

01 Feb 2010

DATE : _____

DAY : Friday

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Manila Standard

A7
PAGE

IUP
 JGWH

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOO

01 FEB 2019

DATE

DENR creates four NCR field offices

By Rio N. Araja

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources on Thursday created four field offices in the National Capital Region to strengthen the enforcement of environmental laws in the region, home to over 12-million people.

Secretary Roy Cimatu said the initiative is also part of the Duterte administration's ongoing effort to make government services more accessible to the people, particularly those in Metro Manila.

"The creation of the four field offices in the DENR-NCR aims to strengthen the enforcement of environment and natural resources laws and promote focused and area-based operations," Cimatu's Administrative Order No. 2019-02 read.

"Thus, this brings the programs, projects, and services of the department closer to the public."

The new field offices would enhance coordination between the DENR, other government agencies and the 17 local government units in the metro tasked by the Supreme Court to clean-up the heavily polluted Manila Bay.

The DENR-North Metro Manila field office would cover the cities of Caloocan, Valenzuela, Malabon and Navotas.



DENR creates four field offices for Metro Manila

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said on Thursday that it created four City Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENROs) in Metro Manila to strengthen the implementation of environmental laws in the region.

"The creation of the four field offices in the DENR-NCR aims to strengthen the enforcement of environment and natural resources laws and promote focused and area-based operations," DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said in a statement.

The DENR said the North Metro Manila Field Office will be responsible for the cities of Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas

and Valenzuela (CAMANAVA); the South Metro Manila Field Office will oversee Taguig, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, and Pateros; the East Metro Manila Field Office will be in charge of Quezon City, Marikina and Pasig; and the West Metro Manila Field Office will cover Manila, San Juan, Mandaluyong, Makati and Pasay.

Except for the East office, a substation will be set up in all of the field offices to strengthen the rehabilitation of the Manila Bay, according to DENR.

"This brings the programs, projects and services of the Department closer to the public," Mr. Cimatu said.

Each field office will have three sections: the monitoring and enforcement

section to monitor compliance with forestry, wildlife and other environmental laws; the conservation and development section to undertake activities for protected areas and biodiversity, urban forestry, coastal resource and foreshore, and community relations development; and the permitting and regulation section for the issuance of permits and other requirements for forestry and wildlife.

The four field offices will be headed by a Chief Environmental Officer and a deputy and be directly supervised by the DENR Regional Executive Director for the National Capital Region. —

Reicelene Joy N. Ignacio



Remate

ANG DIARYO NG MASA

2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UPPER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEWS STORY	<input type="checkbox"/> FEATURE STORY	<input type="checkbox"/> EDITORIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> CARTOON
PAGE	LOWER				

01 FEB 2019

DATE

DENR magdaragdag ng 4 na field offices sa Metro Manila

PARA palakasin ang pagpapatupad ng environmental laws ay magdaragdag ng apat na field offices sa Metro Manila ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources dahil na rin sa patuloy na paglobo ng populasyon sa Kalakhang Maynila na aabot na ngayon sa mahigit 12 milyong residente.

Ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, ang hakbang na ito ay base na rin sa pagsisikap ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na ilapit sa tao ang serbisyo ng gobyerno partikular na ang naninirahan sa National Capital Region.

"The creation of the four field offices in the DENR-NCR aims to strengthen the enforcement of environment and natural resources laws and promote focused and area-based operations," nakasaad pa sa nilagdaang DENR Administrative Order No. 2019-02 ni Cimatu kamakailan.

Kasabay nito, sinabi pa ni Cimatu na ang pagdagdag ng bagong field offices ay upang magkaroon ng koordinasyon ang DENR at ang iba pang ahensya ng gobyerno kabilang na rito ang local government units sa Metro Manila na naatasan ng Supreme Court na linisin ang Manila Bay.

Magiging hurisdiksiyon ng DENR-North Metro Manila Field Office ang CAMANAVA area (Caloocan-Malabon-Navotas-Valenzuela) habang ang South Metro Manila Field Office naman ay hahawakan ang Taguig, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa at Pateros.

Ang Quezon City naman kasama ang Marikina City at Pasig City ay mapapaloob sa East Metro Manila Field Office samantalang ang mga lungsod ng Manila, San Juan, Mandaluyong, Makati at Pasay ay mapasasama sa West Metro Manila Field Office.

Sinabi pa ni Cimatu, bukod sa east office, magkakaroon ng sub-station ang bawat field office para sa implementasyon ng mga aktibidad ng isinasagawang rehabilitasyon sa Manila Bay.

Ang apat na field offices ay direktang mamamuhang ng DENR Regional Executive Director for NCR, ang bawat tanggapan ay pamumunuan ng Chief Environmental Officer at deputy nito, na magkakaroon ng tatlong section na kinabibilangan ng Monitoring and Enforcement Section, Conservation and Development Section at Permitting and Regulation Section.

Tungkulin ng Monitoring and Enforcement Section ang pag-monitor kung sumusunod sa batas sa forestry, wildlife at iba pang environmental laws ang bawat lugar. Kabilang din sa trabaho nito ang magsagawa ng surveillance at investigation activities.

Magiging obligasyon naman ng Conservation and Development Section ang mga aktibidad sa protected areas and biodiversity, urban forestry, coastal resource and foreshore at community relations development.

Ang pag-iisyu naman ng permits at iba pang kinakailangang dokumento para sa forestry at wildlife ang magiging gawain ng Permitting and Regulation Section.

