



DENR Mimaropa Region <mimaroparegion@denr.gov.ph>

## OSEC-2023-006955: Concerns about Open Burning and Responsible Waste Disposal in Brgy. Sicsican, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

1 message

**DENR OSEC Referral** <osec.referral@denr.gov.ph>

Tue, Nov 7, 2023 at 11:50 AM

To: Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment <officeofuseccuna@denr.gov.ph>,  
emb\_mimaropa@yahoo.com

Cc: od@emb.gov.ph, DENR Mimaropa Region <denrmimaropa@denr.gov.ph>, DENR Mimaropa Region <r4b@denr.gov.ph>,  
may.spvdbroeck@gmail.com

Sir:

Respectfully referred to your good office for information and appropriate action, with EDATS No. OSEC-2023-006955.

Thank you.

**NOTE: DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL.** For updates, inquiries and other communications, please send to [osec@denr.gov.ph](mailto:osec@denr.gov.ph).



**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
4/F DENR Main Building  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman  
Quezon City

From: **May San Pedro - Van den Broeck** <[may.spvdbroeck@gmail.com](mailto:may.spvdbroeck@gmail.com)>

Date: Fri, Oct 27, 2023 at 11:24 AM

Subject: Concerns about Open Burning and Responsible Waste Disposal in Sicsican, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

To: <[osec@denr.gov.ph](mailto:osec@denr.gov.ph)>

Dear Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR),

Good day!

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the ongoing issue of open burning and the need for responsible waste disposal in Barangay Sicsican, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. This issue not only affects the environment but also poses a significant threat to the health and well-being of the local residents, as well as the many tourists who visit our beloved city.

Puerto Princesa City has long been renowned as "The Number One Island in the World," thanks to its breathtaking natural beauty and the united spirit of its residents. However, the growing problem of open burning of leaves and waste materials threatens to mar this natural beauty and disrupt the harmony within our community.

Recently, I had an interaction with a neighbor about this issue, where I politely requested that they consider alternatives to open burning, as the smoke from such activities often drifted towards my home. This smoke not only inconveniences daily tasks (like drying laundry) but also poses serious health risks, especially to those with respiratory conditions (like my daughter who suffers from asthma). To my surprise, my neighbor questioned the necessity of adjusting their behavior based on my request.

While I acknowledge their right to manage their property, it is evident that the full understanding of this law may not be widespread among our community members. It is my strong belief that the vitality of our community relies on our collective efforts and shared responsibility for our environment. Therefore, I would like to draw your attention to Republic Act No. 9003, more commonly known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000." This legislation, endorsed by the DENR, advocates responsible waste management practices, including waste segregation, recycling, composting, and it explicitly prohibits the open burning of solid waste. Nevertheless, it appears that there is room for

increased awareness and understanding of this law among our fellow citizens.

In light of this, I propose a comprehensive campaign to raise awareness about the importance of adhering to RA 9003 and promoting responsible waste disposal in Puerto Princesa City and perhaps, the whole Philippines. It is my sincere hope that this campaign will not only educate our fellow citizens but also inspire them to take pride in our city and uphold the principles of this law.

I cordially invite the DENR to collaborate with local authorities, environmental organizations, and concerned citizens in implementing and promoting responsible waste management practices in our community. Together, on my behalf, I want to set an example for sustainable and responsible waste management practices.

I believe that by working collectively and in harmony, we can create a strong, sustainable, and harmonious community that we can all be proud of. I eagerly await your response and look forward to the positive changes we can make together for the betterment of our environment and the health of our fellow citizens.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to preserving the beauty and well-being of our country.

Sincerely,

May Van den Broeck  
Sicsican, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan