DENR MIMAROPA RECORDS SECTION RECENTED

APR 28 2023

BY:

TIME:



Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources NCOMING

MIMAROPA Region

PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

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

Email Add: penropalawan@denr.gov.ph

April 20, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Regional Executive Director

DENR MIMAROPA Region

1515 DENR By The Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard,

Barangay 668, Ermita, Manila

THRU

The Regional Director

MGB -MIMAROPA Region

FROM

Provincial Environment and

Natural Resources Officer

SUBJECT:

INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE VERBAL COMPLAINT OF

MR. ARIEL BUCAYAN ON THE ILLEGAL QUARRY ACTIVITY

IN BRGY. PUNANG, SOFRONIO ESPAÑOLA, PALAWAN

Forwarded is the memorandum dated 17 April 2023 of CENRO Brooke's Point endorsing the attached investigation report dated 13 April 2023 re: the above subject.

For information, record and further instruction.

"For the PENRO"

O IV/OIC-CHIEF, TSE ge, Office of the PENRO

RGT/EMU Doc. No. 2023-3480

DENR-PALAWAN PENRO-RECORDS



R4B PENRO Palawan <penropalawan@denr.gov.ph>

Investigation Report on the verbal complaint of Mr. Ariel Bucayan on the illegal quarry activity in Barangay Punang, Sofronio Española, Palawan

R4B CENRO BrookesPoint <cenrobrookespoint@denr.gov.ph> Mon, Apr 17, 2023 at 11:44 AM To: R4B PENRO Palawan <penropalawan@denr.gov.ph>, DENR Mimaropa Region <mimaroparegion@denr.gov.ph>, MGB-MIMAROPA <mines_4b@yahoo.com>

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DENR PENRL PALAWAN RECORDS



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
Brooke's Point, Palawan

17 April 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Regional Executive Director

DENR MIMAROPA Region Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director MGB MIMAROPA Region Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila

THRU

The PENRO

Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa, Palawan

FROM

The CENRO

Brooke's Point, Palawan

SUBJECT

INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE VERBAL COMPLAINT

OF MR. ARIEL BUCAYAN ON THE ILLEGAL QUARRY

ACTIVITY IN BRGY. PUNANG, SOFRONIO ESPAÑOLA,

PALAWAN

Respectfully endorsing the investigation report dated 13 April 2023 regarding the above-cited subject for which this Office concurs with the recommendations stipulated herein.

For information, record, and further instruction.

DENR-CENRU BROOKE'S POINT RELEASED DATE: APR 17-2023 BY: LEONARD T. CALUYA

M.Rodriguez St. Poblacion District I, Brooke's Point Palawan 5305

Mobile Phone: Globe: 0917-502-8961 Email: cenrobrookespoint@denr.gov.ph



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAND NATURA

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE Brooke's Point, Palawan

13 April 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Community Environment and

Natural Resources Officer Brooke's Point, Palawan

THRU

The Chief

Enforcement and Monitoring Section

FROM

The Undersigned

SUBJECT

INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE VERBAL COMPLAINT OF MR. ARIEL BUCAYAN ON THE ILLEGAL QUARRY

ACTIVITY IN BRGY. PUNANG, SOFRONIO ESPAÑOLA,

PALAWAN

Last 04 April 2023, the undersigned, personnel of MGB MIMAROPA, CENRO Brooke's Point conducted a joint investigation on the above subject.

Background Information

On 31 March 2023, a phone call was received by a CENRO personnel from a Mr. Ariel Bucayan regarding an ongoing extraction of earth materials without pertinent permit by the Punong Barangay of Punang, Kap. Hamrin Alit, for the bridge construction project in the barangay.

Facts and observations:

- 1. On 04 April 2023, the investigating team went to the Barangay Hall of Punang to conduct a courtesy call and meet with Kap. Alit. Unfortunately, the Barangay Captain was not present at the hall hence only the Kagawad(s) present/on-duty were interviewed. After the brief dialogue, the team together with the barangay officials went to the quarry site upon learning that Kap. Alit present near the area being quarried (see photo documentation).
- 2. The subject area is situated on the side of a small hill in Purok Maligaya, Brgy. Punang, Sofronio Española, Palawan. This area is geographically located at 9°0'59.73"N, 118°3'48.28"E (see Figure 1). It is ~ 1.5 km from the barangay hall of Punang and ~40 kilometers away from CENRO Brooke's Point, and can be reached within ~55 minutes of car travel.
- During the monitoring of the site, Mr. Alit was interviewed regarding the allegation
 of the complainant. He said that the site of extraction is a part of his land of his mother
 and that it will be donated to the Punang Elementary School as their relocation site

M.Rodriguez St. Poblacion District I, Brooke's Point Palawan 5305 Mobile Phone: Globe: 0917-502-8961

given that the original location of the school is flood prone. He also mentioned that the quarry operation was allowed as it has a PMRB Resolution and the deliveries is accompanied by a Special Delivery Receipt (see Annex A). The operation was under the Yurich Builder and Construction Supply where the total amount of PhP280,210.00 (see Annex B) were paid to the PMRB. However, he said that no copy of the PMRB resolution was provided to them. He also presented the Brgy. Resolution dated 18 October 2022 (see Annex C) for the clearing of the 2 hectare donated land for the relocation site of the school and that the waste materials will be used for the construction of the bridge project.

Further, Mr. Alit said that the complainant, Mr. Bucayan, was the original transaction partner of Yurich Builders at the start of the project where the initial extraction was done to build a road leading school relocation site. However, this operation was stopped by the MENRO of Sofronio Española due to the lack of Delivery Receipt and other alleged political and financial reasons. Hence, Yurich Builder and Construction Supply themselves applied to PMRB and was given an SDR, and has since used their own heavy equipment.

