



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
MIMAROPA REGION

DEC 18 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL PENROs
ATTENTION : ALL CENRO's
FROM : THE OIC, REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT : EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THE 131 CRITICAL WATERSHEDS SUPPORTING NATIONAL IRRIGATION

This refers to the memorandum dated November 08, 2023, pertaining to the agreements involving Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Forest Management Bureau (FMB), Regional Executive Directors, and MGB Regional Directors to address the concerns raised by Field Offices on the activity within critical watersheds.

In this regard, you are instructed to inform all relevant stakeholders regarding the agreements. Attached file are the detailed reports for your guidance.

For compliance.


FELIX S. MIRASOL, JR., CESO IV



Department of Environment
and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region



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MEMORANDUM

FOR : All DENR Regional Executive Directors
All MGB Regional Directors

FROM : The OIC Assistant Secretary for Field Operations - Western Mindanao
and Director in concurrent capacity
The OIC Director, Mines and Geosciences Bureau

SUBJECT : **AGREEMENTS REACHED TO ADDRESS THE CONCERNS ON
ACTIVITIES WITHIN CRITICAL WATERSHEDS**

DATE : 9/21

This pertains to the following agreements reached during the meeting held on October 25, 2023 involving MGB, FMB, Regional Executive Directors and MGB Regional Directors to address the concerns raised by field offices regarding activities within critical watersheds, to wit:

1. An official assessment/re-assessment will be conducted on all watersheds to determine the activities and current condition of these watersheds. This assessment will include factors such as land use, presence of irrigation systems, hydroelectric power existing mining activities, and any application for Exploration Permits.
2. Meantime, the following activities may be permitted:
 - a) all existing mining contracts/permits shall be recognized. The mining tenement holders are required to intensify their efforts in the rehabilitation and reforestation of the disturbed areas;
 - b) as part of the processing of the mining applications, the applicant shall secure the pertinent Area Status and Clearance. If the mining applications are within a critical watershed, the proponent must also secure clearance or consent from the concerned government agency/ies; and
 - c) once clearance from the government agency/ies concerned are secured, the processing of new and renewal applications for Industrial Sand and Gravel Permits and Commercial Sand and Gravel Permits within a one-kilometer distance from existing bridges, irrigation dam systems, and water reservoirs shall be continued.
3. All mining applications outside critical watersheds shall be processed in accordance with the existing laws, rules, and regulations.

In view thereof, it is advised that all Regional Executive Directors and MGB Regional Directors inform all relevant stakeholders regarding the agreements.

PLEASE BE GUIDED ACCORDINGLY.

ARLEIGH J. ADORABLE, CESO III
OIC Assistant Secretary for Field
Operations - Western Mindanao and
Director in concurrent capacity


ATTY. DANILO U. UYKIENG
OIC Director, Mines and Geosciences
Bureau

Copy furnished:

The Undersecretary for Field Operations - Luzon, Visayas and Environment

The Undersecretary for Field Operations - Mindanao

*The OIC Assistant Secretary for Field Operations - Luzon and Visayas and
Director, EMB, in concurrent capacity*