Republic of the Philippines



Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MIMAROPA Region

PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE 2

Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan Telfax No. (048) 434 - 8791

Email Add: penropalawan@denr.gov.ph

INCO ING

DATS NO.____

DENSIAMARATA PROPERSECTION

December 14, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Regional Executive Director

DENR MIMAROPA

1515 DENR by the Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard, Barangay 668

Ermita, Manila

THRU:

The OIC, Assistant Regional Director for

Technical Services

FROM

The Provincial Environment and

Natural Resources Officer

SUBJECT

APPLICATION FOR FOREST LAND USE AGREEMENT FOR TOURISM (FLAgT) PURPOSES OF PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION REP. BY MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA LOCATED IN BARANGAY APURAWAN, ABORLAN, PALAWAN

Respectfully forwarded is the Memorandum dated November 24, 2022, from CENRO-Puerto Princesa, with enclosures, re: submission of Completed Staff Work (CSW) report on the application for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes in areas located at Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan Palawan.

Attached herewith are pertinent documents that cause denial or reason not to pre-qualify the proponent on the above mentioned application for tenure instrument. Furthermore, a letter dated November 02, 2022 by the proponent is hereto attached choosing not to attend a dialogue / Technical Conference for enlightenment and clarification purposes initiated by that office.

For information and further instruction.

Copy Furnished: The Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer Puerto Princesa City

DAIF Ref. No. 2022-10888 TSD-RPS-Utilization rac DENR-PALAWAN
PENRO-RECORDS
RELEASED

By
Date: 1 DEC 2022 N 2021 - 320 n



Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702 Email Address: <u>cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph</u>

November 24, 2022

DENR PENRO

PALAWAN RECORDS

MEMORANDUM

FOR :

The Regional Executive Director DENR IVB-MIMAROPA Region

1515 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

THRU

The PENR Officer

DENR-PENRO Puerto Princesa City

FROM

The OIC-CENR Officer

SUBJECT

APPLICATION FOR FOREST LAND USE AGREEMENT FOR TOURISM (FLAGT) PURPOSES OF PALAWAN ESTATES

CORPORATION REPRESENTED BY MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

LOCATED IN BRGY. APURAWAN, ABORLAN, PALAWAN.

Respectfully forwarded is the Completed Staff Work (CSW) together with its pertinent documents prepared by this Office pertaining to the intent of Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) represented by Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola to apply for Forest Land Use Agreement (FLAgT) purposes in areas situated in Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

Please be informed that the intent of PEC was denied by this Office due to the following reasons:

- 1. The area is within core zone, a strict protection zone based from ECAN Zoning Map of the PCSD per initial projection of this Office;
- 2. The proposed area encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) which has the preferential right over the subject area and currently conducting exploration;
- 3. Per letter dated May 14, 2020 of NCIP Palawan, the Barangays of Culandanum and Apurawan are also applied by the Tagbanuas for issuance of CADT thereat.

Mr. Arejola the Attorney-In-Fact of PEC sought clarification of our statements that:

- 1. the target area is within Core Zone
- 2. the target area is within the AMPSA (No. IV-B-147) of Berong Nickel Corporation
- 3. the target area is within the CADT application of Tagbanuas pursuant to the 14 May 2020 letter of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue

This Completed Staff Work (CSW) is submitted for your information and further instruction.

NO DATE:
BY:

PEDRO A. VELASCO



COMPLETED STAFF WORK

I. FACTS/BACKGROUND

Name of proponent :

PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION

Represented by MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Name of Project

:

Approximate Area

64.5 and 130.0 Hectares

Location

Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan

Type of Application

FLAgT

II. LEGAL BASIS/APPLICABLE ISSUANCES

• Presidential Decree 705, as amended

 Revising Presidential Decree No. 389, otherwise known as the Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines

• Presidential Decree No. 1067 dated December 31, 1976

- Known as the Water Code of the Philippines

• Republic Act No. 8371 Dated August 29, 1997

- The Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997.

DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-16 dated June 15 2004

Prescribing the Revised Schedule of Forestry Administrative Fees

• DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-59 dated August 31, 2004

- Rules and Regulation Governing the Special Uses of Forestlands

• DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-28 dated August 25, 2020

- Rules and Regulations Governing the Uses of Forestlands for Tourism Purposes

• DENR Administrative Order No. 2009-16 dated November 29, 2009

- Amending certain provisions of DAO No. 2004-28 Re: Rules and regulations governing the use of Forestland for Forestlands for Tourism Purposes (FLAgT)

• DENR Memorandum Order No. 2011-02 dated March 15, 2011

 Requiring submission of Tourism Development Plan (TDP) duly approved by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and Comprehensive Development Management Plan (CDMP) for Forest Landuse Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) applicants

• DENR Administrative Order No. 8 dated February 24, 1987

- Implementation of the Provisions of Proclamation No. 2152 Declaring the Entire Province of Palawan and certain parcels of the public domain and/or parts of the country as Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserves

III. COORDINATION AND AGENCIES INVOLVED

• DENR-CENRO Puerto Princesa City

IV. DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

DATE	SUBJECT/ACTION(s) TAKEN
June 21, 2022	Letter of Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola representing Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) to Puerto Princesa OIC-CENR Officer Pedro A. Velasco expressing his intention to apply for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) over areas located in Sitio Bobosawen, Barangay, Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan:
	Attached to the letter of Mr. Arejola are the following documents, to wit: 1. A piece of topographic map with encircled portion and labeled as "approximate location of proposed FLAG area"; 2. Special Power of Attorney (SPA) executed by Elvira A. Ting,
	Assistant Corporate Secretary, naming, constituting and appointing Eduardo S. Arejola as a representative for Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) as its true and lawful Attorney-In-Fact; 3. Secretary's Certificate of Elvira A. Ting; 4. PEC SEC Registration No. AS96001638;
	 5. Articles of Incorporation of PEC; 6. Certificate of filing of Amended Articles of Incorporation of PEC;
June 27, 2022	Follow up letter of Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola to OIC-CENRO Pedro A. Velasco regarding the requested site inspection and validation of the area applied for FLAgT by PEC situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.
June 30, 2022	Letter of OIC-CENRO Pedro A. Velasco to Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola in response to his letter dated June 21, 2022. The latter was advised to coordinate with this Office regarding the inspection and preassessment of the proposed area as basis for further action of the Office. Mr. Arejola was informed further regarding the Memorandum dated April 23, 2018 of USec. Juan Miguel T. Cuna particularly in item No. 1 that "mere submission of an application to the CENRO including the requirements and payments of rental or government share related to the application does not give him or any entity the authority or privilege to enter and introduce any improvement/s until such application is approved by the DENR Secretary or his Undersecretary who has the authority to approve the subject tenure application".
July 4, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola in response to his letter dated June 30, 2022 regarding the inspection and pre-assessment that will be conducted by representatives from this Office in the area intended to be applied for FLAgT by Palawan Estates Corporation situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan. Mr. Arejola was informed that the inspection and pre-assessment to be conducted shall be on first come and first serve basis. Due to limited manpower, the two personnel who are responsible in the said activities are just conducting at least two assessments per week in order to give them ample time for the preparation of reports and its attachment. The latter was advised of the next schedule of inspection and pre-

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July 11, 2022	assessment scheduled on August 2-4 and 9-11, 2022. Letter of Mr. Eduardo Arejola to CENRO Puerto Princesa stating that they are amenable to the schedule of inspection and pre-assessment of their proposed area for FLAgT and inquiring further of what supposed to be provided by them for the activity.
August 5, 2022	Inspection and assessment report submitted by personnel of this Office for the area applied for Forest Land Use Agreement (FLAgT) by Palawan Estates Corporation represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola situated in Sitio Longpoint, Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan. According to the report, the applied area could not be identified on the ground by the applicant either. However, the team tried their very best to locate on the ground the exact location of the area based from the sketch map provided by the guide which did not also contain any technical descriptions that is supposed to lead the team in locating on the ground the exact location of the proposed area. On the following day Mr. Eduardo Arejola, submitted to this Office a copy of same sketch map containing technical descriptions showing the proposed area for FLAgT of PEC. The GIS Unit projected the said sketch map using the TDs indicated therein and it shows that portion of the applied area falls within sea water. There are also portions that encroaches the mining tenement of BNC.
August 15, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola, Attorney-In-Fact of Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) pertaining to the inspection/pre-assessment of the area intended to be applied for FLAgT purposes by the PEC. As stated in the said letter, the intent of PEC to apply for FLAgT was denied and cannot be processed anymore by this Office for the following reasons:
	 The area is within core zone, a strict protection zone based from ECAN Zoning Map of the PCSD per initial projection of this Office; The proposed area encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) which has the preferential right over the subject area and currently conducting exploration; Per letter dated May 14, 2020 of NCIP Palawan, the Barangays of Culandanum and Apurawan are also applied by the Tagbanuas for issuance of CADT thereat.
August 25, 2022	Letter of Mr. Eduardo Arejola to CENRO Puerto Princesa seeking clarification why the Office has given due curse to the application of a mining company and a tribe within core zone area but not their application and asking for urgent clarifications on the statements in the letter that "within core zone, is within the MPSA No. IVB-147 of Berong Nickel Corp. and within the CADT application of Tagbanuas pursuant to the May 14, 2020 per letter of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue".
September 1, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo Arejola inviting for a technical conference on August 7 or 8, 2022 between 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM pertaining to his request for clarification on the reasons for denying the application of Palawan Estates Corporation for FLAgT in Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.
September 7, 2022	Letter of OIC-CENRO Pedro A. Velasco to the Executive Director of PCSDS requesting for an updated ECAN Zoning Map of the municipality of Aborlan, Palawan.
September 14, 2022	Letter of OIC-CENRO Pedro A. Velasco to the Executive Director of Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) requesting for confirmation of the initial projection made by this Office

