

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

MIMAROPA Region

PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

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JINC SHING

DENT

OUTGOING

August 04, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Regional Executive Director

DENR MIMAROPA Region 1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd.

Ermita, Manila

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The Regional Director

MGB –MIMAROPA Region 1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd.

Ermita, Manila

FROM

Provincial Environment and

Natural Resources Officer

SUBJECT

INVESTIGATION ON THE ALLEGED SAND AND GRAVEL

OPERATION IN BARANGAY LANGOGAN PUERTO

PRINCESA CITY

Forwarded is the Memorandum dated 29 July 2022 of CENRO Puerto Princesa transmtting the appended report of Science research Specialist II Aira Marie V. Perez, MGB embedded personnel, regarding the above subject.

It is informed that per comments and recommendations on the aforesaid report, the complaint lodged by Ms. Jean Calimbo does not hold water since the area being complaint of was issued a valid quarry permit and no violations found in the conditionality of CSAG permit.

For your information and further instruction/s.

For the PENRO:

PENRO-RECORDS

RELEASED

By
Date: 0 8 AUG 2022

JOHNNY P. LILANG
Chief TSD/Supervising ECOMS
In-Charge Office of the PENRO

29 July 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Regional Director

Mines and Geosciences Bureau MIMAROPA Regional Office

THRU

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The PENRO

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

FROM

OIC, CENRO

Community Environment and Natural Resources Office

Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

SUBJECT :

INVESTIGATION ON THE ALLEGED SAND AND

GRAVEL OPERATIN IN BARANGAY LANGOGAN,

PUERTO PRINCESA

Respectfully forwarding the report of Science Research Specialist II – Aira Marie V. Perez regarding the above subject dated July 22, 2021.

Upon evaluation, the details thereof were found complete and recommendations are legally sound. In relation to this, the aforementioned document is forwarded to your Office for your record and further instruction.

Please acknowledge the receipt thereof through our e-mail address below.

PEDRO A. VELASCO OMO IV/OIC CENRO NO 7821 DATE: 7-22 BY:

cc.: LAA CII Y ENAC

City Lall, S.a . Monica



22 July 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR: The Community Environment and

Natural Resources Officer

Brgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

FROM: The Undersigned

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION ON THE ALLEGED SAND AND

GRAVEL OPERATION IN BARANGAY LANGOGAN,

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

Pursuant to Travel Order No. 2022-07-19-54 the undersigned, Aira Marie V. Perez of the Mines and Geosciences MIMAROPA Region and Pablito A. Vidaya (Anilawan Checkpoint) of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office – Puerto Princesa City (CENRO – PPC) investigated in Brgy. Langogan, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan regarding the above subject.

Background Information

A memorandum from the Mines and Geosciences (MGB) MIMAROPA Region was received by this Office on 20 July via electronic mail, with subject "DENR Action Center/Hotline on the Sand and Gravel Operation in Barangay Langogan, Puerto Princesa". According to the memorandum, an electronic mail from Ms. Jean Calimbo dated 09 July 2022 was relayed to the MGB MIMAROPA Region by the DENR Action Center/Hotline Citizens Complaint with **Reference Code Number ACK20220712-02** about the subject matter.

As stated in the email, Ms. J. Calimbo is associating the widening, deepening, and occurrence of flooding in the river as effect of quarry operations in the area. It is also emphasized that the Brgy. Captain of Langogan is conducting the operation. Because of the effect of quarry operations and no bridge connecting the river banks, the residents are having difficulties in crossing the river (attached photos were included).

The undersigned coordinated with the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (City ENRO) of the Local Government Unit of Puerto Princesa City to acquire pertinent information about activities within the Barangay that involved quarry operations. Per the technical staff of City ENRO, there are several existing quarry operations located in Langogan River in Brgy. Langogan, Puerto Princesa City.

The investigating team proceeded to the area to conduct an on-site investigation.

