

13 October 2022, Thursday



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **NEWS CLIPPINGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



STRATEGIC  
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THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1900  
**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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# Kaliwa Dam project on hold

## No consent from IPs, zoning not yet done – DENR

By MARIO B. CASAYURAN

**T**he Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has put on hold the issuance of an Environment Compliance Certificate (ECC) for the construction of the controversial Kaliwa Dam project in Quezon province.

DENR undersecretary Ernesto Adobo Jr.

disclosed this on Wednesday, Oct. 12, during a public hearing on the proposed ₱23-billion budget of DENR for 2023 before a Senate panel, chaired by Senator Cynthia A. Villar.

The issuance of the ECC on the project was put on hold because zoning in the protected areas has not yet been done, Adobo said after Senator Raffy Tulfo expressed opposition to the project. **►7**

## Kaliwa Dam project on hold **1◀**

The DENR official also said the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) have not given their Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) – a requirement under the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997, which recognizes the IPs' rights to their ancestral lands. FPIC is also a prerequisite for the issuance of a Special Use Agreement in Protected Areas from the DENR.

Tulfo said several sectors oppose the project because of its environmental impact and ill-effects on the lives and livelihood of IPs living in the area.

New Centennial Water Source-Kaliwa Dam Project is aimed at meeting the increasing water demand by constructing a dam for the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) service

area's domestic water supply. It is located in Quezon province with projected tunnel traversing to Teresa, Rizal.

Tulfo said "it's music to my ears" that the project would not push through as he believes that the Sierra Madre mountains should be protected, along with the lives and livelihood of IPs in the area.



## 'DENR to work with LGUs to combat illegal mining'

DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga has bared plans before Congress to work with local government units (LGUs), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and other concerned agencies on the full implementation of the "People's Small-Scale Mining Act" to better regulate this activity and flush out illegal miners.

Thus according to Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte, Commission on Appointments majority leader, as he

said Yulo-Loyzaga assured members during a recent committee meeting of this 25-member bicameral panel prior to its confirmation of her appointment.

Asked by Villafuerte about her stance on small-scale mining, Yulo-Loyzaga said she supports this enterprise as a means to lift certain populations out of their socioeconomic conditions, "(but) we do feel at least at the DENR at the moment, that we need to strengthen our capacity to observe, to monitor, to evaluate the environmental impacts of these activities at the local level."

Villafuerte at the same time suggested to the Environment secretary to look into current mining technologies that already allow miners to process gold without using mercury, a pollutant that adversely affects humans and ecosystems.

"There are already so many technologies, mercury-free processing of gold. So, I suggest that the department can research on this and be updated, because every day there are new technologies and processes that are being implemented," he said. "As you mentioned, (the use of mercury) is really dangerous." **Maricel V. Cruz**



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## Consistent gov't policies key to mining as driver of growth

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources is looking at the mining sector as one of the sources of the country's economic recovery as per the directive of President Marcos.

During a budget hearing of the Senate Committee on Finance on Tuesday, Environment and Natural Sec. Toni Loyzaga said DENR is working with the Department of Finance and other government agencies to identify different financial dimensions of mining activities in the country.

"We're also looking at building up the capacity of DENR to perform its duty on assessing the applications, observing and monitoring the mining

activities, and analyzing the impact on communities and ecosystems," Loyzaga told the committee.

She said the primary concerns of mining companies and investors are the constant changes in policies and the need to develop local processing of raw mining products.

"Most of what we export now is raw ore. So, we need an investment in the value-added processing para (so) we can actually realize the full value of what we are able to export," she said.

"The mining industry holds the greatest potential to be a key driver in our economic recovery and long-term

growth, especially now that world metal prices are high," Finance Sec. Benjamin Diokno said in a previous statement, but cautioned the government expects the mining industry to adhere to responsible and sustainable mining practices.