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	as to the zonation of the area applied by the Palawan Estates Corporation represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola for FLAgT situated in Sitio Bubusawin, Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan Palawan.					
September 20, 2022						
September 30, 2022						
October 5, 2022	Memorandum of Regional Director, DENR-MGB, MIMAROPA to the CENRO Puerto Princesa City thru the Regional Executive Director, DENR-MIMAROPA Region providing the information regarding the request of this Office for verification/certification relative to the application of Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes of Palawan Estates Corporation situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.					
	As stated in the said memorandum, approximately 26.4848 hectares is in conflict with Exploration Permit Application (EPA) No. 363-MIMAROPA of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC); 8.7276 has. is in conflict with EPA No. IVB-060 of BNC; and 7.5646 has. is in conflict with EPA No. 386-MIMAROPA of Progold Exploration, Inc. Attached in the said memorandum is copy of map showing the proposed area of PEC which encroaches the abovementioned mining tenements.					
	It was also emphasized in the last paragraph of the said memo that all these EPAs have paid its corresponding filing and processing/application fees of a total amount of approximately PhP1,165,289.80 and these FPAs are currently under process in that Office, therefore the conflicted area should be closed to FLAgT application for having gained prior rights.					
October 10, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola, Attorney-In-Fact of Palawan Estates Corporation inviting him for a technical conference to be held on November 3, 2022 at 10:00 AM at the PENR Office to discuss the findings in a meeting the application for FLAgT of PEC in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan and to avoid any miscommunication or misunderstanding.					
October 11, 2022	Letter of Acting Executive Director of PCSDS Niño Rey C. Estoya to CENRO Puerto Princesa pertaining to this Office's letter dated September 14, 2022 informing that the Municipality of Aborlan's Terrestrial ECAN Zones map has been updated last March 25, 2021 based on PCSD Resolution No. 21-764.					
October 14, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to the Executive Director, PCSDS requesting the presence of Forester Jovic Fabello and one of their GIS personnel in the technical conference with the Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) to be held at the PENR Office on November 3, 2022 at 10:00AM pertaining to the intent of PEC to apply for FLAgT purposes in an area situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.					
October 17, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to the Atty. Jansen Jontila, Provincial Officer of NCIP requesting his presence in the technical					

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	conference with the Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) to be held at the PENR Office on November 3, 2022 at 10:00AM pertaining to the intent of PEC to apply for FLAgT purposes in an area situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.
October 18, 2022	Letter of Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola to CENRO Puerto Princesa City acknowledging receipt of this Office's letter dated October 10, 2022 inviting them for a technical conference to be held on November 3, 2022 at 10:00AM and reiterating their request for written response and explanation for queries they have submitted in their previous letter.
October 20, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola of Palawan Estates Corporation acknowledging receipt of the latter's letter dated October 18, 2022. The Office reiterated its invitation in a letter dated October 10, 2022 for a technical conference scheduled on November 3, 2022 at 10:00AM.
November 2, 2022	Letter of Mr. Eduardo Arejola to CENRO Puerto Princesa stating that they cannot attend the technical conference to be held on November 3, 2022 at 10:00AM unless a written response and explanation is given by the Office regarding the queries that they have submitted in their previous letters.
November 3, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo Arejola informing that the office maintains its stand to discuss the matter with him and answer his queries thru a meeting or dialogue to avoid any miscommunications. The Office will wait for the availability of Mr. Arejola upon notice.
November 7, 2022	Letter of Mr. Eduardo Arejola acknowledging receipt of this Office letter dated November 3, 2022. He reiterates his request for a written reply to his letter query in his letter dated August 25, 2022.
November 15, 2022	Letter of CENRO Puerto Princesa to Mr. Eduardo Arejola in response to his letter dated November 7, 2022. The reasons and basis in the denial of his intent as mentioned in the letter dated August 15, 2022 and should he still wish to apply for the FLAgT, despite having been apprised of the different issues surrounding the areas he proposed for the application of FLAgT, he may do so and submit the requirements pursuant to the provisions of DAO No. 2004-28, as amended.

V. ANALYSIS

The Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) thru their Attorney-In-Fact Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola filed an intent to apply for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) last June 21, 2022. Only a topographic map with encircled parcel of forestland was attached to show the proposed area to be applied. The Attorney-In-Fact himself admitted that he could not identify the exact location of the subject area on the ground.

The inspection and initial assessment of the proposed area was conducted last August 2, 2022. Mr. Eduardo Arejola, the Attorney-In-Fact was not present in the area during our inspection. Mr. Dormilio Sianga, a member of the Tagbanua tribe served as the representative of the requesting party. Unfortunately he admitted that he has no knowledge of the exact location of the area. He presented a sketch map but it has no technical description that may be used to identify the area. The following day, the same map was also presented by Mr. Arejola to the Office with the corresponding technical description.

We took our initiative to reconnaissance the area of more or less similar to the area in the sketch map presented. Due to the present land cover and vegetation which can be considered high density second growth forest, it is very difficult to penetrate inside. We were only able to take geotagged pictures in some of the accessible areas.

The geotagged pictures were overlaid to the map generated using GIS and the technical descriptions in the map submitted by Mr. Eduardo Arejola. As a result two parcels of lots were generated. Parcel I consist of more or less 64.5 hectares and parcel II consist of more or less 130.0 hectares. Most of geotagged pictures fall within Parcel II. Parcel I was not reached by our inspection due to inaccessibility. The map generated shows both parcel I and parcel II extending towards the sea and covers the easement zone.

The applicant thru its Attorney-In-Fact was informed of the findings and the denial of their application due to reasons stated in our letter dated August 15, 2022 such as the following:

- 1. Within core zone, a strict protection zone based from ECAN Zoning Map of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) available in the Office.
- 2. Within the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) where an on-going mining exploration is being conducted.
- 3. Within Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan and per letter of NCIP Palawan the Barangays of Apurawan and Culandanum are applied for CADT by the Tagbanua tribes.

On August 22, 2022 we received a letter from Mr. Arejola seeking clarification on the statements in our letter that the target area is

- 1. within core zone:
- 2. is within the MPSA No. IVB-147 of Berong Nickel Corp.; and
- 3. within the CADT application of Tagbanuas pursuant to the May 14, 2020 per letter of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue.

This Office sent a reply to Mr. Arejola on September 1, 2022. We are inviting him for technical conference to discuss this Office's findings to avoid miscommunications. Unfortunately, due to unexpected circumstances, the scheduled technical conference was postponed.

A second invitation was again made for the technical conference but due to another unexpected circumstance, it was again postponed.

The third invitation was scheduled last November 3, 2022 to be conducted in the presence of the PENRO officials, representative from PCSDS and NCIP were also invited to personally explain their respective Office position on the application for FLAgT vis-à-vis the ECAN Zoning and the CADT application. Unfortunately on November 2, 2022, our Office received a letter from Mr. Eduardo Arejola informing that they will not attend the meeting unless their questions/clarifications are answered in writing. In response to the letter of Mr. Arejola dated November 3, 2022, the CENRO maintained his stand to explain all the matters in their queries thru a technical conference to avoid miscommunications.

While this Office has available references for ECAN Zones and mining tenements in our GIS Unit, we deemed it necessary to request for confirmation of our findings from PCSDS and MGB.

In the memorandum dated October 5, 2022 from DENR MGB-MIMAROPA Regional Director Glenn Marcelo C. Noble confirmed that portions of the area applied for FLAgT by PEC is in conflict with three (3) mining tenements. It was also emphasized in their memorandum that the subject parcel of land should be closed to FLAgT application due to the existing prior rights of the three mining companies.