Lumalabas sa isinagawang survey ng national census noong 2015, umabot na sa 12,877,253 ang populasyon ng Metro Manila na may pinakamalit na region sa bansa kung land area ang pag-uusapan.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENTAL
INQUIRER

A1/
A11
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTO

01 FEB 2010

DATE

GSIS, 10 more establishments tagged as Manila Bay polluters

By **Jhesset O. Enano**
@JhessetEnanoINQ

Four more establishments were slapped with government cease-and-desist orders on Wednesday for discharging untreated wastewater into Manila Bay, bringing to seven the number of businesses told to stop operations or face legal action.

As part of a government program to rehabilitate the bay, notices of violation were also issued to the main office of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and six other establishments for water pollution.

The Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), which has jurisdiction over Manila

Bay, issued the orders to Tramway Bayview Buffet Restaurant, HK Sun Plaza and Billion Building/Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., all on Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City, and to D Circle Hotel on M. H. Del Pilar Street in Malate, Manila.

LLDA inspections

On Sunday, when the cleanup campaign dubbed "Battle for Manila Bay" started, authorities shut down the water sources and wastewater discharging facilities of Aristocrat Restaurant, Gloria Maris Shark's Fin and The Esplanade after these were found dumping untreated wastewater di-



AFTERNOON DELIGHT Sunset-gazers on Manila's Baywalk strip on Wednesday enjoy both the view and the trash-free shoreline of Manila Bay, which underwent a major cleanup on Jan. 27. —EDWIN BACASMAS

rectly into the bay.

The cease-and-desist orders were based on recent inspections by the LLDA in the Manila Bay area and on results of

laboratory analyses of wastewater samples taken from the establishments.

Test results showed that the samples did not conform with

standards for Class "SB," which are considered recreational waters that can be regularly used by the public for swimming and bathing.

Aside from the GSIS, also flagged for water pollution were Sogo Hotel-Quirino, Makchang Korean Grill Restaurant and 2Blue Realty Corp. in Malate, as well as Robinsons Land Corp. (Robinsons Place Manila) in Ermita, Manila.

In Pasay, Peak Motors Philippines Inc. and Cebuana Lhuillier Building were identified as violators.

The LLDA said a similar notice had been issued to Rizal Park Hotel on T.M. Kalaw Street in Ermita.

Its general manager, Jaime Medina, earlier said that the authorities would continue to inspect establishments near Manila Bay and estuaries that flow into it.

No treatment plants

In the Pasay and Manila area alone, the LLDA has uncovered 120 establishments without sewage treatment plants and are dumping dirty water directly into the bay, according to Medina.

Violators may face a fine of up to P200,000 daily, starting from the data they received the LLDA order.

The agency will inspect the establishments again to ensure their compliance with water standards. INQ

By ROBERTZON RAMIREZ

The Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) yesterday named 21 establishments as among those polluting Manila Bay.

In a two-page memorandum, the LLDA issued a cease and desist order against Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., HK Sun Plaza and Tramway Bayview Buffet Restaurant in Pasay City and D' Circle Hotel in Manila.

The LLDA also issued a show cause order against Le Mirage de Malate-Builders 2000 Inc., Smart Land Resources and Malate Bayview Mansion, all in Manila.

The agency found 14 firms liable for violating environmental laws.

In Manila, they are Sogo Hotel along Quirino Avenue, Makchang Korean Restaurant, 2Blue Realty Corp., Cebuana Lhuiller Building, Rizal Park Hotel and Robinsons Place Manila.

In Pasay, they are the Government Service Insurance System and Peak Motors Philippines Inc.

A notice of violation was also issued against Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., Smart Land Resources, Malate Bayview Mansion and Summit Ice Inc. Building for their failure to secure an LLDA clearance.

New Manila Bay polluters named

The LLDA is an attached agency of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and is responsible for inspecting business establishments near Manila Bay for compliance with environmental laws.

The establishments "will be given a chance to correct their violations before charges are filed" and they are shut down said DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, who attended the Metro Manila Council meeting yesterday along with Department of the Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año.

The DILG will initiate an investigation to determine the liability of local government units that issued business permits to the erring establishments.

Año also urged mayors to help in the relocation of informal settler families living along Manila Bay's 17 tributary river systems and

its watershed area.

Palace defends bay rehab

Malacañang yesterday shrugged off militant groups' concerns about the rehabilitation of Manila Bay and insisted that the program would benefit all sectors.

Members of the Makabayan bloc have asked the government to suspend the rehabilitation, saying it could be a "prelude" to 43 reclamation projects under the Build, Build, Build infrastructure

program.

In a resolution, Representatives Ariel Casilao of Anakapawis, Carlos Zarate of Bayan Muna, Emmie de Jesus and Arlene Brosas of Gabriela, Antonio Tinio and France Castro of ACT Teachers and Sarah Jane Elago of Kabataan, said one of the projects that would benefit is the 265-hectare "Pasay Harbor City" of businessman Dennis Uy, a major contributor of President Duterte's campaign.

Militant group Pamalakaya has also claimed that the

rehabilitation would displace 300,000 families and would bring them to areas that are far from their livelihood sources.

But Presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo defended the rehabilitation program and assured the public the government would "look at the welfare" of those affected by it.

"When you clean up Manila Bay certainly all of us will benefit. Now with respect to reclamation, even the government will benefit from that," Panelo said in a press briefing.