The country has been pitching investments in green metals such as nickel, cobalt, and copper, to American investors as part of the Department of Trade and Industry's "Make It Happen in the Philippines" investment campaign.

Sen. Robinhood Padilla said it's about time to review the Philippine Mining Act of 1995.



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## Getting rid of plastic wastes

The Philippines, regarded as one of the top plastic polluting countries in the world to date, needs to carefully evaluate its evolving laws and regulations dealing with plastic use and recycling.

Currently, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is in the process of drafting the implementing rules and regulations that would give wings to the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Act that had lapsed into law last July.

The EPR is regarded as a crucial amendment to the 21-year-old Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, paving the way for the DENR to formulate a national framework for all types of waste with the end view of requiring businesses' compliance to approved EPR programs by February next year.

### BIZLINKS



REY GAMBOA

The EPR Act comes with tax incentives and allowed deduction of expenses on approved EPR programs from gross income for the obliged large companies, as well as substantial punitive measures

as penalty for violations.

The goal for large companies would be to recover up to 80 percent of their plastic packaging waste by 2028, although the ultimate real value of the law would be in a substantial reduction of the country's plastic wastes, one that has contributed to our notoriety as being the third biggest contributor to plastic pollution in oceans.

It would be especially interesting to see if the EPR Act, which specifically focuses on large companies with total assets of over P100 million, would make a significant dent on single-use plastics production, importation, and disposal.

Already, some environmental activists are clamoring for a stiffer law that would ban outright single-use plastics that have been increasingly seen as harmful not only to the environment, but also on humans through leached microplastics and plastic-related chemicals.

#### Dealing with waste plastic

The failure of past laws dealing with plastic pollution is rapidly creating severe consequences for the world, and other efforts on plastic disposal are being explored to get rid of debris that has accumulated through past decades, as well as dealing with current and future plastic wastes.

For a long time, most plastic wastes have either been dumped or burned. With the doubling of global plastic waste from 2000 to 2019 to an estimated 353 million tons, however, burying and incinerating plastics is no longer capable of dealing with the aggravating pollution problem.

New ways of dealing with plastic wastes are evolving, but many of them still have not been able to deal with the avalanche created by the world's continued preference for plastic use now in just about every aspect of modern life.

At the consumer level, innovative campaigns are continuing for people to practice recycling measures to minimize plastic use. Studies have shown, though, that such advocacies are not making much headway given the amounts of single-use plastics manufactured every year.

In the Philippines, local governments deal with their localities' waste disposal to the best of their abilities guided by the 2000 solid waste management law. Some have fully functioning materials recovery facilities that segregate biodegradable waste, recyclable materials, and residual wastes; others have only token versions.

Ideally, biodegradable wastes are made into fertilizers, and recyclables are put to new use or sold to junk shops. The accumulation of garbage, however, is simply too much to handle that most, like shampoo or coffee sachets, are just thrown into landfill sites.

A number of environment groups are seeking to scale up recycling or upscaling programs, but again, these have not effectively resulted in any significant dent in efforts to reduce plastic wastes.

#### Large-scale recycling

Other governments rely heavily on mechanical recycling, targeting easy-to-recycle plastics like PET or HDPE, examples of the former being single-use water bottles and the latter being containers. Mechanical recycling does not alter the plastics' chemical structure, and the resulting pellets are reused in the manufacture of new plastic products.

While mechanical recycling is widely used in many developing economies, it still is not able to cope with the volume of new PET and HDPE plastic wastes. New processes, notably chemical, are being studied, although still in their early stages of adoption.

Chemical recycling – pyrolysis, gasification, hydro-cracking, and depolymerization – alter the chemical composition of plastic waste, but offer more opportunities to produce new plastic products and even oil products like diesel, naphtha, and wax.

The process of chemical recycling is regarded as congruent to the principles of circular economy ideologues, who believe that the modern world cannot do away with plastics, and as such, must instead be able to harness it in a sustainable way without doing too much damage to the environment and human lives.