Another letter dated November 7, 2022 of Mr. Arejola was received by this Office stating that they never requested the conference and there is no need to involve other agencies as the Office already denied their request. In the letter-response dated November 7, 2022, the Office's reiterated the reasons and basis in the denial of the intent of Arejola to apply for FLAgT such as (1) area within the **Core Zone** under the ECAN Zoning Map of PCSD; (2) encroaches the mining tenement of BNC which is covered by its application for MPSA No. IVB-147; and (3) contentious areas/issues with the NCIP as there is pending application of the Tagbanuas in Barangays Culandanum and Apurawa, Aborlan, Palawan and should he still wish to apply for the FLAgT, despite having been apprised of the different issues surrounding the areas he proposed for the application of FLAgT, he may do so and submit the requirements pursuant to the provisions of DAO No. 2004-28, as amended.

VI. CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Arejola declined this Office invitation for a technical conference on reasons that they never requested for a dialogue. This Office however deemed it appropriate to conduct a dialogue with him in the presence of other government agencies concerned and with the PENRO Officials to enlighten him of the surrounding circumstances and basis of this Office's denial to his letter of intent to apply for FLAgT in order to avoid miscommunication.

Considering the above circumstances and explanations, this Office advised Mr. Arejola in our letter dated November 15, 2022 that should he insist to file his application he must submit the requirements pursuant to the provisions of DAO 2004-28 as amended.

Prepared by:

NAIDAT. CALALIN

Forester II

Chief, Licensing & Permitting Unit

Attested by:

NORMA D. CAYATOC

Forester III/Asst. CENRO (OIC, DMO-IV)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 27 day of Nenvel, 20222 at DENR-Office, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.

PEDRO A. VELASCO DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer

PALALIAN ESTATES CORPORATION

DATE

VAME:

MSITICAL

June 21, 2022

Mr. Pedro A. Velasco

OIC-CENRO

DENR-CENRO, Barangay Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Palawan

Thru: Forester Zenaida Calalin

OIC-Utilization Unit

Greetings!

This date, the undersigned visited your good office to request for a soft copy of the form to be accomplished in applying for a Forest Land Agreement for Tourism (FLAg-T). Your staff manning the reception booth cordially advised that the undertaking initially requires, a letter of intent from us should be sent addressed to you so that the proposed areas subject of FLAg-T will be inspected and validated. Hence, by way of this letter, our company is expressing its sincere intention to apply for Forest Land Agreement for Tourism (FLAg-T) over areas located at Sitio Bobosawen, Barangay Apurawan, Municipality of Aborlan. A sketch map showing the approximate location of the area (Annex 1), Special Power of Attorney and Secretary's Certificate in favor of the undersigned (Annex 2 & 3), Securities and Exchange Commission SEC Reg.AS96001638 of Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) (Annex 4) and Certificate of Filing of Amended Articles of Incorporation of PEC (Annex 5) are herewith attached for your reference. Further, may we request that the inspection and validation be scheduled at the soonest time possible.

Your prompt action on this letter is highly appreciated. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Eduardo S. Arejola

Atty. In-fact

CP# 09675627134



SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

PALAWAN ESTATES, a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines, with office address at 35th Floor, One Corporate Center, Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City, represented herein by its Assistant Corporate Secretary, ELVIRA A. TING (by virtue of the Secretary's Certificate attached hereto as Annex "A"), hereby names, constitutes and appoints EDUARDO S. AREJOLA, as a Representative for Palawan Estates, as its true and lawful attorney-in-fact, and in its name, place and stead, to do and perform the following acts and deeds for and on its behalf:

- 1. To represent Palawan Estates in all matters relating to the Foreshore Lease Application (FLA) and the Miscellaneous Lease Application (MLA);
- 2. To represent Palawan Estates in all matters relating to the application, facilitation, and issuance of the Forest Land Use Agreement (FLAg)/ Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for the use and development of a parcel of land located in Sitio Babosawen, Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan, Philippines; and
- To execute and sign all papers and documents, as well as perform all other acts and deeds necessary or that may be required in connection with the powers herein granted.

HEREBY GRANTING unto said Representative, the power and authority to do all acts required and necessary to carry into effect the foregoing as fully as Palawan Estates could lawfully do if personally present. Palawan Estates hereby approves and ratifies all that said Representative may do or cause to do by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Special Power of Attorney was executed on MANDALUYONG CITY

PALAWAN ESTATES

TIN:

Represented by:

Assistant Corporate Secretary

VIN:

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

> ATTY. JAMPS K. ABUGAN Notary Public NOTARY, RIBBIG2-21 Until Dec. 31, 2022

Until Dec. 31, 2022 IBP No. 175123 01/06/2022 Rizai Chapter Roll No. 26890 Lifetime MCLE No. VI-0012875 Until 4/14/2022

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SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

- I, **ELVIRA A. TING**, Filipino, of legal age and with office address at 35th Floor, One Corporate Center, Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City, after being duly sworn to in accordance with law, hereby depose and state:
- 1. That I am the duly elected and incumbent Assistant Corporate Secretary of **PALAWAN ESTATES**, a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines, with office address at 35th Floor, One Corporate Center, Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City.
- That by a Directors' Written Resolution of the Corporation during its special meeting dated 06 June 2022, during which a quorum was present and acting throughout, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted and approved:

"RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of PALAWAN ESTATES, (the "Corporation"), has decided to enter into the use and development of a parcel of land located in Barangay Bobosawen, Aborlan, Palawan, Philippines."

"RESOLVED FURTHER, the Corporation, hereby recognizes the need for a Foreshore Lease Application (FLA), the Miscellaneous Lease Application (MLA), and the issuance of a Forest Land Use Agreement (FLAg)/ Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for the use and development of the said parcel of land located in Sitio Bobosawen, Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan."

"RESOLVED FURTHER, the Corporation, hereby appoints, as it does hereby appoint, its Authorized Representative, EDUARDO S. AREJOLA, with office address at 35th Floor, One Corporate Center, Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City, to be its duly authorized and designated representative of the Corporation in all matters relating to the application, facilitation, and issuance of the Foreshore Lease Application (FLA), the Miscellaneous Lease Application (MLA), the Forest Land Use Agreement (FLAg) / Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT), and to negotiate, sign, execute, deliver, and receive the aforesaid documents for and on behalf of the Corporation. He is further granted full power and authority to do, execute and perform any and all acts necessary and/or to represent the Carporation as fully and effectively as the Corporation might do if personally present with full power of substitution and revocation and hereby satisfying and confirming all that said representative shall lawfully do and cause to be done by virtue hereof."

"RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Corporation hereby authorizes the Corporate Secretary to execute the necessary Special Power of Attorney and Secretary's Certificate certifying to the fact that the Board had validly approved the foregoing resolutions."

"RESOLVED FINALLY, that these resolutions shall be valid and binding on the Corporation unless otherwise revoked by the Board of Directors in writing and proper notification is made thereof to the persons or entities for whom the resolutions are relevant."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day	of
MANDALUYONG CITY	
What I was a second of the sec	
ELVIRA A. TING	
Assistant Corporate Secretary	
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this	2,
ATTY. JAMES K. ABUGAN Notaly Public NOTANO. BUBLET Until Dec. 31, 2022	
IBP No. 175123 01/06/2022 Rizal Chapter Roll No. 26890 Lifetime MCLE No. VI-0012875 Until 4/14/2022 TIN No. 116-239-956 PTR No. 4871351 / 01-06-2022 Tel. No. 02-85452321 Mandaluyong City	

PAL AN ESTATES CORPOR ON

June 27, 2022

Mr. Pedro A. Velasco

OIC-CENRO

DENR-CENRO, Barangay Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Palawan

Dear CENRO Velasco,

Greetings!

This is to follow up our request for site inspection and validation as contained in our letter dated June 21, 2022 duly received by your good office on the same date (copy of which is hereto attached for your easy reference. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Eduardo S. Arejola

Atty. In-fact

Mobile phone no. 09675627134



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

June 30, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact
Palawan Estates Corporation
35th Floor, One Corporate Center
Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Contact No. 09675627134

Dear Mr. Arejola,

Environmental greetings.

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 21, 2022 requesting for an inspection and validation of area you wish to apply for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes located in Sitio Bubusawen, Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

In view hereof, please coordinate with this Office thru cellphone No. 09467349246 regarding the inspection and pre-assessment of the proposed area as basis for further action of this Office.

Further, per Memorandum from Undersecretary for Field Operations Atty. Juan Miguel T. Cuna dated April 23, 2018 which he partly states under item No. 1 of his Memorandum that "mere submission of an application to the CENRO including the requirements and payments of rental or government share related to the application does not give the authority or privilege to any entity to enter and introduce any improvement/s until such application is approved by the DENR Secretary or his Undersecretary who has the authority to approve the subject tenure application".

We trust that you are properly informed.

Truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO

Development Management Officer IV

OIC-CENR Officer

OIC-CENR Offi

UENE MIMARIJPA REGION CENTA SUPERIORESA EN DEL COMPONIO

7.01.20

Lucas Sa Wet

Arros S- AVEZ JOLA



Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Tel. No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

July 04, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact
Palawan Estates Corporation
35th Floor, One Corporate Center
Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Contact No. 09675627134

Dear Mr. Arejola,

This has reference to our letter dated June 30, 2022 regarding the inspection and preassessment that will be conducted by representatives of this Office for the area intended to be applied for FLAgT by Palawan Estates Corporation situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

As stated in our previous letter, you are advised to coordinate with this Office for the immediate conduct of said activity/s as you requested.

However, please be informed that all of the applications for tenurial instrument filed in this Office are gone through with the inspection and pre-assessment by the representative/s from this Office. This is in order to determine the present land classification status of the area and if the same is within the allowable zone per ECAN Zoning Map of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) as well as to determine whether the proposed area is suitable for the purpose.

Be informed further that the inspection and pre-assessment come and first serve basis. Due to limited manpower, this Office personnel who are responsible for the said activities wherein they are assessment per week, this is in order to give them ample time for the preparation of reports and its attachments and further verification from the records of this Office aside from other functions assigned to them that needed to be attended to by our personnel wherein most of the time they were just assisted by other personnel assigned from other Sections/Units of this Office.

Furthermore, with regard to your request with follow-up letter dated June 27, 2022, the schedule for the whole month of July was already full wherein inspection and pre-assessment will be on August 2-4, and 9-11, 2022.

If you have further question/s and clarification/s on the matter, please feel free to come to our Office at your most convenient time. Thank you.

DENR MIMAROPA REGION CENRO PHENT PINCESA

NO 3597
DALE 7-8-70
BY

Truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO

Development Management Officer IV

OIC, CENRO

La San Andrews

PAL VAN ESTATES CORPORATION

July 11, 2022

Mr. Pedro A. Velasco

OIC-CENRO

DENR-CENRO, Barangay Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Palawan

Dear CENRO Velasco,

PUERTO PRIMCESA DOC. NO.

DATE:

JUL D'R 2022

OSITION:

TAI ATTIRE:

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war - 4624

Thank you for your letter dated July 4, 2022 which I personally received 935am this date.

Relative to your letter, we are pleased to inform you that we are amendable to the schedule of inspection and pre-assessment of our proposed area for FLAgT located at Sitio Bobosawen, Barangay Apurawan, Municipality of Aborlan, Palawan on August 2-9, 2022. May we know what are we suppose to provide for the activity?

Very truly yours,

Eduardo S. Arejola

Atty. In-fact

Contact No. 0967 562 7134

E-mail address: <edsahigh@yahoo.com>



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702
Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@demr.gov.ph

August 5, 2022

TENR WIMAROPA REGION

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The OIC-CENR Officer

DENR-CENR Office, Puerto Princesa City

THRU

The Chief, RPS

FROM

The Inspection Team

SUBJECT

INSPECTION AND ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE AREA

APPLIED FOR FORESL LAND USE AGREEMENT (FLAgT) BY PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION REPRESENTED BY MR. EDUARDO AREJOLA SITUATED IN SITIO LONG

POINT, BRGY. APURAWAN, ABORLAN, PALAWAN.

This pertains to the application for Forest Land Use Agreement filed by Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola, Attorney-In-Fact of Palawan Estates Corporation with Office address at 35th Floor, One Corporate Center, Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City.

Attached to the letter of Mr. Arejola are the following documents, to wit:

- 1. A piece of topographic map showing the portion of the Province of Palawan particularly the area covered by the Barangay of Apurawan in the municipality of Aborlan, Palawan;
- 2. Special Power of Attorney signed by Elvira A. Ting, Corporate Secretary of Palawan Estates Corporation constituting and appointing Eduardo S. Arejola as representative of Palawan Estates Corporation as its true and lawful Attorney-In-Fact;
- 3. Secretary's Certificate signed by Elvira A. Ting appointing its Authorized Representative Eduardo Arejola, as its duly authorized and designated representative in all matters relating to the application for FLA, MLA, FLAg/FLAgT; and
- 4. SEC Registration and Articles of Incorporation of the Palawan Estates Corporation.

A day before the schedule of inspection of the team, Mr. Arejola went to the Office. He admitted that they could not identify on the ground the location of the area they wish to apply for FLAgT.

In response to the request of Mr. Arejola, on August 2, 2022 the undersigned personnel proceeded to Barangay Apurawan particularly in Sitio Longpoint. Mr. Arejola was not able to accompany the team, according to his driver who also drove us to the proposed area, Mr. Arejola is not feeling well, instead he sent to accompany us a certain Dormilio Sianga, a member of Tagbanua Cultural Communities and IPMR of Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

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The team was led by Mr. Dormilio Sianga in an old pier/dry dock in Sitio Longpoint, Barangay Apurawan. Upon our arrival thereat, Mr. Sianga presented to us a sketch map that according to him was given by Mr. Arejola to serve as our guide in finding the area. The sketch map is showing the two (2) parcels of area. The first one was marked as **parcel 1** and with an area of 64.5 hectares while the second one marked as **parcel 2** with an area of 130 hectares (please see attached sketch map marked as Annex "A".

A. BASIC INFORMATION:

Applicant	:	PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION Represented by Mr. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA
Location	:	Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan
Area Applied	:	-
Geographic	:	9° 39' 04" N
Coordinates		118° 22' 07" E
Land Status	:	TIMBERLAND per Land Classification Map No.
Classification		2267 Project 10-F Certified on February 10, 1959
Year established/constructed	:	N/A
Existing Infrastructure	:	NONE
Current Use	:	NONE
Vegetation Cover		Dominated by Dulo, Ironwood, Carne Norte, Lomboy-lomboy, Duguan, Batino/Kurayan, vines and climbing bamboo
Tenurial Instrument	:	None

On the following day August 5, 2022, Mr. Eduardo Arejola went to our Office and provided us a hard copy of sketch map previously presented to us by Mr. Sianga. The sketch map given by Mr. Arejola has numbers indicated on each corner. The latter admitted that the said sketch map was not confirmed on the ground and just drawn on the table using a topographic map.

B. FINDINGS:

- Due to the lack of gadget/s such as high tech GPS that may guide/pointed us to location of the proposed area, it was hard for the team to find the exact location on the ground of sketch map provided by Mr. Arejola, nevertheless, we tried our very best and exerted efforts to find the area and/or access and enter the polygon in order to gather reliable data/information on the ground;
- 2. Since the area is still forested except however the portions along the coast line which already planted with coconuts that bear fruits already, the area is quite challenging to be penetrated due to the dense vegetation such as vines and climbing bamboos spanning with the trees and there is no sign of human trail including the fact that the proposed area are too huge;
- 3. Projection made by this Office using technical descriptions indicated in the sketch map provided by Mr. Arejola, wherein two parcels of proposed area were drawn (please see attached map marked as Annex "B") shows that portions of parcel 1 and 2 falls within sea water;
- 4. Upon overlaying of geotagged photos taken during inspection on the ground in the sketch map generated by this Office using TDs of sketch plan provided by the

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applicant shows that the team entered the polygon of parcel 2 however we were not able to locate and/or even enter the polygon of parcel 1;

- 5. Using the technical descriptions indicated in the sketch map and topographic map provided by the applicant as well as the geotagged photos taken in the area during actual inspection disclosed that the proposed area is located at Sitio Long point, Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan which falls within FORESTLAND/TIMBERLAND per Land Classification Map no. 2267, Project 10-F certified on February 20, 1959;
- 6. Per initial projection made by the GIS Unit of this Office shows that the proposed area is within Core Zone, a strict protected zone based from ECAN Zoning Map of Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD). Please see attached map marked as Annex "C;
- 7. Further verification from the records of this Office disclosed that the proposed area encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) which is covered by its application for Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. IVB-147 in which the latter has the preferential right over the said area and currently conducting exploration in the area;
- 8. Per letter dated May 14, 2020 of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue, the Barangays of Culandanum and Apurawan are also applied by the Tagbanuas for issuance of CADT thereat.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS:

In view of the above findings, the undersigned respectfully recommended that the application for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes of Palawan Estates Corporation represented by Mr. Eduardo S. Arejola be DENIED due to the following reasons:

- The proposed area/s falling within Core Zone, a strict protected zone based from ECAN Zoning Map of Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD);
- 2. Further verification from records of this Office disclosed that the proposed area encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) which is covered by its application for Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. IVB-147 in which the latter has the preferential right over the said area;

The applicant should be informed of the findings and recommendation/s of the inspection team and be further advised to avoid introducing improvement and/or development within the area in order to avoid any violations of DENR existing environmental laws, rules and regulation.

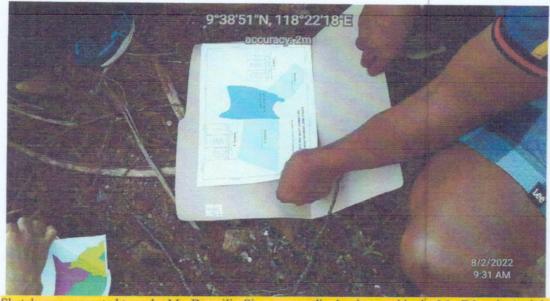
Attached are geotagged photos, maps and other documents mentioned in this report.

