160 on prior consultation;

WHEREAS, in the same forum, majority of the people present expressly declared their approval for the continuation of the project in its present location;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Hon. Elizer Fiedacan duly seconded by Hon. Ramon Reandelar, the 14th Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava has –

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to approve the continuation of the causeway or reclamation project in its present location, the eastern portion of the Municipal Fish Port, as this decision is in consonance with the will of majority of the Calatrayanhons aired during the recent consultations facilitated by the Honorable Congressman Eleandro Jesus Madrona and by District Engineer Elena M. Castilan;

RESOLVED FURTHER, to inform DPWH Romblon, DPWH Region 4B, DPWH Central Office, the Honorable Jose Riano and Honorable Congressman Eleandro Jesus Madrona that majority of the Municipal Officials of Calatrava does not want further delays in the implementation of the project and that they believe that its advantages far outweighs the disadvantages it can give;


...ION ...AVING THE CONTINUATION OF THE CAUSE ...Y OR RECLAMATION
...ECT IN ITS PRESENT SITE, THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE MUNICIPAL FISH PORT, AS THIS
DECISION IS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE WILL OF MAJORITY OF THE CALATRAVALINHOS.

2022


RESOLVED FINALLY, to furnish copies of this resolution DPWH Romblon, DPWH Region 4B, DPWH Central Office, the Honorable Jose Riano and Honorable Congressman Eleandro Jesus Madrona for their information and appropriate actions.

APPROVED: November 28, 2022

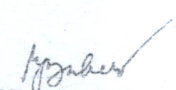
I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.


JOSEPH M. FEDELICIO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

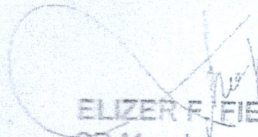
ATTESTED BY:


ENGR. DISHAN F. SERVANEZ
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED BY:


MARIETA F. BABERA, MAEd.
Municipal Mayor

CONCURRED:



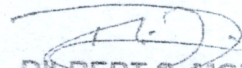
ELIZER F. FIEDACAN
SB Member



ROGER M. SIXON
SB Member



MERLITO M. SIXON
SB Member



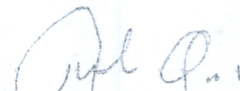
DILBERT S. MOTIN
SB Member



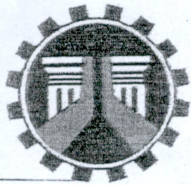
RAMON F. MAGBATA, JR.
SB Member



RAMON F. REANDELAR
IPMR/SB Member



DOMINADOR N. OGATIA
LnB President/Ex-Officio Member



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
REGIONAL OFFICE IV-B
EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City

C9494

DPWH RNS. 40
DATE 12-9-2022
403.7

December 09, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO : ELENA M. CASTILAN
District Engineer
Romblon District Engineering Office
Odiongan, Romblon

DPWH-ROMBLON DEO
RECEIVED

1047

By:

Date:

12/19/2022

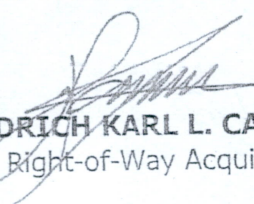
SUBJECT : Sangguniang Bayan Resolution No. 67, Series 2022, of the Municipality of Calatrava, Romblon

Forwarded is the letter dated December 2, 2022, of Joseph M. Fedelicio, Secretary to the Sanggunian, relative to the above-mentioned resolution passed by the Sangguniang Bayan of Calatrava, Romblon on November 28, 2022 entitled: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTINUATION OF THE CAUSEWAY OR RECLAMATION PROJECT OF THE MUNICIPAL FISH PORT, AS THIS DECISION IS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE WILL OF MAJORITY OF THE CALATRAVANHONS."

For your information and guidance.

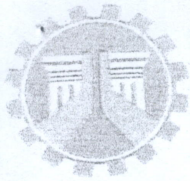
GERALD A. PACANAN, CESO III
Regional Director

"For and in the absence of the Regional Director"


FRIEDRICH KARL L. CAMERO
Chief, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Legal Division

End: As stated.