Today, most new plastics being manufactured come directly from crude oil or gas, and only about six percent come from recycled plastics. The efficiency of chemical recycling to repurpose different kinds of plastic wastes is viewed with much enthusiasm, and investment offers abound for start-ups.

Such moves, of course, are staunchly criticized by environmental activists who believe that chemical recycling is at its most basic still incineration, and worse, will only add to the world's production of fossil fuels products.

It's still early days for most of the chemical recycling technologies, although regulating agencies are onboard in vetting the processes, especially those that could result in greenhouse gas emissions and chemical effluents.

With the urgency that plastic pollution represents to many countries and the world at large, however, the overall benefits of finally finding some way to collect plastic wastes that have accumulated through the decades and those from the future, regulators may just go a tad easy on them.

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Should you wish to share any insights, write me at Link Edge, 25th Floor, 139 Corporate Center, Valero Street, Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City. Or e-mail me at [reydgamboa@yahoo.com](mailto:reydgamboa@yahoo.com). For a compilation of previous articles, visit [www.BizlinksPhilippines.net](http://www.BizlinksPhilippines.net).



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## '10 taon kong nilinis' Ilog, daan amin 'yan - Cynthia

LABIS na nanggalait si Senadora Cynthia Villar sa isang opisyal ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) kaugnay ng planong reclamation project sa Cavite na magresulta aniya sa posibleng matinding pagbaha sa kanilang lugar sa Las Piñas City.

Nainis si Villar nang sabihin ni Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) director William Cufiado sa pagdinig ng panukalang 2023 budget ng DENR na pinagkaloob na nila ang environmental compliance certificate ang 21 reclamation projects sa Manila Bay.

Tinutulan ni Villar ang proyekto dahil masasarahan umano ang daloy ng tubig sa apat na river sa Las Piñas at Cavite at kalauna'y magresulta ito ng matinding pagbaha sa kanilang lungsod.

"Ako sinabi ko sa inyo,

huwag niyong pakikialaman 'yong aming daan doon. We have four rivers going out of that bay. Where will the river go - the water of the river go? Sinasabi ko na paglali sa inyo 'yan, ayaw kayo tumigil. Hindi ako pumayag diyan," himutok ni Villar.

Ayon pa sa senador, kahit sina dating Pangulong Benigno 'Noynoy' Aquino III at Rodrigo Duterte ay hindi pumayag sa nasabing mga reclamation project na ipinagpipilitan ng DENR.

Dagdag niya, kakausapin din umano si Pangulong Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr. tungkol sa nasabing reclamation projects.

Pinagdidinain ni Villar, miyembro ng Aquilar-Villar clan na ilang dekada nang nagpapatkbo sa Las Piñas, na halos 10 taon ang ginugol niya para malinis ang ang Las Piñas-Zapote River.

"It took me 10 years to clean my river so there will be no flooding, tapos sarhan n'yo iyong daan ng river ko?" ani Villar.

"I cleaned 30 kilometers of river, ba't hindi sasama loob ko?" dagdag pa ng galit na senadora.

Tiniyak naman ni Environment Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga na sa kasalukuyang administrasyon, rerebyuhin nila ang polisiya tungkol sa mga reclamation projects.

"Under this present administration, we would be looking very carefully at the reclamation policy as a whole and we realize there is a need for some very strong science," sabi ni Loyzaga. (Dindo Matining)



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# PH is tops in world risk report – Legarda

By MARIO B. CASAYURAN

The Philippines ranks highest in terms of disaster risk among 193 countries covering 99 percent of the world's population, Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda said on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

"A country like the Philippines, which does not only belong to the top 10 vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change, but is now also found to be the number one disaster risk country worldwide, poses a major concern for us. This must serve as an urgent call to act now," Legarda said upon learning of the new WorldRiskIndex Report 2022.

Legarda said countries in the top 10 of the WorldRiskIndex list include India, Indonesia, Colombia, Mexico, Myanmar, Mozambique, China, Bangladesh, and Pakistan.