"If I understand correctly,

its 65-35 and we will get 65 percent. That's huge. That will generate income to the government because of the sharing. And that will generate jobs because they will be establishing structures there," he added.

Panelo's statement contradicted the DILG's previous claim that the rehabilitation would not lead to the implementation of reclamation projects.

- With Emmanuel Tupas, Alexis Romero, Mayen Jaymalin



16 more Manila Bay polluters named

BY EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ

SIXTEEN more establishments have been found polluting the Manila Bay, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said on Thursday.

Data released by the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), one of the agencies tasked to rehabilitate Manila Bay, showed that these establishments were found not conforming with the Effluent Standards for Class

"SB" waters.

SB quality refers to waters that are fit for ecotourism or recreational activities, including swimming, bathing and diving.

In a news conference, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said

four of the companies — the Billion Building/Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., HK Sun Plaza, Tramway Bayview Buffet in Roxas Boulevard and D Circle Hotel in Malate, Manila — would be issued cease and desist orders as recommended by the LLDA.

Cimatu said the four establishments would be ordered to stop their operations until their violations have been corrected.

"This is the only way to clean up our *esteros* (creeks) along the

Manila Bay. We have to do this. It (sewage treatment plant) should really be part of the business," he said.

Meanwhile, three establishments — Le Mirage De Malate-Builders 200 Inc., Smart Land Resources and Malate Bayview Mansion — in Malate, Manila will be issued *ex-parte* orders, while Sogo Hotel-Quirino, Government Service Insurance System in Pasay City, Peak Motors Phils. Inc., Makchang Korean Restaurant, 2Blue Realty Corp., Cebuana

Lhuillier, Robinsons Place Manila, and Rizal Park Hotel will be given notices of violation.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and LLDA will also issue notices to Billion Building/Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., Smart Land Residences, Malate Bayview Mansion, Makchang Korean Restaurant, 2Blue Realty Corp., Cebuana Lhuillier Building, and Summit Ice Inc. for violating the provisions of the Republic Act 4850,

such as failure to secure LLDA clearance and discharge permit.

Cimatu said these establishments were given seven days to comply with environmental laws. Failure to do so would lead to their closure.

Last week, the LLDA issued cease and desist orders to Aristocrat Restaurant along Roxas Boulevard, Gloria Maris Shark's Fin Restaurant at the Cultural Center of the Philippines Complex, and San Miguel by the Bay for discharging wastewater directly into the bay.



LLDA issues more violation notices in Manila Bay rehab

THE LAGUNA LAKE Development Authority (LLDA) issued cease and desist orders to four companies in the vicinity of Manila Bay and notices of violation to seven others after they were found non-compliant with environmental regulations.

The orders were issued during the meeting of the Metro Manila Council with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) on Thursday.

The companies issued with cease-and-desist orders are Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., HK Sun Plaza, Tramway Bayview Buffet Restaurant, and D Circle Hotel.

On the other hand, notices of violation for water pollution were issued to Sogó Hotel-Quirino, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Peak Motors Phils Inc., Makchang Korean Restaurant, 2Blue Realty Corp., Cebuana Lhuiller Building, Robinsons Land Corp., and Rizal Park Hotel.

Likewise, Summit Ice Inc. was also issued a notice of violation for violations of Republic Act No. 4850, or failing to secure a permit and clearance from LLDA, along with the Philippine Billion Real Estate Development Corp., Smart

Land Resources, Malate Bayview Mansion, Makchang Korean Restaurant, 2Blue Realty Corp, and the Cebuana Lhuiller Building.

Asked for comment, GSIS President Jesus Clint O. Aranas told *BusinessWorld*: "Upon receipt of the notice, we will immediately coordinate with the DENR to work towards total compliance. It comes as a surprise because we have quarterly self monitoring reports that we submit to the Laguna Lake Development Authority from the sample taken from our Sewage Treatment Plant. Please note that the STP is found to be compliant with LLDA regulations. Added to that the LLDA is under the DENR. If they have a new design for STPs we are more than willing to comply."

A Robinsons Land representative requested that the company's comment not be for attribution, but acknowledged that the company has sewage treatment equipment at its sites.

The LLDA's jurisdiction covers Laguna de Bay, which is connected to Manila Bay by the Pasig River. Laguna de Bay is also connected to the Marikina River, giving it authority over establishments that may be dumping pollutants into the two rivers. It is also one of the agencies with day-to-day expertise in monitoring water quality.

— Vince Angelo C. Ferreras

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or by typing the link <bit.ly/ManilaBayRehab>



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU INQUIRER

A10
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE

MANILA BAY STILL UNSAFE FOR BATHERS

By Tina G. Santos
@santostinaINQ

The Department of Health on Thursday advised the public against swimming in Manila Bay despite the ongoing massive clean-up drive of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

"We advise them to wait until water tests can show that it is safe for swimming," Health Undersecretary Eric Domingo said.

He explained that although the water appeared to be clean,

it did not mean that it was safe to bathe in.

"Laboratory tests will show the level of coliform in the water and it [will] tell us if it is within acceptable levels," Domingo added.

He said that among the water-borne diseases the public might acquire from swimming in Manila Bay were diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, dysentery, skin diseases and eye infection.

The Manila City government has banned swimming in the bay for health reasons. INQ



OFF-LIMITS The water may look clean but tests say otherwise.
—EDWIN BACASMAS



Not yet safe to swim at Manila Bay – DOH

By **ANALOU DE VERA**

Don't dare to swim at the Manila Bay. On Thursday, the Department of

Health (DOH) reminded the public that it is still not safe to swim there, citing health issues.

