

16 September 2022, Friday



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **NEWS CLIPPINGS**

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The Manila Times

A-2  
PAGE

UPPER  
LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

09-16-22

TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

# New mask order to reduce wastes by 50% – DENR exec

BY BELLA CARIASO

**A**N official of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on Thursday said that the lifting of the mandatory use of masks will reduce the accumulation of waste by 50 percent.

DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Director William Cuñado also recommended the use of reusable masks.

"It will help greatly in the reduction in the volume of face masks. Assuming at least 50 percent of the population will not use face

masks, that will be a good contribution in terms of the reduction of the solid waste or infectious wastes," Cuñado said.

President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. issued Executive Order (EO) 3 making mask wearing optional in open spaces or non-crowded outdoor areas with good ventilation.

"In terms of solid waste volume, this will greatly reduce the volume of the masks that will be disposed of or stored in our sanitary landfill area after the

treatment," Cuñado added.

He said that the DENR recommends the use of reusable masks such as cloth masks.

"For us, it will be advisable to use washable masks," he added.

Under EO 3, senior citizens and immunocompromised individuals are highly encouraged to wear masks.

Masks remain mandatory indoors when riding public transportation and in outdoor settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained.



Editorial

## Basura ang sumisira sa Dolomite Beach

**S**AYANG ang Dolomite Beach na nasisira dahil sa Stone-toneladang plastic ng basura na sumasadsad dito. Ang mga basura ay galing sa estero, ilog, sapa sa Maynila at mga bayan na nakapaligid sa Manila Bay. Ang Dolomite Beach ay kabilang sa Manila Bay beautification project ng nakaraang Duterte administration na ginastusan ng P389 milyon. Tinambakan ng puting buhangin na galing pa ng Cebu beach para magmistulang Boracay. Hinakot ng mga barge ang puting buhangin patungong Manila Bay.

Noong nakaraang taon binuksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach sa kabila na may pandemya. Maraming nag-picture-picture. Dinagsa at pinagkaguluhan ng mga tao na nasabik makaraang makulong sa lockdown. Hanggang sa isara muli dahil maraming lumalabag sa health protocols. Ang iba ay walang face mask at dikit-

dikit ang mga tao na para bang walang nanalasang virus.

Ngayon ay isinara na muli ang Dolomite Beach hindi dahil sa pinagkakalipunpunan ng mga tao kundi dahil sa tambak ng mga inanod na basura. Nang manalasa ang mga Bagyong Florita at Henry, toneladang basurang plastic ang inanod sa dalampasigan. Ang maputing buhangin ng Dolomite Beach ay nangitim na dahil sa nakatambak na mga basura.

Mga basura na gaya ng single-use plastic, sachet ng shampoo, 3-in-1 coffee, cup ng noodles, plastic bottle ng softdrinks at iba pa. Ang mga basura ay iniluwa ng mga ilog, sapa at estero sa Manila Bay. Ginawang basurahan ang karagatan ng mga walang disiplinang mamamayan.

Pinagtutulungang linisin ng mga tauhan ng Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) at Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang baybayin ng Dolomite Beach.

Nakadidismaya lang na pagkaraang gastusan ng milyon ang Dolomite Beach, magiging hantungan lang pala ng basurang plastic. Hindi rin mapakinabangan dahil kailangang linisin para gawing pasyalan. Magkaroon ng kampanya ang DENR at MMDA na maghipit sa pagtatapon ng basura para hindi maging bagsakan ang ginastusang beach.

Para hindi masayang ang ginastos sa beach, taniman ng mga bakawan ang paligid ng mamahaling beach para maharang ang mga basura. Kapag nagawa ito ng DENR at MMDA, pupurihin sila sapagkat maisasalba ang Dolomite Beach sa pagkasira.





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# Daily Tribune

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B18  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