The report assessed countries based on risk, exposure, vulnerability, susceptibility, coping capacities, and adaptive capacities.

As a nation of many small islands,

situated along the typhoon belt, the Philippines is one of the countries vulnerable to extreme weather events.

Tens of thousands of lives were lost during the last decade which saw the occurrence of seven of the deadliest and costliest typhoons in Philippine history. Data from the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) revealed that damage to crops and structures reached ₱240 billion.

"We care deeply about the lives of our people and the well-being of our nation. We have been perennial witnesses to the vulnerability of our communities to disasters and the prevalence of risks throughout the country, not only from the impact of hazards but also from human-induced disasters," Legarda said.

For a vulnerable country like the Philippines, the aftermath of disasters turbo-charged by climate change in recent years has given a glimpse of a future in a rapidly warming world.



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# PH faces greatest disaster risk among 193 countries surveyed

THE Philippines is the most disaster-prone country among 193 in the world based on its exposure and vulnerability to natural disasters, a study conducted by two German institutions said.

The World Risk Index, released by Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft (The Alliance Development Works) and the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) at Ruhr University

Bochum, said the Philippines is facing the greatest disaster risk among the countries it rated.

The Philippines has an index score of 46.82, followed by India (42.31), Indonesia (41.46) and Colombia (38.37).

Mexico, Myanmar, Mozambique, China, Bangladesh, and Pakistan round up the top 10 countries most at risk of disasters.

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The University of Stuttgart's Prof. Dr. Jörn Birkmann, director of the Institute of Spatial and Regional Planning, and Dr. Torsten Welle, developed the index that evaluates the exposure to natural hazards faced by countries and assesses the inherent vulnerability in the countries towards suffering from impacts when facing these hazards.

"In line with previous results, this year's World Risk Index shows that global disaster risks are very heterogeneously distributed and strongly linked to aspects of poverty and inequality. Nevertheless, the new model results show clear differences from previous findings," the report said.

Dr. Mahar Lagmay, University of the Philippines Resilience Institute Executive Director, said the country is at huge risk of disasters because it is in the typhoon belt of Asia.

"When there's severe weather event like that, it carries along with it hazards. These hazards are namely the strong winds, the floods that are triggered, the landslides that are triggered by extreme rainfall events carried by the typhoon, as well as storm surges. These hazards are the ones that kill," Lagmay explained.

Going forward, Lagmay said the government should focus more on preventing the ill effects of natural disasters, noting the four pillars in disaster prevention and risk reduction.

"One is the long-term, preparations,

this is called prevention and mitigation, the other is just before the hazard strikes, which is preparedness. And then during the time when the hazard strikes, that's called response, and then afterwards, it's called reconstruction and rehabilitation," he said.

"We should really shift from doing more work on response to the long-term preparations planning," the expert said, recommending that the country's planning "should incorporate climate change-adjusted hazards."

"These are the hazards that would happen because of the changing climate, because of global warming, that means that the typhoons will become stronger, carrying stronger winds, carrying bigger floods, triggering more frequent and more widespread landslides, and bigger storm surges," he said.

Survivors of natural disasters in the country tend to say that storms that have been hitting the country are worse than the last ones that affected them, Lagmay noted.

"We must anticipate the future events. And to do that, we need science. We need to reflect in our hazard maps which are mainstreamed into the planning process of the communities, the comprehensive land use plans, the local climate change adaptation plans, the climate, and disaster risk assessments," he said.

If incorporated, the people in the community will be able to realize there is "such a type of hazard that is bigger than what they know or what they have experienced. And if we do that, they can anticipate."





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## PH among countries most prone to coastal flooding

BY PAUL M. ICAMINA

THE Philippines is among the top countries with the highest increase in the number of people affected by coastal flooding by 2030.

The list comes from Aqueduct Floods, a data platform run by World Resources Institute (WRI), an environmental research organization.