The DOH issued the advisory after photos of clean shores ▶6

Not yet safe to...

◀1

of Manila Bay went viral after its massive rehabilitation was launched last Sunday.

"We advise them to wait until water tests can show that it is safe for swimming," said Health Undersecretary Rolando Enrique Domingo.

"After cleaning the beach, the water will still have to be tested to see if it is safe for swimming. Laboratory tests will show the level of coliform in the water and tell us if it is within acceptable levels," he added.

In the past, authorities strongly warn the public against swimming at the Manila Bay, especially during summer because its polluted waters pose health risks.

Among the water-borne diseases that may be acquired while swimming at the Manila Bay are diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, dysentery, skin diseases, and eye infections.

During the Manila Bay rehabilitation launch, some 5,000 volunteers participated. Over 10 truckloads of trash were collected.

Reach out to stakeholders

Quirino Rep. Dakila "Dax" Cua, chairman of the House Committee on Ecology, said the government must "reach out" to groups that would be adversely affected by the continuing rehabilitation of Manila Bay, dubbed the "Battle for Manila Bay."

Cua said those who are opposing the ₱42-billion program should be able to grasp the "bigger picture" as far as the cleaning effort is concerned.

"We understand their sentiments, especially those who will be directly affected by the rehabilitation effort. Government must make an effort to reach out to these groups and individuals to explain the rehabilitation program," he said after Wednesday's Ecology panel hearing.

"This will help critics and opposition

appreciate the bigger picture. At the end of the day, the welfare and interests of the general public should prevail over the interests of a few select groups," added Cua.

Everyone will benefit

Presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo allayed concerns that only big businessmen will benefit from the rehabilitation, saying everyone will surely benefit from it.

Panelo issued the statement following concerns the rehabilitation is a prelude to the reclamation which will benefit Davao-based businessman Dennis Uy.

In his press briefing, Panelo belied claims that giant businessmen like Uy will be the only ones who will benefit from the Manila Bay cleanup.

"Not necessarily. When you clean up Manila Bay, certainly all of us will benefit," he said Thursday.

"With respect to reclamation, even government will benefit from that because we get, if I understand correctly, it's 65-35 – 65 ang atin doon eh, malaki yun (the government will be getting 65 percent, that's a huge chunk)," he added.

"That will generate income to government because of the sharing, and that will generate jobs because they will be establishing structures there," he continued.

Informal settlers

Panelo said the government and those who will benefit from the reclamation will have to find resettlement for the 300,000 informal settlers who will be displaced.

"We will have to find a place for resettlement. And also syempre yung mga involved sa reclamation (And of course, those involved in the reclamation), they have to contribute to the solution," he said. (With reports from Ellson A. Quismorio and Argyll B. Geducos)



PEOPLE flock to the Baywalk along Roxas Boulevard in Manila to experience the 'new' Manila Bay after the massive cleanup launched by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as part of the rehabilitation of the bay. (Ali Vicoy)

DoH: Manila Bay still not safe for swimming

By ANALOU DE VERA

The Department of Health (DoH) on Thursday reminded the public that it is still not safe to swim in Manila Bay.

The health department issued the advisory after photos of clean shores of Manila Bay went viral.

Last Sunday, the massive rehabilitation of the bay started.

"We advise them to wait until water tests can show that it is safe for swimming," said Health Undersecretary Rolando Enrique Domingo.

"After cleaning the beach, the water will still have to be tested to see if it is safe for swimming. Laboratory tests will show the level of coliform in the water and tell us if it is within acceptable levels," he added.

In the past, authorities strongly warn the public against swimming in Manila Bay, especially during summer season, because its polluted waters pose health risks.

Among the water-borne diseases that can be acquired through swimming in Manila Bay are diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, dysentery, skin diseases, and eye infections.

Last Sunday, some 5,000 volunteers participated in the launch of the Manila Bay rehabilitation dubbed as the "Battle for Manila Bay."

Over 10 truckloads of trash were collected during the start of the program.

During the launch, Interior Secretary Eduardo Ano urged the public to join the government's effort in rehabilitating the bay, which is a popular spot to view the sunset.

"To our citizenry, let us join the advocacy. Be part of the solution in our own capacity. Be supporters and additional manpower to solve the problem," said Ano.



Palace cites benefits of Manila Bay land-reclamation projects

By BERNADETTE D. NICOLAS @BNicolasBM

MALACAÑANG shrugged off calls from different groups to reject pending reclamation projects in Manila Bay, saying the country will stand to benefit from the project because it will create more jobs and generate bigger income for the government.

Seven party-list lawmakers have filed a resolution on Tuesday urging the government to suspend the Manila Bay rehabilitation program, as this could be prelude to the 43 reclamation projects covering more than 32,000 hectares in the bay under President Duterte's "Build, Build, Build" program.

The resolution was signed by

Rep. Ariel B. Casilao of Anakpawis, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate of Bayan Muna, Emmie A. de Jesus and Arlene D. Brosas of Gabriela, Antonio L. Tinio and France L. Castro of ACT Teachers, and Sarah Jane I. Elago of Kabataan.

But Presidential Spokesman and Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador S. Panelo sees no prob-

lem with the reclamation projects, as the government will even get a bigger share from the income that it will generate.