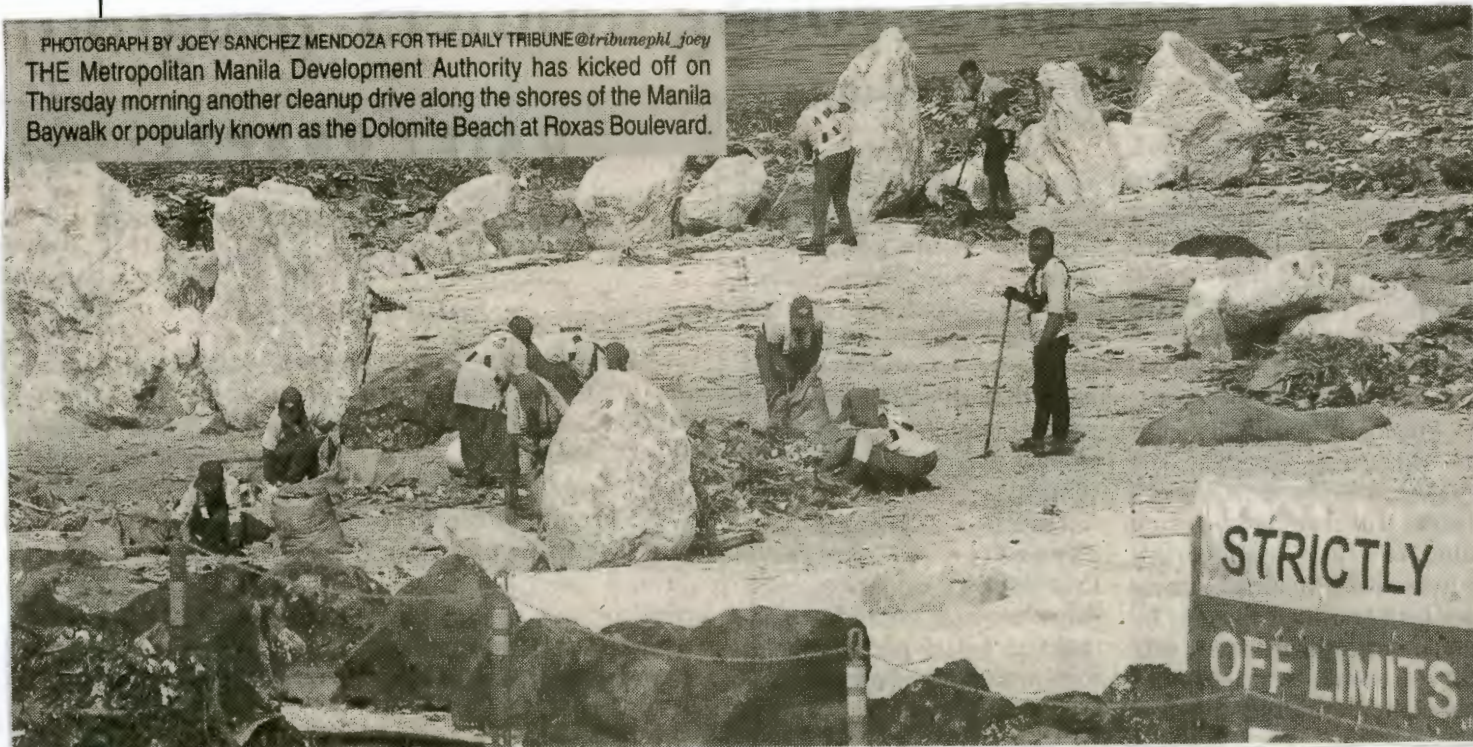
09-16-22

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOEY SANCHEZ MENDOZA FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE @tribunephil\_joey  
THE Metropolitan Manila Development Authority has kicked off on Thursday morning another cleanup drive along the shores of the Manila Baywalk or popularly known as the Dolomite Beach at Roxas Boulevard.





TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## NATIONWIDE ROUND-UP

### CMA CGM, Plastic Flamingo renew waste deal

FRENCH shipping company CMA CGM Group and social enterprise Plastic Flamingo on Thursday said they have renewed a partnership to reuse trash and ease plastic pollution in Metro Manila.

In three years, the project aims to collect and reuse 600 metric tons of plastic waste from the streets, coastlines and the Pasig River in the capital region, they said in a statement.

The Plastic Flamingo will collect and reuse riverine plastic, which requires more cleaning and handling to separate from marine debris.

The plastics will join the hard-to-recycle plastic sachets on the CMA CGM-funded recycling line to be transformed into eco-planks and boards.

The partnership was first launched in 2021 in the Philippines, where single-use plastics are a major source of ocean pollution. — LMJCJ



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COMMUNICATION  
AND  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# BusinessMirror

*A broader look at today's business*



PAGE



UPPER

LOWER



PAGE 1  
STORY



BANNER  
STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

09-16-22

TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

# PBBM's speech at UN to tackle economic policies, climate change

By SAMUEL P. MEDENILLA

[@sam\\_medenilla](#)

**P**RESIDENT Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos Jr. is set to tackle pressing international concerns such as climate change and the country’s economic policies during his speech before members of the United Nations (UN) when he flies to New York next week.

Likewise, he will also try to attract potential foreign investors

during the brief US visit to help the country achieve its goals in food



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INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# BusinessMirror

A broader look at today's business

PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

09-16-22

TITLE:

PBBM's speech

PAGE

2/2

DATE

security, energy security and sustainable economic development, among others.

Marcos is expected to fly to the US this Sunday to participate in the UN General Assembly (UNGA) debate at approximately 3:15 to 3:30 in the afternoon, New York time next Tuesday.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said the President will be discussing climate change, the rule of law and food security in his first ever address in the UNGA.

In a virtual press conference on Thursday, Press Secretary Beatrix "Trixie" Cruz-Angeles said Marcos is also expected to tackle his economic policies in his UNGA speech.

"We don't announce the details of the speech until it's actually been made. But in this case, the President's primary objective and in fact this means policy in his governance, in this administra-

tion, is economic recovery," Angeles said.

Around 152 heads of states are expected to participate in the event with the theme: "A Watershed Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interlocking Challenges."

Angles said they are still awaiting confirmation on whether Marcos will hold bilateral talks with the other participating state leaders.

### Economic briefing

AFTER the UNGA event, Marcos will hold an economic briefing together with other members of the Philippine business delegation, to include Philippine private sector leaders.

"This briefing is expected to attract institutional investors, senior corporate execu-

tives, business analysts, and even academic think tanks and entrepreneurs," Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Jose Victor Chañ-Gonzaga said.

Marcos will also meet with members of the US Chamber of Commerce, the US-ASEAN Business Council, and the US-Philippine Society.

"At these engagements, he will be able to have wide-ranging and candid discussions with political, business and community leaders on raising the profile of the Philippines in the United States, contributing to the President's economic agenda and strengthening Philippine-US political, economic and cultural ties," Gonzaga said.

The President is expected to fly home on Sept. 24, 2022.



TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

# Marcos to tackle climate change, economic recovery at 77th UNGA in NY

By **CRISTINA LEE-PISCO**

**PRESIDENT Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. will tackle climate change and economic recovery, among others, when he addresses the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on September 20 in New York, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said yesterday.**

In a virtual press briefing held jointly by the Office of the Press Secretary and the DFA, Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Kira Christianne Azucena said the President is expected to deliver at 3:15 p.m. (New York time) the Philippine national statement before the 152 world leaders who will participate in the high-level meeting at the UN headquarters in New York.