For information, evaluation and further instruction.

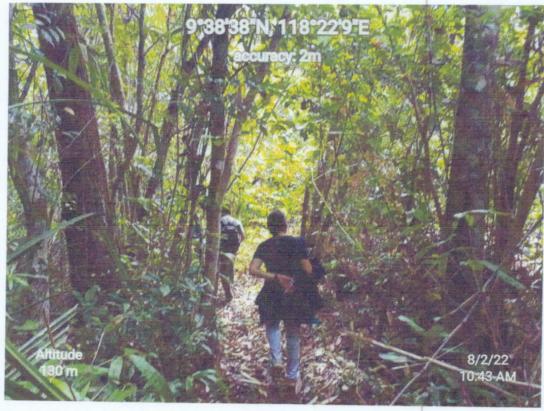
Forester-I

ROGELIO G. ABISON
Park Maintenance Foreman

ZENAIDA T. CALALIN Forester-II



Sketch map presented to us by Mr. Dormilio Sianga accordingly given to him by Mr. Eduardo Arejola

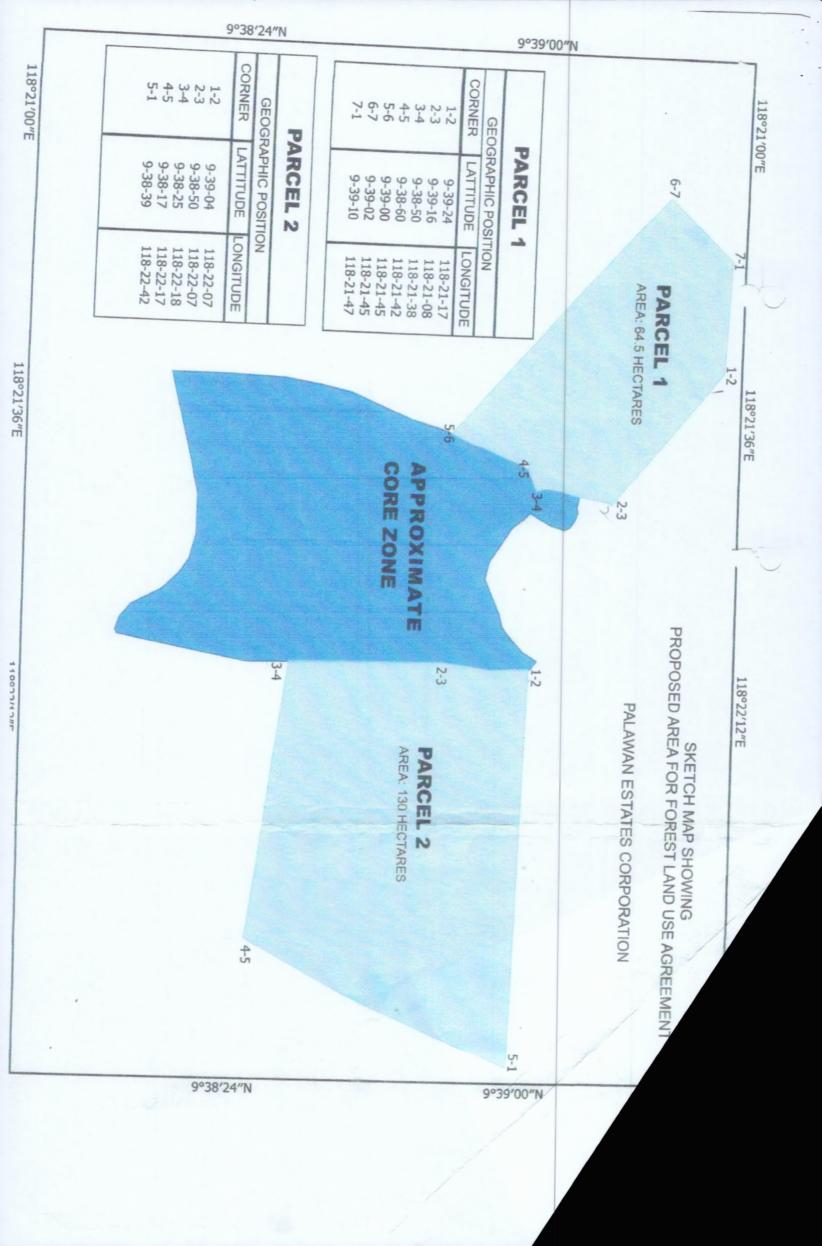




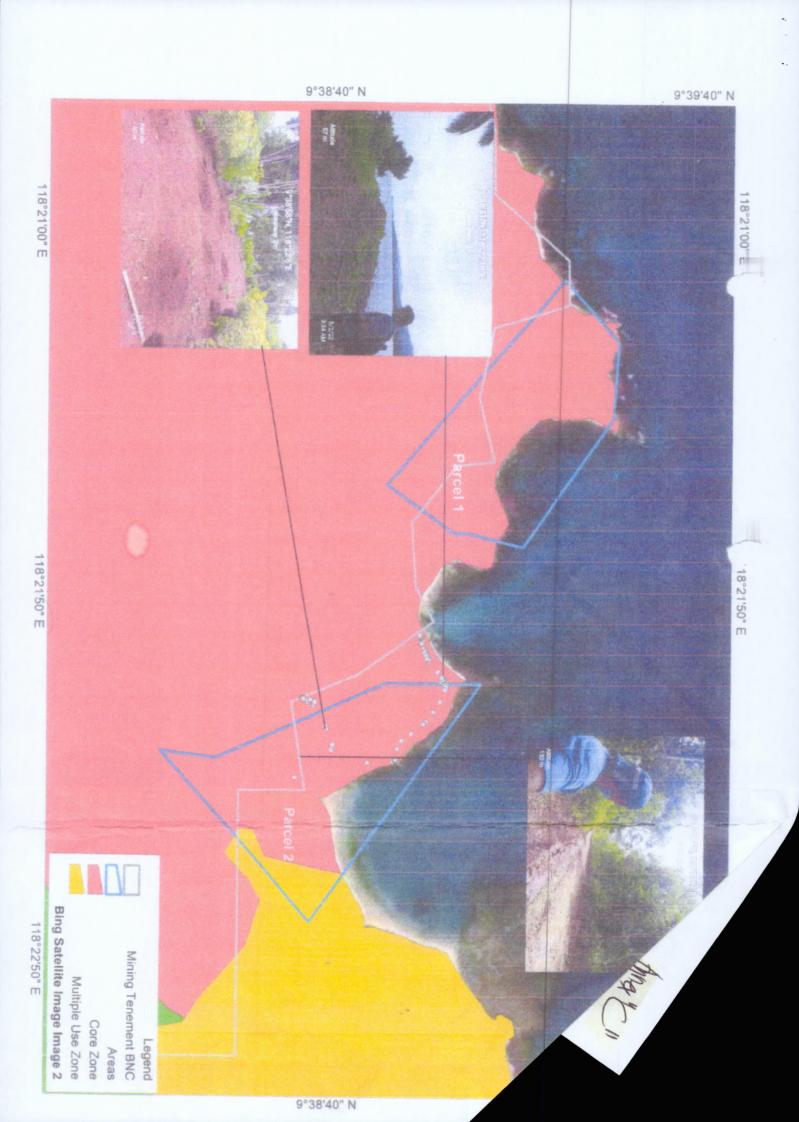
Above geotagged photos were taken during inspection of the area applied for FLAg by Palawan Estates Corporation represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola situated in Sitio Long point, Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan













Republic of the Philippines OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

PROVINCIAL OFFICE

Beside Barangay Hall, Santa Monica Heights, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

May 14, 2020

T E

BE A SE

POSTTON ... SIGNATURE

ENR-TENRO

JERYO PRINCESA

MR. FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC

CENRO-Officer DENR-PENRO Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Palawan

Sir

This refers to your letter dated May 5, 2020 requesting my stand on comments regarding the House Bill No. 4441, entitled " An act reclassifying certain Parcels of Lands of the Public Domain located in Barangays of Cabigaan, Magbabadil, Barake, Iraan, Sagpangan, San Juan, Apurawan and Culandanum of the municipality of Aborlan Province of Palawan as Alienable and Disposable, land*.

Pleased be informed that the following barangay of Aborlan namely Cabigaan and Barake are already issued a Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title or CADT, hence could not anyomore be issued another title. It is recommended that the CADT's in the said barangay be projected in your land classification map to map out those areas that could be declared as alienable and disposable.