"When you cleanup Manila Bay, certainly all of us will benefit. Now with respect to reclamation, even the government will benefit from that because we get...65 percent, that is big. That will generate income to the government because of the sharing. And that will generate jobs because they will be establishing structures there," Panelo said in a briefing.

Moreover, Panelo said, most likely it is the businessmen who will volunteer to find a place for resettlement for squatter dwellers.

"Most likely, they [businessmen] will, because my experience is, if there is a problem with land ownership, they do not rely on the government anymore, they offer to resettle them. It is because it is profitable for them instead of letting the informal settlers file cases and prolong the process while the projects were on hold," he said in a mix

of English and Filipino.

According to the lawmakers, the 265-hectare Pasay Harbor City joint venture involving Davao-based businessman Dennis Uy is included among the list of reclamation projects.

Uy was one of the campaign contributors of President Duterte.

Fernando Hicap, national chairman of Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya (Pamalakaya) also earlier criticized the government's plan to relocate thousands of fishermen along Manila Bay.

Pamalakaya has accused the government of "turning a blind eye" to the chemical and toxic wastes being discharged by industrial and commercial structures on a regular basis, as well as other government projects that are destructive to a marine ecosystem.

The group has also since called for genuine rehabilitation of Manila Bay in a form of mangroves restoration and rejecting all destructive projects such as land reclamation.

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

Manila Bay rehab maraming 'makikinabang' — Palasyo

AMINADO ang Palasyo na marami ang makikinabang sa paglilinis ng Manila Bay at sa mga ikinakasang reclamation projects na nasungkit ng mga dambuhalang kapitalista gaya ni "presidential crony" Dennis Uy. Sinabi ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo, lahat ay makikinabang sa Manila Bay rehabilitation at 43 reclamation projects dahil sa inalilikhang trabaho at maiaakyat na pondo sa kabán ng bayan.

"Not necessarily. When you clean up Manila Bay, certainly all of us will benefit. Even the government will benefit from that because, if I understand it correctly, we'll get 65 of the 100%, that will generate income, generate jobs because they will be establishing companies, siyempre may workers," tugon ni Panelo sa ulat na kaya nililinis ang Manila Bay ay bilang paghahanda sa 46 reclamation projects, pati ang proyektong nakorner ni Uy na Pasay Harbor City.

Tiniyak ni Panelo na tutulong ang mga negosyanteng sangkot sa reclamation projects sa pagbibigay ng pabahay sa may 300,000 informal

settlers na maapektohan ng mga proyekto.

"Hindi lang oobli-gahin, most likely they will, may experience na pag-may problema ang may-ari ng lupa, the government will offer to resettle them kasi mas profitable sa kanila. Kaysa paaalisin sila, magdedemanda pa nang matagal meanwhile 'yung mga projects nila naka-tehga," dagdag niya.

Kamakalawa naghain ng resolution ang Makabayan bloc sa Mababang Kapulungan na humihiling sa gobyerno na suspendehin ang Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program.

"The rehabilitation program could be a prelude to 43 reclamation projects covering more than 32,000 hectares in the bay under the Build, Build, Build program," ayon sa Makabayan bloc resolution.

Para sa grupong Kadamay, pekeng rehabilitasyon ang ginagawang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Manila Bay sa ilalim ng administrasyong Duterte at ginagamit para magkakuwarta at palayasin ang mga iskuwater.

(ROSE NOVENARIO)



No money-making schemes during bay rehab, DENR exec reminds employees

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

@jonlmayuga

A DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) official on Thursday warned department employees against engaging in money-making schemes amid the ongoing massive rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

Environment Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda said DENR employees should thoroughly inspect commercial, industrial and residential establishments and identify those that fail or do not meet environmental standards.

Aside from violators of the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, the Manila Bay Inter-Agency Task Force is set to enforce the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 and Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999.

"Let us admit it. It is during this time that unscrupulous employees will try to engage in extortion activities. I am warning them now. Don't. And to those who are being victimized by these unscrupulous government employees, just let the task force know and we will act on it. Personally, they can also inform me and I will make sure that these employees are arrested," Antiporda, DENR's undersecretary for solid waste management and local government units told the BUSINESSMIRROR.

On Wednesday, the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) dispatched 14 teams of inspectors to gather water discharge samples in Pasay and Manila.

Aside from implementing Republic Act 4850, or the LLDA law, the agency is also of the implementing agencies of the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004. Its jurisdiction, the Laguna de Bay region, overlaps with that of Manila Bay, because of its mandate over establishments that discharges wastewater in various rivers, creeks and esteros.

LLDA General Manager Jaime C. Medina said the teams, all armed with mission orders, have been given instructions to get water samples from the outfalls to determine whether an establishment's effluent

passes environmental standards.

Specifically, for the Manila Bay rehabilitation, the effluent must pass the SB level water quality, the parameters of which include at most, a 100 most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters when it comes to fecal coliform.

New DENR field offices

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, meanwhile, has bared the creation of four new field offices to strengthen the enforcement of various environmental laws in Metro Manila.

Cimatu said the move is aligned with the Duterte administration's effort to make government services more accessible to the people, particularly in the National Capital Region (NCR), which is home to about 12 million people.

"The creation of the four field offices in the DENR-NCR aims to strengthen the enforcement of environment and natural resources laws and promote focused and area-based operations," Cimatu said in a news statement.