With this year's theme "A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges," Azucena said Marcos' statement is expected to identify these challenges and the solutions to address them, the role of the United Nations (UN), and how the Philippines intends to contribute to these efforts to build a "more sustainable and resilient world

for all".

The UNGA's theme stems from the recognition that the world is at a critical moment in the history of the United Nations due to complex and interconnected crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, humanitarian challenges of unprecedented nature, a tipping point in climate change as well as growing concerns about threats to the global economy, the UN said.

Marcos will also articulate his administration's priorities, such as the rule of law, energy security, food security, and sustainable economic development, among others.

The President will take the opportunity to meet with other state leaders and key UN officials on the sidelines of the UNGA session. The meeting, however, is still being arranged, the Assistant Secretary said.

Regarding Marcos' meeting with US President Joe Biden, DFA Assistant Secretary Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga said they are still in consultation with the White House and the National Security Council (NSC) in Washington DC.

Azucena explained the President's participation in the opening of the UNGA is "important" because it marks his first engagement

with the UN, which the Philippines recognizes as the world's most important multilateral organization. In the US program of activities, the high-level general debate is the most important event politically because "this is where world leaders articulate policy statements on world affairs and international relations."

Chan-Gonzaga said Marcos wanted his meetings with fellow world leaders and the United States corporations to focus on finding the necessary partnerships or synergies to benefit the Philippine economy and the Filipino people.

"The other most important speech that the President will deliver in New York aside from his UNGA address will be at an economic briefing. This briefing is expected to attract institutional investors, senior corporate executives, business analysts, and even academic think tanks and entrepreneurs," Chan-Gonzaga said.

He added the briefing will be an opportunity to outline the key economic priorities of the administration to expand and strengthen Philippine-US trade and investment.

Marcos will speak about macroeconomic and sectoral issues that might be of

interest to potential US investors and partners.

He is also set to participate in top business executive meetings designed to promote the Philippines as an important emerging economy and investment destination in Asia.

Marcos is also expected to meet with the US Chamber of Commerce, the US-ASEAN Business Council, and the US-Philippine Society to raise the Philippines' profile in the US and contribute to the administration's economic agenda and strengthen the Philippine-US political, economic, and cultural ties.

The Presidential delegation is mostly of Cabinet secretaries, undersecretaries, and other support staff representing the different government agencies such as the DFA, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Finance (DOF), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), and the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW).

There will be about a 20-30 member business delegation composed of senior Philippine corporate executives joining the President in New York.

The delegation is set to depart for New York on Sept. 18 and will be back in Manila on Sept. 24.



P-1



## BEYOND GREEN:

### The Manila Bulletin organizes first-ever 'Sustainability For

The Manila Bulletin is spearheading the first-ever "Sustainability Forum" on Nov. 23 and 24, 2022 with the theme "Beyond Green." The two-day event will include a virtual forum led by experts from companies with commendable sustainability practices.

The forum will be highlighted by a

Recognition Night on Nov. 24 at the City of Dreams Manila, where Manila Bulletin will honor programs and initiatives that have gone beyond green and made our planet better in the process.

The Sustainability Forum is Manila Bulletin's contribution to highlighting the importance of ESG compliance. ESG, which means "Environment," "Social,"

and "Governance" is a criteria that companies measure their sustainability to see if what they do affect environment. It also measures how they treat employees, customers and consumers, as well as compliance to government regulatory standards. ▶

# BEYOND GREEN: The Manila Bulletin organizes first-ever 'Sustainability Forum'

By JOHANNES L. CHUA

(Continued from page 1)

#### Why the urgency for a Sustainability Forum?

The world is at its "eleventh hour" and everywhere you look, it is as if the earth has reached its breaking point with the Philippines bearing the brunt of climate change.

We live in precarious times and all efforts must now be done to address our country's vulnerability before it's too late. It would take a paradigm shift in the way all of us live, shop, eat, purchase, and enjoy the finite resources we currently have.

When we say "all of us," it means the entire cycle—from decision makers, to manufacturers, consumers, waste handlers, down to the remanufacturers. And when we say "all efforts," it must go "beyond green"—it is not enough to be environment-friendly in words and

'It is not enough to be environment-friendly in words and slogans as these are mere short-term solutions. "Beyond Green" is going a step further, a long-term investment in the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) aspects.'

slogans as these are mere short-term solutions. "Beyond Green" is going a step further, a long-term investment in the environmental, social, and governance aspects.

Looking into a company's ESG



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THE EXHIBENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
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09-16-22

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BEYOND GREEN ... 2



(environmental, social, and governance) is a complex process but it allows investors and stakeholders to measure sustainability efforts. Forbes has said, "businesses with proper and actionable ESG criteria have more sustainable practices, making them less likely to pursue short-term gains and more likely to succeed in the long run."

To put it simply, these businesses have practices that help save the environment and address climate change, provide decent and equitable employment, promote a healthy workplace, and adhere to governmental standards with regards to regulatory compliance.

In the Philippines, companies are aware of the need to go "sustain-

able," as seen in malls selling locally made products, restaurants offering plant-based cuisine, and developers building net zero-carbon structures. These are positive developments but we still have a long way to go. There are Filipino companies who have laid the groundwork for ESG compliance but they just comprise a tiny fraction. To create a dent, this has to be a movement. And to be a movement, we have to start taking the leap—the leap that goes "beyond green."