- 4. Upon further inquiry regarding the details of the school relocation project, Mr. Alit said that DepEd representatives have already visited the site but has yet to confirm the final plan/budget.
- 5. The team explained that the SDR given to the contractor is not a permit to allow the extraction of materials, instead a government gratuitous permit that is coterminous to the duration of the project is needed to be secured from the PMRB. Hence, he was told by the team to stop the extraction of material until such documents are acquired.
- 6. The team then proceeded to the site of the bridge construction to speak with the representative of Yurich Builder and Construction Supply, however, it was found that there are two contractors for the bridge construction and most of the workers present in the site at the time of visit were from the other company. When the team inquired about the representative from Yurich, the workers said that the foreman of Yurich Construction has just left for the day.
- 7. During the conduct of the investigation, there were no heavy equipment nor stockpile of materials were found in the site of extraction. At the same time, no trucks were seen in the act of transporting the materials.

Findings and Recommendations:

 To issue a Cease and Desist Order to Yurich Builder and Construction Supply for the extraction of quarry materials without the pertinent permit.

The presented Barangay Resolution and Special Delivery Receipt does not a substitute for a quarry permit and the Yurich Builder and Construction Supply must still secure a Government Gratuitous Permit prior to the extraction of materials. Hence, their activity may then be considered as a violation of section 103 of Republic Act 7942, theft of minerals.

"Any person extracting minerals and disposing the same without a mining agreement, lease, permit, license, or steals minerals or ores or the products thereof from mines

M.Rodriguez St. Poblacion District I, Brooke's Point Palawan 5305 Mobile Phone: Globe: 0917-502-8961 Email: cenrobrookespoint@denr.gov.ph or mills or processing plants shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned from six (6) months to six (6) years or pay a fine from Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) to Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) or both, at the discretion of the appropriate court. In addition, he shall be liable to pay damages and compensation for the minerals removed, extracted, and disposed of xxx."

In addition, the extracted materials are considered to be illegally sourced mineral/mineral products. Section 116 Chapter XII of DAO 2010-21 defines this as,

"Illegally sourced minerals/mineral products are those which are mined, extracted, removed, and/or disposed of without the authority or permit under existing mining laws, rules and regulations."

2. To the PMRB, to provide an explanation on why are Special Delivery Receipt being issued to non-permit holder given that SDR's are not a replacement for a quarry permit and should only be given as a temporary delivery receipt for expired permit holders that are still on the process of renewal as stipulated in Section 13 of PMRB Resolution No. P-12-2016 of PMRB Palawan.

"xxxSpecial delivery receipts shall be issued only to allow permittees or contractors whose permits has expired but under process for renewalxxx"

3. The barangay is advised to monitor the quarry operations in the area as per Section 389, Item 9 of the Republic Act No. 7160, also known as the Local Government Code.

"Enforce laws and regulations relating to pollution control and protection of the environment"

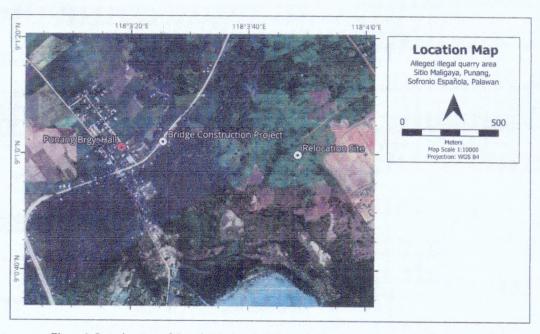


Figure 1. Location map of the school relocation site that is being were materials are being extracted and the bridge construction project relative to Punang Barangay Hall.

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For your information, reference, and further instruction.

Vann Ian O. Cadalso Science Research Specialist II

Ratib M. Melosin

Forest Technician I

Leandro F. Lapangan Forest Ranger

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Photo Documentation



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M.Rodriguez St. Poblacion District I, Brooke's Point Palawan 5305	V
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Annex B



Republic of the Philippines Provincial Government of Palawan PROVINCIAL MINING REGULATORY BOARD Puerto Princesa City



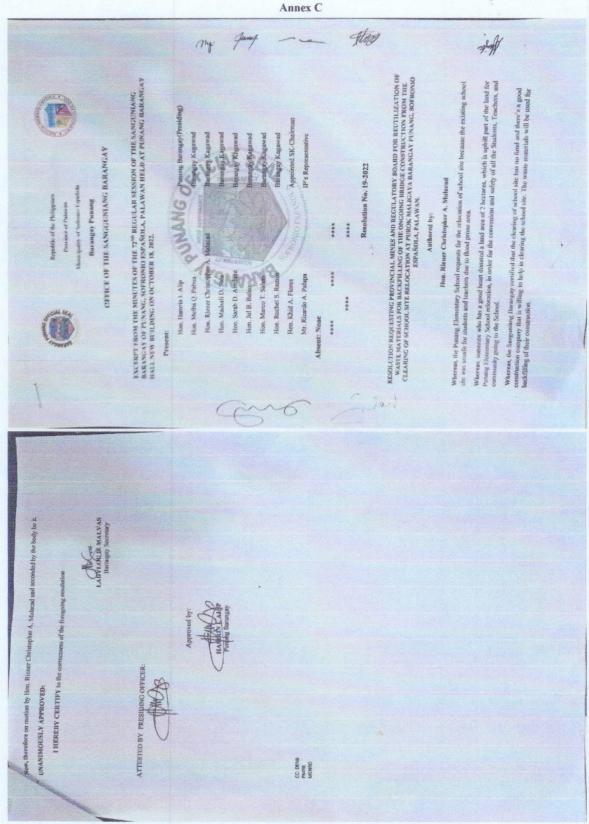
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