"Thus, this brings the programs, projects, and services of the Department closer to the public," he added.

At the same time, Cimatu said the new field offices would enhance coordination between the DENR and other agencies, including local government units (LGUs) in Metro Manila, which were tasked by the Supreme Court to clean up the heavily polluted Manila Bay.

Each field office would have separate jurisdiction over the region's 16 cities and one municipality.

The DENR-North Metro Manila Field Office would cover the Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela. The South Metro Manila Field Office would have jurisdiction over the cities of Taguig, Parañaque, Las Piñas, and Muntinlupa, and the lone municipality of Pateros.

Quezon City, Marikina City and Pasig City would fall under the East Metro Manila Field Office, while the cities of Manila, San Juan, Mandaluyong, Makati and Pasay would be covered by the West Metro Manila Field Office.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



01 FEB 2010

DATE

Strict MM environment enforcement set

By Kuhlín Ceslie Gacula

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has created four more field offices in Metro Manila to strengthen enforcement of environmental laws in the country's most densely populated region.

This move, according to DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, is also part of the Duterte administration's effort to make government services more accessible to the people, particularly those in the National Capital Region (NCR).

"The creation of the four field offices in the DENR-NCR aims to strengthen the

enforcement of environment and natural resources laws and promote focused and area-based operations," Cimatu said in DENR Administrative Order 2010-02, which he signed recently.

Cimatu said the new field offices would enhance coordination between the DENR and other agencies, including local government units in Metro Manila, which were tasked by the Supreme Court to clean up the heavily polluted Manila Bay.

Each field office would have separate jurisdiction over the region's 16 cities and one municipality.

The DENR-North Metro Manila Field Office would cover the CAMANAVA area, or the cities of Caloocan, Valenzuela, Malabon and Navotas. The South Metro Manila Field Office would have jurisdiction over the cities of Taguig, Parañaque, Las Piñas and Muntinlupa and the lone municipality of Pateros.



Uupay, I

THE clean-up of Manila Bay has made for a "walkable" beach when the shoreline used to be covered with garbage.

BOB DUNGO JR.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



6
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BARRIER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE

Metro mayors vow closure of establishments polluting Manila Bay

THE Metro Manila mayors yesterday expressed their support to the Manila Bay Rehabilitation program and assured immediate closure of establishments identified by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as primary polluters.

This after Metro Manila Council (MMC) led by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chairman Danilo Lim passed a resolution supporting the "Battle for Manila Bay".

"The Mayors are 100 percent behind our effort to clean up and rehabilitate Manila Bay. They also committed to immediately close all establishments that were previously issued with cease and desist orders by the DENR and the Laguna Lake Development

Authority," Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo M. Año said.

Año also said that each local government unit will conduct their own inspections using their own sanitary and Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) personnel.

Año together with DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu met with all Metro Manila Mayors at the MMDA office. Año sought the support of the local government units (LGUs) in the closure of business establishments found to be violating environmental laws and relocate all informal settler families (ISFs) from coastal areas, esteros, and waterways in Metro Manila. DILG records showed that there are around 220,000 ISFs living along the Manila Bay

watershed area, including those settling along the 17 tributary river systems that flow into the Manila Bay Area.

Cimatu informed the mayors that they will issue CDOs, show cause orders, and Notice of Vio-

lations to all inspected business establishments found to be violating environmental laws. The mayors on their part would conduct their own inspections and cancel the business permits of violators.

Jun I. Logaspi



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

01 FEB 2013

DATE

'SPECIAL OPERATION'

WORKERS, VOLUNTEERS CHEER UP MALI AS ZOO REMAINS SHUT

By Aie Balagtas See
@ABSeeINQ

Every now and then, workers and volunteers at the shuttered Manila Zoo carry out a "special operation" that has nothing to do with its ongoing rehabilitation.

They have one goal: Keep the zoo's most famous resident, Mali the elephant, happy.

Since Jan. 23, the zoo has been closed to all visitors after Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada ordered it shut indefinitely to allow the installation of wastewater treatment facilities.

This was after the Department of Environment and Natural Resources tagged the attraction as a major polluter of Manila Bay.

Daily treat

At least once a day, zoo workers and volunteers gather around Mali's enclosure and pretend to be visitors, fussing over her and taking pictures.

The elephant's caretaker, Boy Tabiong, said that many of them visit Mali during her feeding time in the morning.

"We are afraid she might realize the zoo has closed and she might get lonely," said Jassyr Garcia, officer in charge of Manila's Public Recreations Bureau.

According to her, the elephant—Manila Zoo's top crowd drawer—loves it when she has



FEEDING TIME Breakfast is a tall pile of grass for Manila Zoo's most popular resident, Mali. There are over 600 other animals in the zoo but Mali is the only elephant. —EDWIN BACASMAS

visitors, adding, "Mali is happy when she sees zoo goers at her pen."

Manila Zoo has 640 animals that belong to 200 different species. Only Mali, however, is getting this special attention from zoo workers.

"Elephants love company. They even travel in herds," Garcia said.

Petition for transfer

A gift from Sri Lanka, Mali has been living in the zoo for over 40 years. She has been the subject of an online petition asking zoo officials to send her to an elephant sanctuary in Thailand where she will be in the company of other elephants.

Even world-renowned animal conservationist Jane

Goodall asked former President Benigno Aquino III in 2012 to transfer Mali to a wildlife sanctuary.