Thus, "Beyond Green," as a theme of this forum is not only timely but relevant as well. Expect top companies and expert speakers who will talk about their efforts in going beyond green—how they will change for the better the way we live, work, play, eat, and buy.

Expect updates on speakers and the companies who will join the two-day virtual forum that is guaranteed to shake the industry in a good (and sustainable) way.

The highlight of the Sustainability Forum is a Recognition Night on Nov. 24 at the City of Dreams, where Manila Bulletin will honor programs and initiatives of companies and organizations that have gone beyond green and made our planet better than before.

For the latest updates, stay tuned on our website. Scan the QR Code or visit [mb.com.ph/category/specials/environment-and-nature/](http://mb.com.ph/category/specials/environment-and-nature/)





## Marikina fights leptospirosis with rats-for-cash drive

TO help eliminate rats causing the spread of leptospirosis, the Marikina city government is offering anew a monetary reward for those who would be able to catch these pests.

In a Teleradyo interview on Thursday, Marikina Mayor Marcelino Teodoro said the program started on Wednesday and will run until Friday.

The captured rodents may be brought to the City Environment and Management Office (CEMO) headquarters, located at Gil Fernando Avenue in Barangay Sto. Nino between 9

a.m. to 4 p.m.

Each rat, dead or alive, that weighs 150 grams and above can be exchanged for PHP200 while smaller rats can also be surrendered for a smaller amount.

"Last Wednesday, around 1,700 rats were brought to the CEMO and disposed of properly. We disposed of them like we were handling infectious waste," Teodoro said.

As of Thursday, the city government has collected over 3,700 rats from residents.

He added that the city government has already handed out close to PHP300,000 in exchange for these pests.

The funds were initially provided by the local government but several private group sponsors also joined the initiative.

Teodoro said the manner of disposing of these pests is in line with the guidelines of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Health (DOH).

Teodoro assured that the rats "undergo a proper method of collection, transportation, and disposal."

The program which started in 2020 has generated more "hunters" now that more people have become aware of the program.

At present, Teodoro said there are only three cases of leptospirosis in Marikina City, of which two were identified as construction workers and one factory worker.

They were infected through floodwaters in their workplaces outside the city.

PNA



### ***P4-M halaga ng narra, nakumpiska sa 3 katao***

**ARITAO, Nueva Vizcaya** – Tatlong lalaki ang dinakip ng mga otoridad nang makumpiska sa kanila ang mahigit sa P4 milyon halaga ng mga iligal na narra sa isang checkpoint sa Barangay Calitlitan, Aritao, Nueva Vizcaya, kamakalawa ng hatinggabi.

Kinilala ang mga narestong suspek na sina Cecilio Macalos, 43, driver, residente ng Tower Ville, Minuyan Proper, City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan; Armario Cahayagan, 50, helper, residente ng Barangay Kurbada, Norzagaray, Bulacan; at Arcadio Pascual, 50, Helper, residente ng Socbot, Pinukpok, Kalinga.

Ayon kay Forester Jay Marcial Jasmin, Team Leader at Project Development Officer 3 ng Department of Environment and Natural Re-

sources (DENR), umabot sa 8,155 board feet na mga first class na narra na nagkakahalaga ng P4, 077,500.00 ang kanilang nakumpiska sa tulong ng mga operatiba ng Aritao-PNP.

Ayon kay Jasmin, ang pagkahuli sa mga kontrabando ay batay na rin sa tip na ipinarating sa kanila kung saan tinukoy ang isang Fuso Truck na may plakang NDC 7499 at trailer bed plate No.130110 na naglalaman ng mga iligal na kahoy.

Wala namang mai-pakitang dokumento ang mga suspek nang pahintuin ang kanilang trak sa checkpoint ng DENR.

Ayon pa sa report, napag-alaman na galing umano ang mga iligal na kahoy sa lalawigan ng Kalinga at nakatakda sanang dalhin sa isang lugar sa Pasig City. (Victor Martin)



TITLE:

PAGE

DATE

## We need to talk about (our lack of) water

**W**e're in the midst of the rainy season, so some might find it strange that I'm talking about a lack of what seems to be all around us: water.

Because we live in a tropical archipelago that sits directly on the typhoon belt, we tend to take water for granted. In fact, we tend to think that we have too much of it, if only because of the floods that beset us every typhoon season.

This misconception that we have more than enough fresh water is a detriment to the agriculture industry. According to Ernesto Ordoñez, chairperson of Alyansa Agrikultura (AA) and president of the Water Security Movement, Inc. (WSM), said in his statement at this month's Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food Inc. (PCAFI) roundtable, "La Niña has arrived. Floods and crop damage will occur. Water is everywhere. But when drought comes, water is nowhere.

That is because we only have a dismal four percent water harvesting rate, compared to the 60 percent rate in India's selected areas."

It may be hard to believe because of the heavy rains and occasional typhoons, but the country has a water crisis. Many smallholder farmers do not have access to irrigation facilities, and so have to completely rely on the annual rains to water their crops. This is part of why many farmers produce less than they are actually capable of cultivating. Not only does this lessen their income, it lessens local production in general, which affects the nation's food security, depriving Filipinos of the opportunity to buy local and reinforcing the country's need to rely on importation of even the most basic goods.

According to Ordoñez, "Aside from a food crisis, we have a water crisis. Fifty-five



**AVANT GARDENER**

YVETTE TAN

people die every day from water related diseases. 16 million people have no access to drinking water. Five million hectares of denuded forest lands and 300,000 hectares of lost mangroves cause massive flooding. Thirty-four of our water related agencies are not coordinated. That is why Pres. Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. listed as a SONA priority the creation of a Dept. of Water Resources."

