

Republic of the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY www.namria.gov.ph

IAN 0 9 2023

MS. NELIA C. PEPIGA

Secretary to the Sanggunian Municipality of Araceli, Dumaran Province of Palawan

Dear Ms. Pepiga:

This refers to your letter addressed to the Honorable Secretary, DENR forwarding your Sangguniang Bayan Resolution No. 35-2022 which was referred by Atty. Juan Miguel T. Cuna, DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment to the Regional Executive Director, DENR-MIMAROPA, who in turn forwarded the said Resolution to NAMRIA.

Through our letter dated 03 October 2011, we have informed former Rep. Alvarez that the proposed land classification projects of Araceli and Dumaran, Palawan have been subjected to a legal review by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal, DENR. Said letter was informing former Rep. Alvarez that the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legal, DENR opined "that only an act of Congress could release the Island from the coverage of Presidential Proclamation (PP) No. 219 as amended by PP 530-B (declaring the whole Province of Palawan as Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary); PP 2152 (declaring the whole Province of Palawan as Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve); and Section 5a of the NIPAS Act of 1992 or RA 7586 (designating areas proclaimed as GRBS as initial component of NIPAS). It is also submitted that the DENR Secretary and the President cannot anymore reclassify the island by virtue of Section 13 of Presidential Decree No. 705 (Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines) and Section 7 of RA 7586, respectively." Attached is a copy of the said letter for your reference.

For further queries, you may contact Forester Beata D. Batadlan, Chief, Land Classification Division at Tel No. (02) 8884-2863 or 8810-4831 local 720 or email her through <u>bdbatadlan@namria.gov.ph</u>.

Very truly yours,

Usec/PETER N. TIANGCO, PhD, CESO I

Administrator

Cc: The Undersecretary for Field Operations - Luzon, Visayas and Environment, DENR DENR, Visayas Ave., QC

The Regional Executive Director, MIMAROPA Region Roxas Blvd., Manila



Office of the Administrator National Mapping and Resource Information Authority 17864-01 01/10/2023