But an animal training expert who examined Mali has warned against the move, saying that the long, stressful plane ride and mandatory quarantine period might not be good for her health at her age. INQ



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVES SERVICE

Manila Standard

Page 12

NEWS

PAGE 1 STORY

BANNER STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE

EDITORIAL

The Manila Bay challenge

CLEANING up Manila Bay cannot be done overnight but it is one government task that should be pursued vigorously to prevent the body of water from becoming a permanent dump.

The filth deposited underneath Manila Bay has destroyed its ecosystem as well as its tourism potential. Many economic opportunities have also been lost as a result of degradation. Its 190-kilometer coastline stretching from Cavite in the east to Bataan in the northwest should be ideal for aquaculture production and other livelihood opportunities that can benefit the communities along the shore.

President Rodrigo Duterte's

directive to start the rehabilitation of Manila Bay is timely and his warning not to hesitate to order the closure of establishments along the area should send a strong message.

Some hotels, restaurants and other establishments have been polluting the bay because of their failure to treat their water discharge. But Manila Bay's problem is worse than that of Boracay. Informal settlers along Metro Manila's rivers and canals have been dumping their trash into the waterways that ultimately empty into Manila Bay.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has promised to put up communal septic tanks and waste water treatment facilities in slum areas to ensure human waste does not end up in the bay.

Relocating the informal

settlers along Metro Manila's waterways, meanwhile, should begin soon to effectively clean up Manila Bay. (Their household waste contributes 70 percent of pollution in the area.) The government has the responsibility to provide decent housing to the poorest of the poor and end their exposure to inhumane conditions.

Saving Manila Bay is a gargantuan job. The DENR has estimated that some P47 billion will be needed to clean the entirety of Manila Bay.

Saving Manila Bay also requires a comprehensive and holistic approach. Its cleanup should be done simultaneously with the rehabilitation of Pasig River and other estuaries linked to it. The restoration job should include the polluted Laguna de Bay, which also empties into Manila Bay.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Manila Standard

A41
PAGE 2/2

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IPF	<input type="checkbox"/> PAGE 1 STORY	<input type="checkbox"/> BANNER STORY	<input type="checkbox"/> EDITORIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> CARICOD
---	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------------------

01 FEB 2019

DATE

The Manila Bay





Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



4 -
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

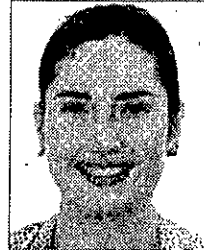
DATE





ROSES & THORNS

PIA ROCES MORATO



The Battle for Manila Bay

On Jan 27, 2019, we witnessed another historical event that gathered thousands of people from all walks of life in a solidarity walk to save the once majestic Manila Bay. I was fortunate enough to be part of this emotional event together with the rest of my group, the Republic Defenders, as we walked with many others from Quirino Grandstand to Manila's Baywalk and kick off the clean up drive or what we proudly call, the battle for Manila Bay.

It may sound rather sentimental to use the word "emotional" when describing the events which transpired on this day. However, that was exactly how many of us felt as we joined the rest of the Cabinet members under the Duterte administration led by DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu.

On social media we have seen how beautiful looking this Bay is, yet we cannot ignore the other posts which have been shared by concerned citizens who have noticed how some others still manage to throw their garbage without conscience.

It truly takes political will to enact such an order to bring back the beauty of Manila Bay, most especially for the next generation.

In order for us however, whether it be our government leaders or members of civil society to truly succeed in such a "battle," we must put great effort in changing our mindset. Having interviewed environmentalists and the like, we have always come to the conclusion that the biggest challenge remains in the response of the people toward such a campaign.

More often than not, it is the excitement of such projects that initially motivates us, but after the "luster" is gone, only a few dedicated members continue

and soldier on.

This is why as an educator I have always felt the need to reiterate that projects should be treated as programs because of the sustainability concerns which are associated with them. Programs help us understand more fervently that learning is continuous and that efforts need to evolve in order to achieve the end goal.

This is certainly easier said than done, but definitely with much collaboration and commitment, it can be done. A program such as this is a test for us all. It is a test of our real love for country which goes beyond words and focuses on our deeds.

Simply having the mindset of taking our trash with us instead of hiding it under the sand is very telling to say the least, of how much we value such a campaign spearheaded by our government, and how we as citizens respond to its call. If only we carry within ourselves this basic act of throwing our garbage properly simply because we know it is the right thing to do, we can only imagine the kind of ripple effect that can further push our efforts forward.

The Battle for Manila Bay is truly about us – our responses toward a goal we are determined to achieve. It is only the beginning for us and there is so much to be done. With this therefore, it is time we combine all our efforts and start being proactive members of society that focuses on sustainable solutions that will in the end be passed on together with all the learnings we've gained in the process, as our "gift" to the next generation.

The question we therefore ask ourselves is, are we truly ready for battle? Because quite frankly, we've only just begun. As for many of us gathered that day, we humbly but proudly say, challenge accepted.



SKETCHES

ANA MARIE PAMINTUAN

Mission Possible?

Is your house connected to a septage treatment plant?

I'm guessing that a common reaction is the same as mine: what on Earth is a septage treatment plant?

It's what the water concessionaires have in Metro Manila for treating sludge that usually goes to a septic tank. The tank can be connected to the septic and sewage treatment plants operated by Manila Water and Maynilad. Is the septic tank in your home connected? Really, who knows?