He noted that though the National Irrigation Administration's (NIA) budget has been increased by ₱9.2 billion next year for a total of ₱40.8 billion, the agency tends to concentrate on larger irrigation projects, whereas smaller ones like Small Water Impounding Project (SWIP) tend to get overlooked, despite their larger ROI (Return on Investment).

According to the Bureau of Soils and Water Management page on the Gov.ph website, SWIP "is a structure constructed across a narrow depression or valley to hold back water and develop a reservoir that will store rainfall and run-off during the rainy season for immediate or future use," with projects classified as, "earthen dams with structural heights of not more than 30 meters and a volume storage not exceeding 50 million cubic meters."

Ordoñez cited a study of a ₱800,000 SWIP project covering 46 hectares conducted by Professor Ray Naval of Divisoria Norte, Quirino: "At ₱17,400 a hectare cost, return was an average ₱31,314, or 180 percent return (ROI). For regular irrigation costing

₱300,000 a hectare, the return is ₱44,800 a hectare, or a 15 percent return (ROI). Therefore, the SWIP in this case yields 12 times the return of regular irrigation (180 percent/15 percent). For the additional ₱9.2 billion NIA will get next year, similar SWIPs should be considered instead of allocating all the extra funds to large irrigation projects."

Since a majority of Filipino farmers have small farms, smaller irrigation projects will be of more benefit to them. That it's cheaper to build and run and has the potential to be more useful than a bigger and more expensive irrigation system is a huge plus for everyone.

Ordoñez urged better coordination between agencies, as well as reiterating a recommendation from the authors of the National Water Roadmap for "the creation of a Dept. of Water, improved water harvesting, and the strengthening of the 18 major public-private River Basin Management Councils to implement the globally recognized Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) system."

Given all this, he stressed that, "Congress must therefore consider ROI when they review the budgets. It should also look at increasing the funding of the 18 River Basin Management Councils."

Don't be fooled by the rainy season. The Philippines is in dire need of proper water management. The sooner we can control our water crisis, the easier it will be to secure our food future.



TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# Tampakan seeks P397M from mining firm

BY FRANZ R. SUMANGIL

**T**HE local government of Tampakan town in South Cotabato province has demanded tax dues worth P397 million from Sagittarius Mines Inc. (SMI), the operator of a controversial \$5.9-billion mining project.

The mining firm, however, questioned the local government unit's (LGU) bid to collect the amount before a local court.

Tampakan Mayor Leonard Escobillo on Wednesday confirmed that they already received last week a copy of the civil case filed by the SMI against the LGU.

Escobillo earlier ordered the office of the municipal treasurer to review the taxes paid by all business establishments operating in the locality over the past few years.

According to the municipal treasurer's office, the SMI was found to have deficiencies for

business tax from 2020 to 2022 and mayor's permit fees and other regulatory fees from 2013 to 2022.

Escobillo said the LGU is unfazed by the case filed by the SMI.

"We have sent them three notices to settle their tax obligations but to no avail. I am just implementing our local (tax) ordinance in effect since 2012," he added.

The LGU, according to the mayor, was willing to discuss a settlement but the SMI decided to bring the matter to court.

The Tampakan project is considered as the largest undeveloped copper-gold minefield in

Southeast Asia and among the largest of its kind in the world.

Based on a company study, the Tampakan project has the potential to yield an average of 375,000 tons of copper and 360,000 ounces of gold in concentrate per annum in the expected 17-year-life of the mine.

The national government granted the SMI a 25-year Financial and Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA) that expired on March 21, 2020.

The mining firm sought and was granted a 12-year extension for the original FTAA, or until March 21, 2032, renewable for another 25 years.

The FTAA covers about 10,000

hectares straddling the towns of Tampakan in South Cotabato, Kiblawan in Davao del Sur and Columbio in Sultan Kudarat.

The project, however, has been staunchly opposed by the local Catholic Church and environmental groups on concerns over the environment, food security, health and human rights.

In 2010, the South Cotabato provincial government imposed a landmark ban on open-pit mining, the method that the SMI said is the most viable way to extract the deposits lying near the surface.

The ban hindered the bid of the mining company to proceed to commercial operation.

In May 2022, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of South Cotabato lifted the ban, removing the decade-old thorn in the throat of the SMI.

South Cotabato Gov. Reynaldo Tamayo Jr., however, vetoed the measure, thus the ban on open-pit mining remains in effect across the province.

The Tampakan project has obtained an environmental compliance certificate from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and a certification precondition from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, which are vital requirements to proceed to commercial mining operation.



# Web-based app to improve PH disaster response, rehab

By AARON B. RECUCENCO

**G**overnment agencies led by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) has launched a web-based application that will assist local government units (LGUs) and other disaster response policy-makers to respond efficiently in times of natural calamities.

Dubbed as PlanSmart Ready to Rebuild, NDRRMC Executive Director Raymundo B. Ferrer said it is also designed to help LGUs to plan for disasters more efficiently and to build back better faster.

"We welcome the development of the PlanSmart Ready to Rebuild app and its support capacity building program as tools for our LGUs that are at the forefront of mitigating and managing disaster risks. This app, which will systematically generate RRP's using science-based information and pro-forma templates, will significantly help LGUs plan for quick and resilient recovery," said Ferrer.

Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Sec. Rehato Solidum said the app speeds up the development of RRP's (rehabilitation and recovery plans) and supports evidence-based decision-making and planning for pre- and post-disaster events.

