

March 3, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director

DENR MIMAROPA Region 1515 DENR By the Bay Bldg. Roxas Blvd., Barangay 668

Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director

DENR EMB MIMAROPA Region 6th Floor 1515 DENR By the Bay Bldg.

Roxas Blvd., Barangay 668

Ermita, Manila

THRU: The Assistant Regional Director

for Technical Services

FROM: The OIC, PENR Officer

Odiongan, Romblon

SUBJECT : SITUATIONAL REPORT ON OIL SPILL IN SIBALE ISLAND,

ROMBLON

On 28 February 2023, it was reported by various media outlets that MT Princess Empress, an oil tanker, carrying more or less 800,000 liters of industrial oil, sank off along the coast of Tablas Strait in Balingawan Point, Naujan, Oriental Mindoro.

Based on the preliminary reports from the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) situated in Oriental Mindoro, the vessel departed from Bataan to Iloilo when encountered engine trouble due to overheating until drifted towards the coast of Balingawan Point and eventually submerged.

On March 2, 2023, the Philippine Coast Guard through their social media platforms, confirmed the presence of Industrial Fuel Oil in the water bodies of Oriental Mindoro as a result of the sinking of MT Princess Empress. The PCG has also reported that the oil spill has already reached not more than 1-hectare coastal water near Sibale Island, Romblon.

As of this date, this Office and the EMS-Romblon continues to take information to the LGU-Concepcion and the PCG Substation-Concepcion on the possible sightings or trace of oil spill in connection with the reported submerged MT Princess Empress at vicinity water off Naujan, Oriental Mindoro.

As per update of PCG Substation-Concepcion, there were on-going Coastal Security Patrol Operations along the shoreline of all the barangays of Concepcion, Romblon and find no marks or sightings of oil spill within the coastal area of Concepcion, Romblon.



Likewise, the LGU-Concepcion instructed their MDRRMO for the continues conduct of monitoring along the municipal water and immediately inform this office for any update.

Considering that the island municipality of Concepcion, Romblon is the farthest island with no regular trip from the mainland, the office of the Provincial Governor offered assistance in terms of availability of transportation to closely monitor the untoward incident.

We will be providing additional updates as soon as verified information becomes available and shall continue to monitor the situation.

For information and further instruction.

Cc: ARD for Technical Services