The barangays of Iraan, Sagpangan and Isaub have already applied with the NCIP for issuance of CADT. The three (3) barangays is within their CADT application, subject to private rights. Only a portion of Bgy San Juan is within the CADT application of the tagbanuas of Iraan, Sagpangan, Aborlan.

The barangays of Culandanum and Apurawan are also applied by the Tagbanuas for issuance of CADT by the Tagbanuas thereat.

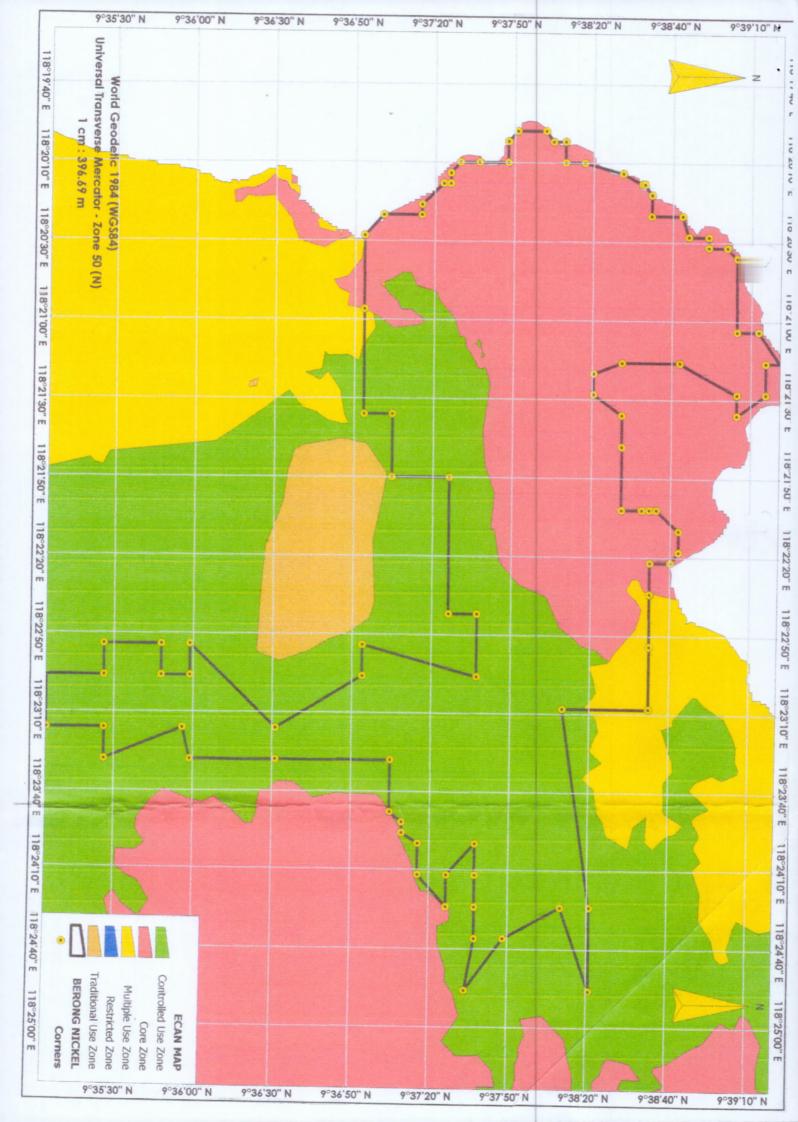
However it is suggested that a public hearing be conducted in the area for their information and sound decision.

Very truly yours;

ENGR. ROLDAN V. PARANGUE

Provincial Officer

Cc: IPMR - Municipal IPMR - Iraan, Cabigaan Magbabadil, Barake Sagpangan, Apurawan San Juan & Culandanum





Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Tel. No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

August 15, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact Palawan Estates Corporation 35th Floor, One Corporate Center Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Avenue, Pasig City Contact No. 09675627134

Dear Mr. Arejola,

This pertains to the inspection/pre-assessment conducted by personnel of this Office over the area intended to be applied for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes by Palawan Estates Corporation located in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

According to the report, the team tried their best and exerted all efforts to locate on the ground the two proposed area despite lack of information and person supposed to guide them in finding the exact location on the ground of the area you wanted to apply for FLAgT. Nevertheless, the team was able to enter the polygon wherein upon overlaying of geotagged photos taken during inspection on the ground in the sketch map generated by this Office using TDs of sketch plan you have provided shows that portions of parcel 1 and 2 falls within sea water.

Further, projection made by this Office using technical descriptions indicated in the sketch map you have provided disclosed that the proposed two areas are located at Sitio Long point, Barangay Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan. It falls within FORESTLAND/TIMBERLAND per Land Classification Map No. 2267, Project 10-F certified on February 20, 1959. Projection made by the GIS Unit of this Office also shows that the proposed area is within Core Zone, a strict protection zone based from ECAN Zoning Map of Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD).

Verification from the records of this Office disclosed that the proposed area encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) which is covered by its application for Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. IVB-147 in which the latter has the preferential right over the said area and currently conducting exploration in the area.

Moreover, per letter dated May 14, 2020 of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue, the Barangays of Culandanum and Apurawan are also applied by the Tagbanuas for issuance of CADT thereat.

In view of the above, we regret to inform you that the application for FLAgT of Palawan Estates Corporation over areas located in Sitio Long point, Barangay Apurawan, Municipality of Aborlan, Palawan is DENIED and cannot be processed and entertained by this Office due to the above mentioned reasons.

We trust that you are properly informed. Thank you.

REGION

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Truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO

OIC, CENRO

Development Management Officer IV

DA

NO

PAIN WAN ESTATES CORPO TION

25 August 2022

HON. PEDRO A. VELASCO

Development Management Officer-IV OIC-CENRO

Department of Environment and Natural Resources Barangay Santa Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Subject: Urgent request and query

Sir:

We acknowledge receipt of your 15 August 2022 letter stating that our initiated FLAG-T letter of intent is "DENIED and cannot be processed and entertained by this Office due to the abovementioned reasons".

THON'

We appreciate our prompt action and respectfully request urgent clarification on the statements you gave in the above letter explaining that our target area is:

- 1) within CORE ZONE (a strict protection zone),
- 2) is within the AMPSA (No. IVB-147) of Berong Nickel Corporation, and
- 3) is within the CADT application of the Tagbanuas pursuant to the 14 May 2020 letter of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue.

May we be clarified why your Office has given due course to the applications of a mining company and a tribe within a CORE ZONE area but not to our application?

May we also ask for the legal basis of not accepting applications based on existence of other earlier applications? May we know by what basis encroachment is determined by your Office if there is no actual survey or technical delineation?

Thank you.

EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

this !!

Attorney-in-Fact

Contact No. 0967 562 7134

E-mail address: edsamail@yahoo.com

35th Floor One Corporate Center, Doña Julia Vargas Ave.,

Corner Meralco Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Phils. 1605

Tel. No. (632) 7067888

Tel. No. (632) 7065982



Republic of the Philippines — DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

September 7, 2022

Atty. Teodoro Jose Matta

Executive Director
Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
Rafols Road, Brgy. Sta. Monica
Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

Dear Director Matta,

Environmental greetings.

This has reference to the applications for tenurial instrument filed before this Office over an area located in the municipality of Aborlan, Palawan.

In order not to compromise the applicants to submit the requirements and to be denied afterwards, this Office conducts pre-assessment of the areas applied.

In this connection, may we respectfully request for an updated ECAN Zoning Map of the municipality of Aborlan. Said information is vital for the assessment and evaluation of applications for tenurial instrument filed to this Office.

Your usual support is highly appreciated. Thank you

Truly yours,

Development Management Officer IV

OIC-CENR Officer

76 mg 9-8-22

2 mailed 9-10-22



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

September 14, 2022

Atty. Teodoro Jose Matta

Executive Director Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Rafols Road, Brgy. Sta. Monica Puerto Princesa City, Palawan oed@pcsd.gov.ph

Dear Director Matta,

Environmental greetings.

This pertains to the intent of the Palawan Estates Corporation represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola to apply for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes in an area situated in Sitio Bubusain, Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

Initial projection made by this Office using technical descriptions indicated in the sketch map provided by the applicant show that the subject area to be applied for FLAgT falls within Core Zone, a strict protection zone.

Considering that there were rezoning recently approved in the municipality of Aborlan, may we request for confirmation if the initial projection made by this Office as to the zonation of the subject area is correct.

Attached is a copy of the GIS map for reference.

Your usual support is highly appreciated. Thank you

Truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO Development Management Officer IV OIC-CENR Officer

Copy furnished:

Mr. Eduardo Arejola edsamail@yahoo.com



Republic of the Philippines.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Tel Fax No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

September 20, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Regional Director

DENR-MGB MIMAMAROPA Region

Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

THRU

The Regional Executive Director DENR-IVB, MIMAROPA Region

Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

The PENR Officer

DENR-PENRO Puerto Princesa City

FROM

The CENR Officer

SUBJECT

APPLICATION FOR FOREST LAND USE AGREEMENT FOR TOURISM (FLAgT) PURPOSES OF PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION REPRESENTED BY MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA SITUATED IN BRGY. APURAWAN, ABORLAN, PALAWAN.