R4B.8/LBG/CSC/FLC



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
ROMBLON
DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE
REGIONAL OFFICE IV-B
Odiongan, Romblon

WORK RESUMPTION ORDER NO. 1

Contract I.D No. : 22EH0134
Name of Project : CONSTRUCTION OF CAUSEWAY, POBLACION
Location : CALATRAVA, ROMBLON
Date : DECEMBER 07, 2022

ADERMA ANGELIE D. ALCAZAR

President/CEO

SUNWEST CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

No. 1108 Textite Tower, Ortigas Pasig City

(Provincial Address) Washington Drive, Legaspi City

You are hereby directed to resume construction operations at the project site effective December 09, 2022 in view of the SB Resolution No.67 S. 2022 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTINUATION OF CAUSEWAY OR RECLAMATION PROJECT IN ITS PRESENT SITE, THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE MUNICIPAL FISH PORT, AS THIS DECISION IS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE WILL OF MAJORITY OF THE CALATRAVANHONS.

Hereunder is the historical data of your approved Work Suspension Order and Contract Time Extension.

Contract Time: (cd)	Approved Work Suspension Order: (cd)	Approved Contract Time Extension: (cd)	Days Used to date
Original: 335 CD Revised including Approved C.T.E:	W.S.O. No. 1: 60 W.S.O. No. 2: _____ Total: 60	C.T.E NO.1: _____ C.T.E NO.2: _____ C.T.E NO.3: _____ Total: _____	136 (cd) Days Remaining 199 (cd)

Please acknowledge receipt of this order by signing (with date) and returning the three (3) of the attached copies. The fourth copy is for your file.

SHEREE MAY F. TUPAS
Junior Project Engineer

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL:

ELMER M. TOLENTINO
Chief, Construction Section

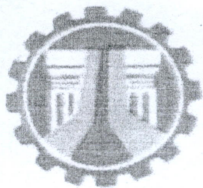
APPROVED:

for: **ELENA M. CASTILAN**
District Engineer

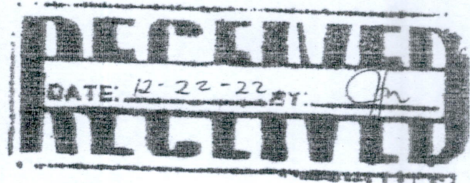
I hereby acknowledge receipt of this Order.

Date: _____

Contractor's Representative



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
ROMBLON
DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE
REGIONAL OFFICE IV-B
Odiongan, Romblon



December 21, 2022

HON. MARIETA F. BABERA, MAEd.
Municipal Mayor – Calatrava LGU
Calatrava, Romblon

Dear Mayor Babera,

We wish to update you on the status of our project with Contract I.D. No. 22EH0134, Construction of Causeway, Poblacion, Calatrava.

We have issued Work Resumption Order No. 1 effective December 9, 2022, thus Construction of the said project is in progress. Further, that the Regional and the Central Offices were all aware of this issue and its update. Furthermore, that this Office have already submitted all the pertinent documents in connection with this controversy as requested by the Office of the Solicitor General, who is the government's authorized lawyer.

For your information.

Very truly yours,

ELENA M. CASTILAN
District Engineer

R4B16/jfr/BAEM/EMC

Mga benepisyong ng Causeway

1. Magiging paradahan ng trucks, shuttle jeep, private cars at tricycles
2. Magiging paradahan ng mga pumpboats na biyaheng Talisay at Linao.
3. Magiging bagsakan ng mga huling isda.
4. Magiging bagsakan ng mga gulay na galing Divisoria at Quezon
5. Paglalagyan ng Tourism Office.
6. Paglalagyan ng stalls para sa ating mga mangangisda
7. Gagamiting tindahan ng rolling stores at night market.. hindi na sa kalsada.

Isang maliit lang ng portion ng beachfront and kukunin ng causeway pero sa benepisyong maidudulot nito sa ating ekonomiya ay napakalaki. Trabaho para sa mga tao. Hindi po kabawasan sa beach ng Calatrava ang proyektong ito.