The app, which is an offshoot of the GeoRiskPH Integrated Platform

developed by DOST and the Ready to Rebuild (R2R) Program led by OCD, enables LGUs to autogenerate an RRP through the use of a pro-forma document template.

"Through PlanSmart, it is my vision that we will have a geospatially-enabled Philippines where we evaluate data, time and location together for better analysis and decision-making," said Solidum.

He said the development of the app was a product of the coordination of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), and the World Bank.

Ndiamé Diop, World Bank Country Director for the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Brunei said the PlanSmart Ready to Rebuild app is just the first of a series of planning tools that are being developed under the PlanSmart platform.

"This is an opportunity to continue highlighting the importance of access to risk information to support comprehensive hazard and risk assessments and data sharing among national government agencies, LGUs, and the public for science-based planning and investments programming," said Diop.

DILG Sec. Benhur Abalos, Jr., for his part, urged the LGUs to maximize the use of PlanSmart Ready to Rebuild app in every aspect of their respective disaster risk manage-

ment - recovery and rehabilitation, preparedness, response, and prevention processes, mechanisms, and strategies.

"For us to be able to effectively and efficiently utilize the PlanSmart Ready to Rebuild application, I am also encouraging our LGUs to populate the baseline data in the GeoRiskPH Integrated Platform to enrich the database of the platform," he said.

The PlanSmart Ready to Rebuild launch also heralds the rollout of capacity building activities to enable LGUs, particularly data managers, DRRM officers, planning officers, and other staff involved in disaster rehabilitation and recovery programs, to use the app for the creation of their local RRP's.

For its pilot run, the training program intends to equip more than 400 participants from 137 LGUs in the National Capital Region, Region IV-A (CALABARZON), Region V (Bicol), Region VII (Central Visayas), and Region XIII (CARAGA).

LGU participants in the pilot run will include R2R Program graduates, those with existing GeoRiskPH Memorandum of Agreements with DOST-PHIVOLCS, and those located in areas that were identified by the Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation, and Disaster Risk Reduction as vulnerable to impacts of climate change and disasters.



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09-16-22

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AS THANKS FOR THE SERVICE

## CSC EYES REWARD FOR GOV'T CONTRACTUALS

**By Dempsey Reyes**  
@dempseyreyesINQ

The Civil Service Commission (CSC) is eyeing a "preferential rating system" for contractual and job order (JO) government workers who have been serving in their respective agencies for a long time, for them to be absorbed as full-time civil servants should they take the civil service examinations.

CSC chair Karlo Nograles disclosed during the agency's swift budget deliberations at the House committee on appropriations on Thursday that there are a total of 642,077 workers in the government serving under the contract of service (COS) and JO arrangements as of its June 30 data.

Of that total, Nograles said 107,409 of COS and JO workers were from national government agencies; 487,149 in local

governments; 22,937 in state universities and colleges; 6,593 in local water districts; and 17,979 in government-owned and -controlled corporations.

### Limitations

During the budget hearing, Rep. France Castro of ACT Teachers party list asked Nograles if the CSC has any proposal to Congress to lessen the number of COS and JO workers.

Nograles responded that while the CSC always wanted to absorb those workers under COS and JO, he noted limitations on why they can't be absorbed by their respective offices.

One limitation, he said, was that local governments are allowed by law to have COS and JO workers but in national agencies, they are covered by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the

Commission on Audit because their salaries are charged under the agency's maintenance and other operating expenses and not from its personnel services.

"So it's really under the issuance of the DBM and COA but this issuance is only until Dec. 31, 2022," Nograles told the House panel.

He explained that by Dec. 31, COS and JO state workers should be absorbed by their respective agencies, although he noted that most positions in government offices require that the worker must be a civil service exam passer, which was another limitation that the commission saw.

### Plus points

Because of this, Nograles said he and CSC Commissioners Aileen Lizada and Ryan Alvin Acosta have discussed giving a "preferential reward system" wherein

COS and JO workers who have been in government offices for several years, would be given "plus points" once they take their civil service examinations.

Under this system, Nograles explained that this could boost the COS and JO workers' chances of getting 80 percent in their exam scores, making them eligible for certain government positions. The passing score of 80 percent is applicable to all levels of the civil service exams.

The additional points will be credited based on the number of years the COS and JO workers have in their respective government offices.

"So, they still need to get the civil service exam and should they take it but fail to get an 80 [percent], there would be a number of points [to be added to their raw scores] equivalent to the number of years they served," Nograles pointed out. INQ





STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
AND  
INITIATIVES  
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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU**  
Regional Office No. IV-CALABARZON  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor, DENR by the Bay Bldg, Roxas Boulevard  
Ermita, Manila, Philippines  
Telefax. No. (+632) 5310-88-97 E-mail: regioniv@mgb.gov.ph  
Website: regioniv.mgb.gov.ph



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOREXPLORATION PERMIT OF MS. TEODORA A. ATIENZA

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 76 of Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR) Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2010-21, the Consolidated Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, that **Ms. Teodora A. Atienza** with address at **9057 GP Sitio River Control, Sampaloc 2, Saraya, Quezon** has filed an application for Exploration Permit particularly described, as follows:

I. Application No. : EPA-VA-181  
II. Date of Filing : June 14, 2022  
III. Area Location : Nasugbu, Province of Batangas

### IV. Description of the Applied Area

#### A. Geographical Coordinates

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	14° 12' 00.00"	120° 36' 30.00"
2	14° 13' 00.00"	120° 36' 30.00"
3	14° 13' 00.00"	120° 37' 10.00"
4	14° 12' 00.00"	120° 37' 10.00"

Sketch Plan: Please refer to "Annex A"

Size: The applied area covers Two Hundred Twenty One and 1288/10000 (221.1288 hectares) hectares.