This has reference to the intention of Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola to apply for Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) purposes in an area situated in Barangay, Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

Please be informed that based on initial projection made by this Office using the technical descriptions indicated in the sketch map (Annex "A") provided by the applicant, the proposed area falls within the mining exploration of Berong Nickel Corporation.

In this regard, may we request for verification/certification from that Office that the subject area applied for FLAgT by the PEC is not covered by any mining permit issued by that Office. Attached is a copy of digitized map showing the proposed area for your ready reference (Annex "B&C").

For information and further instruction.

Copy furnished:

1. MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA
Attorney-In-Fact
Palawan Estates Corporation
35th Floor, One Corporate Center
Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Contact No. 09675627134

2. file

PEDRO A. VELASCO
OIC-CENRO



PAL I VAN ESTATES CORPORATION

September 30, 2022

MR. PEDRO A. VELASCO OIC-CENRO Puerto Princesa City

PUERTO PRINCESA DOC. NO.

MANE

POSITION: "GNATURE"

Sir.

We received a copy of your transmittals to Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) dated September 14, 2022 and DENR-MGB MIMAROPA Region dated September 20, 2022 which was sent in relation to your August 15, 2022 letter stating that our initiated FLAG-T letter of intent is "DENIED and cannot be processed and entertained by this Office due to the abovementioned reasons".

Please recall that we requested urgent clarification on the statements you gave in the August 15 letter explaining that our target area is:

- 1) within CORE ZONE (a strict protection zone),
- 2) is within the application for Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. IVB-147 of Berong Nickel Corporation, and
- 3) is within the CADT application of the Tagbanuas pursuant to the 14 May 2020 letter of NCIP Palawan Provincial Officer Roldan V. Parangue.

In your previous letter, you already expressly concluded, and made as basis for denial of request, that our intended area is within Core Zone per ECAN Zoning Map of PCSD and the same encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corp. (BNC) the application for Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. IVB-147. However, in this letter, you are only inquiring from PCSD and MGB if it is covered or not.

May we inquire why you denied our request without prior query and official response from the PCSD and MGB?

We also request explanation why no response has been given us pursuant to the Anti-Red Tape Act.

Thank you.

EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-in-Fact

Contact No. 0967 562 7134

E-mail address: edsamail@yahoo.com

Copy furnished: PENRO-Palawan

DENR Puerto Princesa City

DENR Regional Executive Director

Visayas Ave., Quezon City

DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations

Visayas Avenue, Quezon City



Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU MIMAROPA Region

7/F DENR Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manita Telefax No. (+632) 536-02157 (+632) 310-1369 Email: region4b@mgb.gov.ph



05 October 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR :

The Regional Executive Director

DENR - MIMAROPA Region

ATTN

The CENRO

Community Environment and Natural Resources Office

Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

FROM

The Regional Director

This Office

SUBJECT

Request for Verification/Certification relative to the

Application of Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) Purposes of Palawan Estates Corporation

Situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

This refers to the Memorandum dated 20 September 2022 of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) of Puerto Princesa City, Palawan regarding the above cited subject.

Per plotting of the submitted technical description, please be informed of the following (refer to attached Location Map):

- Approximately 26.4848 hectares is in conflict with Exploration Permit Application (EPA) No. 363-MIMAROPA of Berong Nickel Corp. (BNC);
- Approximately 8.7276 hectares is in conflict with EPA No. IVB-060 of BNC.; and
- Approximately 7.5646 hectares is in conflict with EPA No. 386-MIMAROPA of Progold Mining Exploration, Inc.

It is worthy to mention that EPA No. 363-MIMAROPA of BNC was granted an Authority to Verify Minerals (ATVM) on 04 March 2022 by the MGB Central Office covering its applied area. Under the ATVM, BNC shall conduct the mineral verification in accordance with its approved Exploration Work Program (ExWP) amounting to PhP52,276,600.00. BNC is also required to spend at least 10% of the ExWP budget amounting to PhP5,227,660.00 for the conduct of environmental mitigating measures under its approved Environmental Work Program, and a similar amount

"MINING SHALL BE PRO-PEOPLE AND PRO-ENVIRONMENT IN SUSTAINING WEALTH CREATION AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE."

for the implementation of the Community Development Program or a total expenditure commitment of PhP62,731,920.00

Please be advised that all these EPAs have paid its corresponding filing and processing/application fees of a total amount of approximately PhP1,165,289.80. Further, these EPAs are currently under process in this Office. Therefore, the conflicted area should be closed to FLAgT application for having gained prior rights.

For the Regional Executive Director's information and further instruction.

cf:

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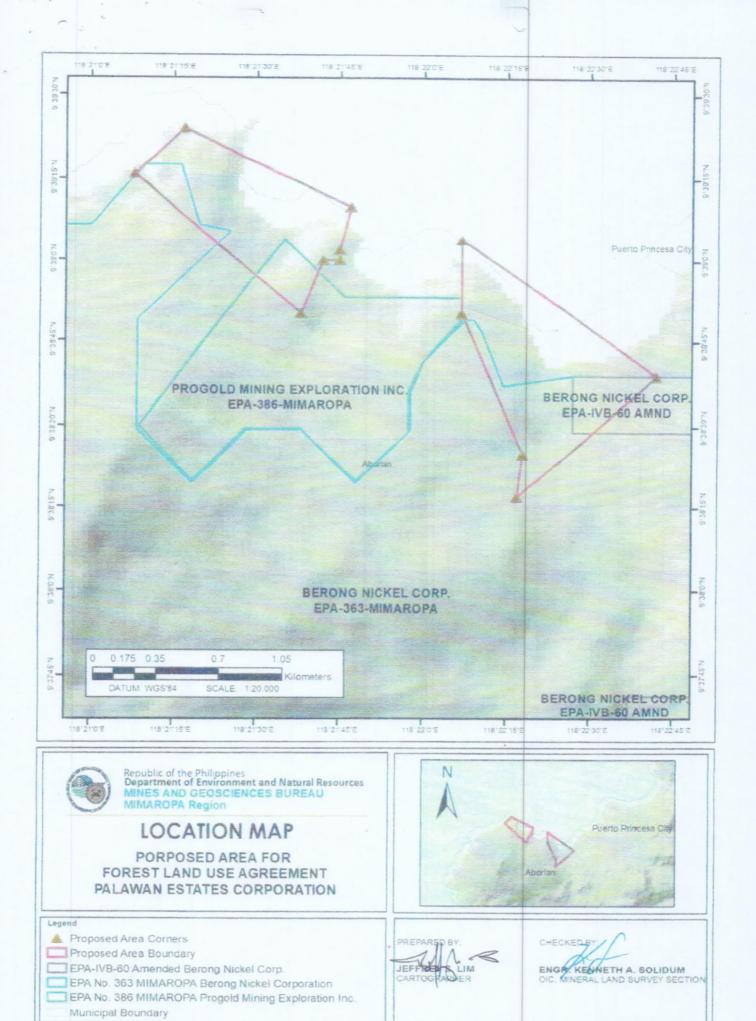
The PENRO

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

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Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

October 10, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact
Palawan Estates Corporation
35th Floor, One Corporate Center
Julia Vargas cor. Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Contact No. 09675627134

Dear Mr. Arejola,

This is in relation to your letter dated September 30, 2022 acknowledging receipt of the letters sent by our Office to the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) dated September 14, 2022 and DENR-MGB MIMAROPA Region dated September 20, 2022 and reiterating the request for urgent clarification on the statements made by our Office to you in the letter dated August 15, 2022

In our letter dated September 1, 2022, we invited you for a technical conference pertaining to the clarification of the matter in this Office on September 7 or 8, 2022 between 8:00 to 5:00 PM. However due to an urgent commitment by the undersigned the said meeting was postponed.

In this regard, we are again inviting you for a technical conference to be held at the PENR Office on November 3, 2022 at 10:00 AM. We would like to discuss to you in person to enlighten you on the matter and to avoid any miscommunication or misunderstanding. Please let us know if you are available for the said schedule by reaching us at any of the above-given contact number and email address.

We are hoping that you could personally attend the said technical conference. You can also bring with you other representatives of the Palawan Estates Corporation. Thank you and God bless.

0-13.72 BY

Very truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO
DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer

DRN: 2022-7845/RPS/lpu/zeny



Republic of the Philippines (Republic Act No. 7611)

PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

October 11, 2022

PEDRO A. VELASCO OIC-CENR Officer DENR CENRO Puerto Princesa City

Dear Mr. Velasco:

Greetings!

This pertains to your letter received on September 19, 2022, regarding your request for an updated ECAN Zoning Map of the municipality of Aborlan.