According to data from the Aqueduct tool, which analyzes flood risks and solutions around the world, flooding has already caused more than \$1 trillion in losses globally since 1980.

The situation is poised to worsen. Analysis from WRI's Aqueduct Floods finds that the number of people affected by floods will double worldwide by 2030.

The number of people affected by riverine floods will rise from

65 million in 2010 to 132 million in 2030. The number impacted by coastal flooding will increase from 7 million to 15 million.

It threatens economies as well. The amount of urban property damaged by riverine floods will increase threefold – from \$157 billion to \$535 billion annually. Urban property damaged by coastal storm surge and sea level rise will increase tenfold – from \$17 billion to \$177 billion annually.

The list of countries that are most at risk to coastal flooding includes Bangladesh, followed by Viet Nam, India, Indonesia, China, Nigeria, the Philippines, Egypt and Malaysia.

“Flood risk is increasing dramatically due to heavier rains and storms fueled by climate change,

See PH ▶ Page A2



Climate change will affect 85,373 Filipinos living along the coast, according to Aqueduct Floods estimates.

socioeconomic factors such as population growth and increased development near coasts and rivers, and land subsidence driven by overdrawing groundwater,” Aqueduct Floods reported. “In places experiencing the worst flood risk, all three of these threats are converging.”

Climate change will affect 85,373 Filipinos living along the coast, according to Aqueduct Floods estimates. Social economic factors will bring coastal floods to 136,862 Filipinos.

Subsidence – sinking in coastal cities, largely caused by the over-

exploitation of groundwater – will cause floods affecting 59,253 Filipinos by 2030.

India, Bangladesh and Indonesia have some of the largest populations affected by riverine and coastal floods each year. By 2030, these three countries will account for 44 percent of the world's population annually affected by riverine floods, and 58 percent of population affected by coastal floods.

Growing populations and booming urban development in flood plains will increase both riverine and coastal flood risk in

many countries. Even extremely water-stressed nations like Saudi Arabia will suffer.

The United States is projected to see an additional \$16 billion in flood damages to urban property annually by 2030, with \$4 billion caused by subsidence. This is more subsidence-driven flood risk than any other country.

According to Aqueduct Floods, flood protection measures offer a strong return on investment. For example, the three countries with the highest number of people affected by riverine flooding – India, Bangladesh and Indonesia

– are all suitable candidates for riverine dikes.

Every \$1 spent on dike infrastructure in Bangladesh may result in \$123 in avoided damages to urban property, when moving from the existing three-year flood protection system to a 10-year flood protection system by 2050. This investment would reduce the likelihood of floods from 33 percent to 10 percent.

There are job creation benefits. The costs for building flood defenses are not just a one-off capital investment; they require maintenance which creates long-

term jobs that stay in the local community.

Green infrastructure like mangroves, reefs and sand dunes also act as natural buffers to coastal storms. Intact forests prevent erosion and can reduce landslides.

Protecting and restoring this natural infrastructure offers flood protection and other benefits like water filtration and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Aqueduct Floods is an online platform that measures and maps global flood risk. WRI co-developed the tool with Deltares, the Institute for

Environmental Studies at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency and Utrecht University, with funding from the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management and the World Bank.

Aqueduct maps and data are used directly by hundreds of companies and are cited in many publications. It helps governments and civil society understand and respond to water risks such as water stress, variability from season-to-season, pollution and water access.