#### B. Restrictions

The applied area shall be subject to Section 15 ("Areas Closed to Mining Applications"), Section 16 ("Ancestral Lands") and Section 105 ("Entry to Lands") of DAO No. 2010-21, and Section 4 of DAO No. 2012-07, as amended, which provide, among others, that:

- The following areas are closed to mining applications: areas covered by valid and existing mining rights/applications, old growth/virgin forests, proclaimed watershed forest reserves, protected areas and other areas expressly prohibited by law;
- The following areas shall also be closed to mining applications except upon written consent/prior clearance by the concerned government agency or private entity: areas near or under public or private buildings, cemeteries, archeological and historical sites, bridges, highways, waterways, railroads, reservoirs, dams and other infrastructure projects, public or private works, including plantations or valuable crops;
- In cases of areas occupied by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and/or covered by Certificates of Ancestral Domain/Land Claims/Titles (CAD/CALC/CADT/CAL), the Free and Prior Informed Consent shall be secured from the concerned IPs; d. In cases of surface owners, occupants and concessionaires that may be covered by the applied area, their permission shall be obtained prior to entry into their lands by the eventual Permittee for purposes of undertaking sand and gravel extraction therein;
- Prime agricultural lands, in addition to land covered by RA No. 667 or the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended, including plantations and areas devoted to valuable crops, and Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones and fish refuge and sanctuaries declared as such by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;
- Tourism development areas, as identified in the national and local tourism development plans; and
- Other critical areas, island ecosystems, and impact areas of mining as determined by current and existing mapping technologies, that the DENR may hereafter identify pursuant to existing laws, rules, and regulations, such as, but not limited to, the National Integrated Protected Areas System.

#### V. Activities to be undertaken

Per the submitted Exploration Work Program the following activities will be conducted:

##### 1. Research Work

The following aspects of research works shall be implemented prior to any exploration activities in the project area.

- Nature or Type of Study or Undertaking  
Nature and type of research studies shall be made on works undertaken by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau who conducted Geological Quadrangle Mapping and Mineral Resource Evaluation /Canvassing of Batangas, the Provincial Government of Batangas that prepared the Provincial Socio-Economic Profile and its digitized maps/plans and reports for interpretation purposes, Preliminary reconnaissance to semi-detailed scales geological mapping and exploration by the proponent to assess the economic potential of the project area, horizontally and vertically, various geological and exploration reports published by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau and some private sectors who conducted previous geological exploration and mapping in the locality.

##### b. Data Compilation/Collation

All available data from concerned government and private entities shall be compiled and collated on the following aspects:

- Geophysical Data;
- Lithological Data;
- Mineralization/Alteration Studies;
- Various Thematic Maps covering the Target Area; and
- Detailed Cost Estimates.

##### 2. Reconnaissance/Regional Survey or Studies

Regional geological mapping shall be undertaken to verify lithologies, contacts and gross extent of alteration and mineralization. The entire application area and outward will be covered

##### 3. Semi-detailed Survey or follow up Studies

Areas that will require follow-up semi-detailed mapping will be identified in the region mapping stage. Global Positioning System (GPS) will be used. Coverage is projected at more than 500 hectares.

##### 4. Test Pitting

Identified outcrops with allowable grades shall be followed-up by trenching the bedrock to verify the vertical extension of mineralization. Channel samples 2 centimeters deep and 10 cm wide cut across the floor at 1-meter intervals. Test pitting is necessary to be implemented in areas where enormous outcrops of basaltic ton andesitic rocks and other related non-metallic and metallic are highly exposed.

##### 5. Topographic Survey

Laying out the 100 meters by 100 meters grid pattern and topographic survey employing Total Station and GPS will cover the whole project area (221.1288 hectares) where the auger grid sampling will be undertaken.

##### 6. Detailed Geological Mapping

Detailed geological mapping shall be concentrated in areas where significant extension of known mineralization is already identified in the semi-detailed geological mapping. GPS shall be used in the implementation of this program.

##### 7. Drilling

A minimum of 5 drill holes will be covered using man-portable drill machine, NQ size at areas warranted for detailed follow-up. Essential targets area projected areas where big outcrops are identified, within and outside the main ore body. Man-portable drilling machine will be used for easier mobilization.

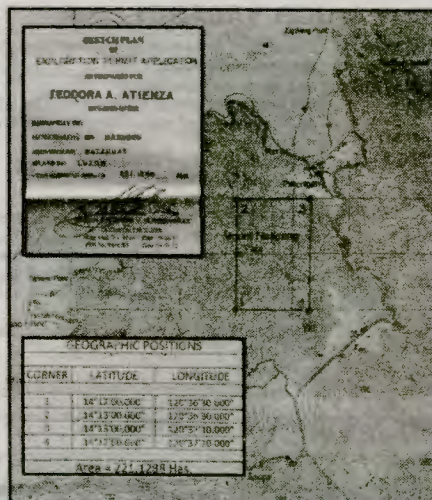
##### 8. Data Analysis and Interpretation

All samples to be collected in the foregoing exploration activities shall be forwarded to a competent and DENR accredited Geotesting Laboratory for analysis of its physical characteristics for very-size rock aggregate production. Result of laboratory analysis shall be plotted in the detailed exploration for interpretation of the property mineralization and thickness of overburden to be removed in the mine front preparation.