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*CITION:

Please be informed that the subject map is now available subject to the payment of the printing fee of Php 250.00, based on the Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping and Map Printing Services. The e-copies will also be sent to you through email after the payment.

You may visit the PCSDS Main Office at PCSD Bldg., Sports Complex Road, Brgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City to claim the map.

Thank you very much

Very truly yours,

NINO REY C. ESTOYA, MNSA, CESE

Aging Executive Director, PCSDS

Vision: Palawan, an innovative and dynamic global center of sustainable development Mission: PCSDS as the driver of environmental conservation and inclusive development in Palawan, a biosphere reserve and science-for-sustainability site, guided by the Strategic Environmental Plan

NIÑO REY C. ESTOYA, MNSA, CESE Acting Executive Director, PCSDS Email Address:

Official Contact Number *Landline: (048) 434-4235 (048) 434-4234

Republic of the Philippines

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

October 14, 2022

ATTY. TEODORO JOSE MATTA

Executive Director Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Rafols Road, Brgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Dear Atty. Matta,

This is in relation to the intent of Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola to apply for a Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) Purposes in an area situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan which was subject of our letter to that Office dated September 14, 2022.

Please be informed that this Office will be conducting technical meeting with the applicant and NCIP to be held at the PENR Office on November 3, 2022 at 10:00 AM. We wish to discuss with them matters pertaining to ECAN Zoning and other criteria for areas qualified for FLAgT.

In this regard, may we request the presence of Forester Jovic Fabello and one of your GIS personnel in the said technical conference to update us the latest zonation of the Municipality of Aborlan. We also reiterate our request to have an electronic copy of the new ECAN Zoning in Aborlan, Palawan

Thank you for the usual support

Very truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO
DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgv. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

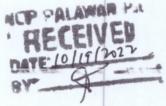
Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

October 17, 2022

ATTY. JANSEN JONTILA

Provincial Officer National Commission on Indigenous Peoples Monica, Puerto Princesa City

Dear Atty. Jontila



This is in relation to the intent of Palawan Estates Corporation (PEC) represented by Mr. Eduardo Arejola to apply for a Forest Land Use Agreement for Tourism (FLAgT) Purposes in an area situated in Brgy. Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

Please be informed that this Office will be conducting technical meeting with the applicant and NCIP to be held at the PENR Office on November 3, 2022 at 10:00 AM. We wish to discuss with them matters pertaining to ancestral domain claims and other criteria for areas qualified for FLAgT.

In this regard, may we request your presence in the said technical conference.

Thank you for the usual support.

DATE

Very truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO
DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer

PALE /AN ESTATES CORPOR

ION

18 October 2022

MR. PEDRO A. VELASCO

OIC-CENRO

Puerto Princesa City

Sir,



We again respectfully acknowledge receipt of your 10 October 2022 letter inviting us for a technical conference to be held on November 3, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

We would still want to have a constructive dialogue with your office despite your failure to be available on the date you indicated. As you already sent us a written denial of our prior request, may we instead reiterate our request for your written response and explanation for queries we submitted to you in previous letters you have acknowledged as received?

We can then schedule a technical conference after receipt of the explanation.

Thank you.

EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-in-Fact

Contact No. 0967 562 7134

E-mail address: edsamail@yahoo.com

Copy furnished:

PENRO-Palawan DENR Puerto Princesa City

DENR Regional Executive Director Visayas Avenue, Quezon City

DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations Visayas Avenue, Quezon City



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

October 20, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact Contact No. 09675627134 Email add: edsahigh@yahoo.com/edsamail@yahoo.com

Dear Mr. Arejola,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 18 October 2022. We would like to reiterate our invitation in our letter dated October 10, 2022 for a technical conference scheduled on 03 November 2022 at 10:00 AM to be held at the PENR Office. The main purpose of which is to clarify the issues and enlighten you on the matter.

We have also invited a representative from the PCSDS and NCIP who confirmed their attendance to the said technical conference.

Looking forward to your attendance and participation.

Very truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO
DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer

DENR MIMAROPA REGION CENED PO, RTO PRINCESA

NO: 4270
DATE: (0-31-22)
BY:

PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION

02 November 2022

MR. PEDRO A. VELASCO OIC-CENRO Puerto Princesa City

Sir,

DENR-CENRO
DOC.BU

DATE:
TIME: NOV 0 2 2022
POSITION: Public
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We again thank you for the invitation to attend the Technical Conference to be held on 03 November 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

We would also like to reiterate that we cannot attend the said conference unless a written response and explanation is given by your honorable office regarding the queries that we have submitted to you in previous letters that your office has acknowledged as received.

Thank you.

EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-in-Fact 0967 562 7134

edsamail@yahoo.com

Copy furnished: PENRO-Palawan DENR Puerto Princesa City

DENR Regional Executive Director Visayas Avenue, Quezon City

DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations Visayas Avenue, Quezon City

35th Floor One Corporate Center, Doña Julia Vargas Ave.

Cor. Meralco Avenue, Ortigas City, Pasig City, Philippines 1605

Tel. No. (632) 7067888

Tel. No. (632) 7065982



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

November 03, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact Palawan Estates Corporation <edsamail@yahoo.com> Contact No. 09675627134

Dear Mr. Arejola,

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 02 November 2022.

It is unfortunate that you choose not to attend the scheduled meeting this 03 November 2022. It could have been a venue for a fruitful dialogue in the presence of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS), National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officials. Nonetheless, we maintain our stand to discuss this matter with you and answer your queries thru a meeting or dialogue to avoid any miscommunications. We will just wait for your availability upon notice.

We trust that you are properly informed. Thank you.

Truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO
DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer

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PALAWAN ESTATES CORPORATION

1-07-850

07 November 2022

MR. PEDRO A. VELASCO OIC-CENRO Puerto Princesa City

Sir,



We acknowledge receipt of your letter informing us of the unfortunate circumstance of us not being able to participate in a technical conference with your office and representatives from other agencies.

We again remind you please that we never requested the conference and that there is clearly no need to involve other agencies as you already made the decision for these other offices to DENY our earlier request.

It is also unfortunate that we again have to reiterate that we request a written reply to our written query. You were able and capable to deny our request in writing. And considering official correspondence from the government is always written, we request, as you should also be able, you respond to our query in writing.

The earlier letters are self-explanatory and this request is also reasonable and pursuant to the Anti-Red Tape Act. We have exerted sufficient effort to correspond with you and either you have no ability to respond, or you are admitting manifest intent to cause undue injury to our Company by DENYING and NOT REPLYING.

Your written reply and response to query, which we expect to receive soon, should finally settle this administrative matter which you are duty-bound to handle.

Thank you.

EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-in-Fact 0967 562 7134

edsamail@yahoo.com

Copy furnished:

PENRO-Palawan

DENR Puerto Princesa City

DENR Regional Executive Director Visayas Avenue, Quezon City

DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations

Visayas Avenue, Quezon City



Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

South National Highway, Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City Telephone No.: (048) 717-0702

Email Address: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

November 15, 2022

MR. EDUARDO S. AREJOLA

Attorney-In-Fact Palawan Estates Corporation <edsamail@yahoo.com> Contact No. 09675627134

Dear Mr. Arejola,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 07 November 2022.

We would like to make clear that while you have not requested for the conference, we deem it appropriate to initiate a technical conference composed of the DENR-CENRO, NCIP and PCSD in order to enlighten you on the reasons and basis of our denial to your letter intent and to answer your request for urgent clarification on the statements we made in our letter dated August 15, 2022.

We deem it proper that the matter be discussed with you in person to avoid any miscommunication and to equip you with the knowledge of the jurisdiction of other agencies in the area you proposed to apply for FLAGT.

We reiterate the reasons and basis mentioned in our letter dated August 15, 2022. Our denial of your letter intent is to inform you that the proposed areas or portions of the proposed areas where you intend to apply for FLAGT involves (1) area within the CORE ZONE under the ECAN Zoning Map of Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD); (2) encroaches the mining tenement of Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC) which is covered by its application for Mineral Sharing Production Agreement (MPSA) No. IVB-147; and (3) contentious areas/issues with the NCIP as there is a pending application of the Tagbanuas in Barangays Culandanum and Apurawan, Aborlan, Palawan.

Should you still wish to apply for the FLAGT, despite having been apprised of the different issues surrounding the areas you proposed for the application of FLAGT, you may do so and submit the requirements pursuant to the provisions of DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-28, as amended.

For further clarification, please feel free to come to our Office anytime. Thank you.

DATE

Very truly yours,

PEDRO A. VELASCO
DMO-IV/OIC-CENR Officer

Copy furnished:

 The PENRO Palawan DENR-PENRO Sta. Monica, PPCity

The RED, DENR-MIMAROPA Region

Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

 The USec for Field Operations Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

DRN: 2022-8880/RPS/lpu/zeny

