

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



23 March 2023

MR. CLARO S. ZAPATA

President/CEO Bluemax Tradelink, Inc. 2nd Floor IPMC Building No. 64 Don Benito Hernandez Street San Rafael District, Pasay City 1302

Dear Mr. C. S. Zapata:

This refers to the Letter dated 21 March 2023 requesting for the issuance of a certification as requirement to commence the Lumintao River Dredging and Desilting Project.

The Memorandum of Agreement entered into on 22 December 2022 by and between Bluemax Tradelink, Inc., the Dredging Clearance Holder, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - MIMAROPA Region supposedly grants the authority to dispose materials extracted from the River Dredging Zone (RDZ) pursuant to Chapter V, Section 1 of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2020-12.

However, an Operations Permit, Notice of Award and Notice to Proceed should be secured from the Provincial Government in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 1 of DAO No. 2022-12 before the Operators can commence its dredging activities. Therefore, Bluemax is instructed to submit proof of compliance with the aforecited provision before this Office can issue the requested certification.

Further, please be reminded, that Chapter III, Section 2 (Prior Determination of Mineral Content) of the same DAO provides that the Mines and Geosciences Bureau shall conduct a survey of the non-metallic and metallic resources of the RDZ so that the proponent shall pay the corresponding fees prescribed by the MGB once a prior determination of the metallic and other valuable materials in economic quantities is established. Hence, please coordinate with the Geosciences Division of this Office for the conduct of the said activity.

We hope that we have clarified the matter. Thank you.

Very Truly yours,

ELO C. NOBLE

Regional Executive Director DENR MIMAROPA Region

The Regional Director Environmental Management Bureau The Chairperson

Inter-Agency Committee on the Restoration of the Occidental Mindoro River and its **Tributaries**

MIMAROPA Region