Any and all persons having adverse claims, protests and/or opposition to the subject application are hereby notified that their adverse claims, protests and/or opposition should be filed within ten (10) days from the last date of posting with the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Regional Office (RO) No. IV-CALABARZON or through any Community Environment and Natural Resources Office or Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office concerned for filing in the MGB RO No. IV-CALABARZON for purposes of its resolution by the Panel of Arbitrators pursuant to the provisions of R.A. No. 7942 and DAO No. 2010-21. Adverse claims, protest or opposition should be accomplished in accordance with Sections 203 and 204 of DAO No. 2010-21 and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the applicant by the adverse claimant.

For further particulars, please course your inquiries to the Regional Director, MGB RO No. IV-CALABARZON located at 8<sup>th</sup> floor, DENR by the Bay Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila.

DONDE SARMIENTO  
Regional Director



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU**  
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Website: regioniv.mgb.gov.ph



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOREXPLORATION PERMIT OF MS. DAWN MIRINAE A. ATIENZA

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 76 of Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR) Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2010-21, the Consolidated Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, that **Ms. Dawn Mirinae A. Atienza** with address at **9057 GP Sitio River Control, Sampaloc 2, Saraya, Quezon** has filed an application for Exploration Permit particularly described, as follows:

I. Application No. : EPA-VA-192  
II. Date of Filing : June 14, 2022  
III. Area Location : Nasugbu, Province of Batangas

### IV. Description of the Applied Area

#### A. Geographical Coordinates

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	14° 12' 00.00"	120° 36' 00.00"
2	14° 13' 00.00"	120° 36' 00.00"
3	14° 13' 00.00"	120° 36' 30.00"
4	14° 12' 00.00"	120° 36' 30.00"
5	14° 12' 00.00"	120° 37' 10.00"
6	14° 11' 45.00"	120° 37' 10.00"
7	14° 11' 45.00"	120° 36' 30.00"
8	14° 12' 00.00"	120° 36' 30.00"

Sketch Plan: Plea

Size: The applied area covers Two Hundred Twenty One and 1316/10000 (221.1316 hectares) hectares.

#### B. Restrictions

The applied area shall be subject to Section 15 ("Areas Closed to Mining Applications"), Section 16 ("Ancestral Lands") and Section 105 ("Entry to Lands") of DAO No. 2010-21, and Section 4 of DAO No. 2012-07, as amended, which provide, among others, that:

- The following areas are closed to mining applications: areas covered by valid and existing mining rights/applications, old growth/virgin forests, proclaimed watershed forest reserves, protected areas and other areas expressly prohibited by law;
- The following areas shall also be closed to mining applications except upon written consent/prior clearance by the concerned government agency or private entity: areas near or under public or private buildings, cemeteries, archeological and historical sites, bridges, highways, waterways, railroads, reservoirs, dams and other infrastructure projects, public or private works, including plantations or valuable crops;
- In cases of areas occupied by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and/or covered by Certificates of Ancestral Domain/Land Claims/Titles (CAD/CALC/CADT/CAL), the Free and Prior Informed Consent shall be secured from the concerned IPs; d. In cases of surface owners, occupants and concessionaires that may be covered by the applied area, their permission shall be obtained prior to entry into their lands by the eventual Permittee for purposes of undertaking sand and gravel extraction therein;
- Prime agricultural lands, in addition to land covered by RA No. 667 or the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended, including plantations and areas devoted to valuable crops, and Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones and fish refuge and sanctuaries declared as such by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;
- Tourism development areas, as identified in the national and local tourism development plans; and
- Other critical areas, island ecosystems, and impact areas of mining as determined by current and existing mapping technologies, that the DENR may hereafter identify pursuant to existing laws, rules, and regulations, such as, but not limited to, the National Integrated Protected Areas System.

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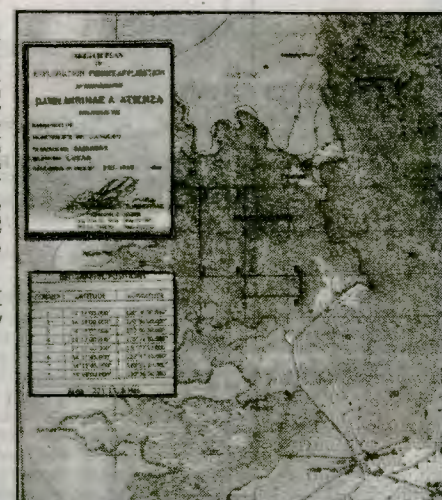
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For further particulars, please course your inquiries to the Regional Director, MGB RO No. IV-CALABARZON located at 8<sup>th</sup> floor, DENR by the Bay Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila.

DONDE SARMIENTO  
Regional Director





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BALANCED NEWS FEARLESS VIEW  
**INQUIRER**



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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

THE ALCOVES CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION,  
Applicant.

Case No. 22-3409

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within The Alcoves Condominium, Barangay Luz, Cebu City, province of Cebu, with the following proposed rates:

**PROPOSED TARIFF**

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	111.00	102.70	123.30	143.80	164.40	246.60

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **3 October 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

**At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing**, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the province of **Cebu** and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 2nd day of August 2022.

By Authority of the Board:

(Sgd.) **Dr. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III**  
Executive Director

Affected Parties:

The Secretary  
Sangguniang Panlungsod  
Cebu City, Cebu

The Barangay Chairman  
Barangay Luz  
Cebu City, Cebu

The Homeowners Assn. President  
The Alcoves Condominium  
Barangay Luz, Cebu City, Cebu

The General Manager  
Metro Cebu Water District  
Magallanes - Lapu-Lapu Sts.  
Cebu City 6000

(PDI - Sept. 16, 2022)