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THE PHILIPPINE STAR

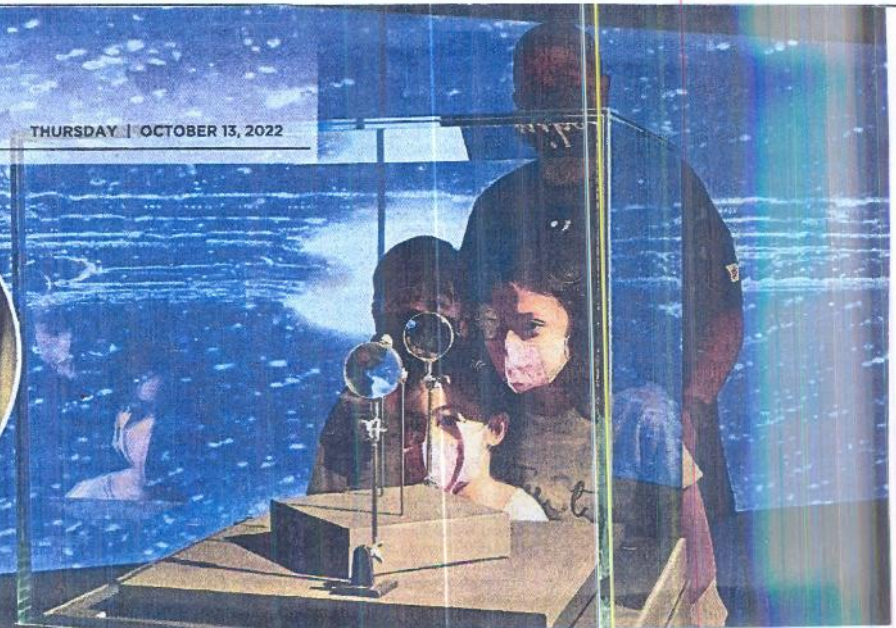
**metro**

EDITOR: DULCE A. SANCHEZ

THURSDAY | OCTOBER 13, 2022



Photo from the Facebook page of the National Museum shows visitors looking at the meteorites featured in an exhibit on Tuesday.



## National Museum features meteorites that fell on Phl

The National Museum of the Philippines has shown to the public its collection of meteorites as the country commemorated Museums and Galleries Month and World Space Week.

In a Facebook post on Tuesday, the museum management said the special exhibition at the Godofredo Alcasid Function Hall in the National Museum of Natural History features three of the six confirmed meteorites that fell on the Philippines.

These are the Orconuma meteorite that landed in Barangay Orconuma in Bongabong, Oriental Mindoro in 2011, the Pantar meteorite that fell in Lanao del Norte on June 16, 1938 and the Bondoc meteorite found in Bondoc Peninsula, Quezon in 1956.

The museum thanked the donor, Abraham Catiis, for entrusting the museum with the Pantar and Bondoc meteorites during the turnover on Sept. 22.

On July 8, the museum received the specimen of the Orconuma meteorite from geologist Aubrey Whymark, who facilitated the donation from John Higgins and Jasper Spencer.

Three Filipino farmers – Fredo Manzano, Edgar Francisco Sr. and Enrico Camacho Jr. – witnessed the fall of the 7.8-kilogram Orconuma meteorite and took care of it after it landed in their fields on March 7, 2011.

The Orconuma, Pantar and Bondoc meteorites are listed in the Meteoritical Society's Bulletin Database.

– Marc Jayson Cayabyab



## Bulusan Volcano placed under Alert Level 1 **By Jun Legaspi**

THE Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) yesterday placed Bulusan Volcano in Sorsogon under Alert Level 1 due to "low-level unrest."

According to Phivolcs, they recorded a total of 126 weak and shallow 0-5 km-deep volcanic earthquakes since 5 a.m. on Tuesday.

Most of these events occurred in the northwestern sector and the summit area of Bulusan and are attributed to rock-fracturing processes within the edifice.

Several monitored parameters indicate increased hydrothermal activity and overall unrest, Phivolcs said.

According to Phivolcs, the ground deformation data from continuous GPS

measurements and radial tilt indicate a short-term inflation of the southern flanks of Bulusan Volcano since April 2022.

"Moreover, a pronounced and ongoing inflationary trend that began in late September 2022 was detected by most of the electronic tilt stations on the southwestern and southern slopes. This current inflation cycle signifies ongoing pressurization of the shallow hydrothermal system," it said.