Tel Fax No.: (048) 433-0660

Purpose and Scope

The undertaking aims to assess and evaluate the veracity of the claims of Ms. Jean Calimbo as referred by the Mines and Geosciences – MIMAROPA Regional Office and provide field findings and recommendations. The on-site investigation included ocular inspection of the subject area, photo documentation, as well as verbal communication with the residents and Hon.Camilo Bebit of Brgy.Langogan, Puerto Princesa City.

Findings and Observations

- 1. The subject area has an approximate location of 10°4'25" N, 119°7'9" E (WGS 84). It can be accessed by land travel via the Puerto Princesa North Highway. A local road due north of the highway serves as the access road towards the quarry site. The travel time from the CENR Office Puerto Princesa City is roughly one hour and thirty minutes via motorcycle (See Annex 1);
- 2. Since the photos provided in the email does not include geographic coordinates, the team proceeded to Langogan River which is known to be the quarry site in Brgy. Langogan. Some of the residents were interviewed to locate the alleged quarry managed by Hon. Camilo Bebit. According to them, the quarry site operated by the Brgy. Captain is not under his name instead it is under the name of certain Ms. Nila Badenas:
- 3. After the interview with the residents, the team proceeded to the quarry site of Ms. Nila Badenas. It was observed that there are stockpiles of sand and gravel in the river bank and backhoe operated by Mr. Jerome Lahaolahao (See Photo 1). He then showed the extraction area and as stated, the extraction and hauling are only done when the water in the river is shallow. A portion of the active channel of the river segment serves as the haul road from the extraction area to the stockpile area;
- 4. The extraction area (See Photo 2) of Ms. Badenas is located in the river segment of Langogan river. Langogan river is trending due north then northwest draining to the Sulu Sea that exhibits meandering with irregular sinuosity. Dimensions of the segment of the river that is being quarried also vary. The extraction area is averaging from 20 to 25 meters across consistently downstream. The bedload of the river is primarily composed of gravel sized sediments mixed with pebbles and cobbles. It can be also observed that there are deposits of these materials in the channel. The river banks were observed with sediments alongside and highly vegetated (See Photo 3) with minimal erosion except with the erosional bends of the river;
- The Commercial Sand and Gravel (CSAG) Permit and Delivery Permit (DR) were inspected (See Annex 2 -3) during the investigation. The CSAG Permit with Permit No. CP (PPC) No. 155-2 is issued to Ms. Nila Badenas granted March 14, 2022 valid

until March 13, 2023 located in Brgy. Langogan, Puerto Princesa City with 2,300 cubic meters allowed volume. The transport of the extracted sand and gravel are mostly within the Puerto Princesa City and Roxas, Palawan equipped with the Delivery Receipts presented;

6. A brief interview with Hon. Bebit, confirming that the permit area of Ms. Badenas is indeed managed by the Brgy. Captain. He added as observed in the area, that the haul road from the extraction area is also within the river segment and the stockpile area is within the private property of Ms. Angela Tingson.

Comments and Recommendations

- In general, areas near rivers, creeks, and tributaries are prone to flooding. Additionally, those along the outer bend or the erosional bend of a meander are also prone to erosion. Therefore, the removal of the SAG materials will help the protection of the riverbank as long as sufficient buffer zone from the riverbank will be observed in the extraction;
- The area of Ms. Nila Badenas has a valid Commercial Sand and Gravel Permit and Delivery Receipts, in this regard, the permittee is reminded that the extraction shall not exceed the remaining allowable volume indicated in the permit. Depth of extraction and buffer zone must always be observed to prevent over extraction of the stream bed load;
- 3. Provisions of the CSAG Permit issued, Environmental Compliance Certificate, the work program, and the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program shall always be strictly followed of CSAG operations;
- 4. Continuous monitoring of quarry operations by the BLGU is recommended. In relation to the difficulties in crossing the river, this concern must be coordinated to the BLGU to provide assistance in constructing a sturdy bridge for residents of Barangay Langogan.

AIRA MARIE V. PEREZ
Science Research Speacialis II

PABLITO A. VIDAYA
Forest Ranger