



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Occidental Mindoro
MUNICIPALITY OF ABRA DE ILOG

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

06 November 2023

FELIX S. MIRASOL, JR., CESO IV

OIC-Regional Executive Director

3rd Flr., 1515 DENR by the Bay Bldg.,
Roxas Boulevard, Barangay 668
Ermita, Manila

SUBJECT: **INTENT TO (1) ESTABLISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MONITORING STATIONS IN FOREST LANDS; (2) CONDUCT TRAINING OF LOCAL BANTAY GUBATS; (3) APPLY FOR FLAGT AND OTHER TENURIAL AGREEMENTS FOR INSTITUTIONAL PUBLIC USE OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

GREETINGS RD MIRASOL:

We thank you for finding time to visit Abra de Ilog and engaging in a lively discussion that encompassed the protection of our nature, the enforcement of environmental laws, the sustainable use of the ecology to create jobs and livelihood and the controlled and rational development of resources.

Seldom do we encounter a regional director who takes such a direct, personal, amiable and very down to earth approach in dealing with their constituents concerns. Please visit anytime and be our guest to show you more.

Further to our meeting, we formally signify our intention to partner with the DENR for an assertive implementation of our natural resources policy and rules. We identified unscrupulous prospectors, illegal intruders, and sellers of forest lands and forest products to be the rapidly developing issue for which we proposed and agreed to the establishment of monitoring stations in critical areas to deter this practice.

The funds for the construction of these stations may initially be sourced by us with contributions later on from the DENR, the PNP and other government agencies who may designate personnel to jointly man these structures in a composite manner.

To formalize this arrangement and operation we request for an instrument from the DENR recognizing the same. A training of our *Bantay Gubats* and their subsequent deputization is also required to add teeth to our enforcement team.



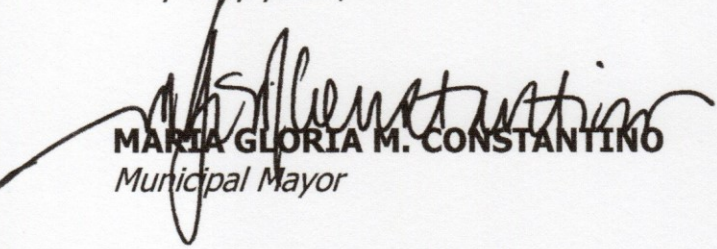
At present Barangay officials have identified, and we have confirmed, an intrusion into forest land located in Sitio Talipanan, Barangay Udalo, Abra de Ilog. A road has been built and land cleared in this coastal area.

After our meeting we erected signs (sheet metal billboards mounted on GI pipes) in the vicinity declaring the area as forest zone and not subject for sale or any commercial transaction. The apparent builder of the improvements, a foreign national came forward, contesting the signs and insisting that he bought this land from a certain Evangelista and that he was authorized by DENR officials to introduce the road and clear the area.

We believe that if this modus succeeds, a floodgate of illegal settlers on forest lands would open emboldening others similarly minded to land grab. This then becomes an arduous and painstaking legal problem for eviction.

Our trust remains with you and you could rely on us as your partner to prevent this ruin that will befall the pristine environment of Mindoro. I look forward again to your very much welcome visit, and always your prompt and categorical action on matters for the good of the environment.

Very truly yours,



MARIA GLORIA M. CONSTANTINO
Municipal Mayor

Copy Furnished:

MR. ERNESTO E. TAÑADA
PENRO
Occidental Mindoro

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CENRO
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