Phivolcs also observed that the volcanic carbon dioxide concentrations measured monthly in springs on the southeastern sector of Bulusan Volcano have been increasing since July 2022, with increasing spring temperature since April 2022 in

monitored hot springs on the southwestern sector.

Residents at Sitio Talistison, Brgy. Mapaso in Irosin and Bgy. San Roque in Bulusan reported a "sulfurous odor" on Oct. 10 to 11.

However, Phivolcs pointed out that "only very weak to moderate emission of steam-laden plumes is transpiring at the summit crater and northwest vents."

"Phivolcs is now raising the alert status from Alert Level 0 to Alert Level 1, which means that the volcano is currently in a state of low-level unrest," the agency said.

Local government units and the public were reminded that entry into the four-kilometer radius permanent danger zone is strictly prohibited.



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Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU**  
DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1118  
Tel. Nos. 8639-4379  
Website: [www.emb.gov.ph](http://www.emb.gov.ph) Email: [records@emb.gov.ph](mailto:records@emb.gov.ph)



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On the **ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN (EPRMP)** of the proposed **Masbate Gold Pit Expansion Project - Phase 2** located in Barangays Amoroy, Bangon, Capsay, Panique, Puro and Syndicate, Municipality of Aroroy, Province of Masbate.

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the implementation of the proposed **Masbate Gold Pit Expansion Project - Phase 2** to attend Public Hearing that is scheduled as follows:

Date	Time	Venue
27 October 2022	9:00AM (Registration will start at 08:30 AM)	Capsay Covered Court, Barangay Capsay, Aroroy, Masbate

This Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the Filminera Resources Corporation (FRC) application for Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC). The Environmental Performance Report and Management Plan (EPRMP) of the aforementioned project is being reviewed by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The following is the project information:

Proponent	Filminera Resources Corporation (FRC)
Project Name	Masbate Gold Pit Expansion Project - Phase 2
Project Location	Barangays Amoroy, Bangon, Capsay, Panique, Puro and Syndicate, Municipality of Aroroy, Province of Masbate
Components	Blue Quartz Pit: 16 Hectares Old Lady Pit: 20 Hectares Blue Quartz Waste Dump: 9 Hectares Old Lady Waste Dump: 14 Hectares Access Road to Old Lady: 3 Hectares Relocation Site: 10 Hectares
Rationale	The proposed Blue Quartz and Old Lady expansion project to be operated by the company will continuously benefit the community and the local government from the programs being implemented through the SDMP. Further, generation of local taxes to be incurred by the proposed operation will boost the local and national economy.
Project Capacity	Plant Capacity: 9,000,000 MT/y Mine Extraction Rate: 34,500,000 MT/y
Area	Existing total project area covered: 2,548.4 Hectares Proposed total project area: 2,795.4 Hectares (Additional block: 247 hectares)

All interested parties who wish to attend or participate in this Public Hearing should preferably confirm their attendance/ participation and may give their opinion(s) in a concise position paper submitted to the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EIAMD) of this Office through email or [eia@emb.gov.ph](mailto:eia@emb.gov.ph), three (3) days before the Public Hearing schedule. Those who will not be able to register or submit written positions may be given the opportunity to share their issues on the day of the hearing itself.

The project's EPRMP and Executive Summary for the Public are downloadable at our website: [www.eia@emb.gov.ph](http://www.eia@emb.gov.ph) (kindly access the Notice of Public Hearing/Consultation link found in our website) while copies will be available in the following offices:

**EMB Region V**  
Regional Center Site, Rawis, Legazpi City  
**Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO)**  
Municipality of Aroroy, Province of Masbate

For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone numbers (02) 85394378 local 116 and look for the project case handlers **Engr. George Silvederio** and **Engr. Carlo Vic Arida, EnP.**

MT - Oct. 13 & 20, 2022

*[Handwritten signature]*