All my life, spent entirely in Metro Manila, I've always thought that in any of the houses where I've lived, if the taps, showers, toilets and drainage are working just fine, it means the water and sewerage pipes are connected to whatever they're supposed to be connected, through a network provided for a fee by the government and, later, by private water concessionaires.

In many areas, the facilities and services provided by what used to be called the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority or NAWASA, now the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System or MWSS, were clearly inadequate. Toilets would get clogged periodically and wouldn't flush; you'd prefer the eternal fires of hell to a "comfort room" where you need to use a plunger to clean up each time you relieve yourself.

Then as now, you drank water straight from the tap at your own risk. In Parañaque and farther south, there was no modern water system to speak of. The drinking water, extracted from deep wells and occasionally boiled, had a distinctive taste that was unpleasant to those used to the treated water in the more developed cities and towns.

Water supply was rationed in these areas, for a few hours every other day. Almost every household and business establishment had its own septic tank.

When the MWSS turned over water treatment and distribution to winning bidders Maynilad and Manila Water in 1997 under a 25-year concession agreement, the two private groups had to replace old pipes and install new ones in large areas still not serviced by the MWSS, particularly in the western sector.

Along with the water pipes, the concessionaires also installed sewage treatment facilities. But how many households and establishments are connected to this system?

Only about 20 percent of the entire Metro Manila, according to Patrick Ty, chief regulator of the MWSS. Much of the sewage ends up in waterways, which are also dumping grounds for solid garbage and industrial effluvia.

Most of that sludge, toxic waste and solid garbage eventually wash out into Manila Bay.

Boracay was a cesspool? If President Duterte walks along Manila's Baywalk after a typhoon, he will need to coin a new word to describe the shoreline filth.

And we are all contributing to it.



In 2008, the Supreme Court ordered 13 government agencies to clean up Manila Bay.

The official reaction to the directive was not surprising: it was considered an infringement into executive functions and largely ignored.

Now that it's the Chief Executive himself who has ordered the cleanup of Manila Bay – said to be 10 times worse than Boracay in its cesspool days – can this be Mission Possible?

A talk with the MWSS' Patrick Ty as well as Manila Water and Maynilad officials this week on The Chiefs, on *One News* / Signal TV, gave us an idea of the enormity of the task.

The two water concessionaires operate a total of about 60 sewage and septage treatment plants for Metro Manila. Ty, however, said only about 22 percent of the concessionaires' customers are connected to the wastewater treatment system.

The rest use individual septic tanks, where the sludge seeps into groundwater. Some of the wastewater can enter creeks and other waterways that ultimately drain into Manila Bay.

For the 80 percent of customers who are not connected to the wastewater treatment system, Manila Water and Maynilad offer regular desludging of septic tanks, at no cost, unlike Malabanan.

Only about a third of customers, however, opt for the free service. Maybe this is due to scheduling problems. Or the customers see no need yet for desludging, since the toilets are still flushing easily.

Many people, especially if they are only tenants, also have no idea where the septic tank is located. Maybe if the MWSS or water concessionaires have a device for locating the septic tank, more customers would avail themselves of the free desludging.

My guess is that most people are also clueless on whether a house or building is connected to a wastewater treatment system, believing that all houses, office buildings, schools and similar structures in Metro Manila are required by law upon construction to be connected to all the available water and sewerage networks.

Connecting to septage treatment facilities of the water concessionaires requires infrastructure that involves digging up the ground. The concessionaires have master plans for completing the sewerage and septage treatment systems in their respective service areas.

Both concessionaires, however, are behind in their installation schedules. They told The Chiefs that local government units are slow in granting the required permits, often because of concerns over traffic to be caused by road diggings.

In the meantime, people still have the septic tanks, where the accumulated sludge can continue seeping into groundwater and *esteros* that are linked to Manila Bay.

This is just waste from septic tanks. There are also the millions of informal settlers who use waterways and Manila Bay directly as their personal toilet and garbage dump. The garbage littering the streets of Metro Manila indicates that indiscriminate trash disposal is a habit that afflicts even people who are not informal settlers.

There is also sludge, industrial and solid waste from the provinces around the bay – Bataan, Bulacan and Cavite – where many people are still not connected to clean water and sewerage facilities. Around Manila Bay, business establishments must be made to comply with the 2004 Clean Water Act and install wastewater treatment facilities.

In crowded, polluted Metro Manila, providing more trash receptacles, with an efficient system of garbage collection, can encourage an attitude change. An area littered with trash tends to encourage more littering; the opposite happens when one is in a clean environment.

Political will can jumpstart the cleanup of Manila Bay. But its success and sustainability can only be possible if everyone is on board, and if there's a sea change in the people's mindset.

GOTCHA JARIUS BONDOC



01 FEB 2010

DATE

So what then is their basis for legislation?

Odd was the excuse of two House officers and one at the Senate to lower to 9 or 12 the age of criminal liability. They dismissed the reasons from specialists in pediatrics, brain development, psychology, criminology, and penology to retain it at age-15. Why base all legislation on science, they sneered, instead of actual experience for a change?

It's hazy what the trio meant by that. What's taught in elementary science and doctorates is clear. Science is data or experience, systematically observed and experimented, from which to learn. That's in contrast to pure conjecture, superstition, and gossip.

On what basis then should legislation be, if not knowledge? Never from concoction, or for perks, or to suck up to a political biggie in order to retain congressional power.

If anti-science prevails among legislators, what kind of laws would they enact to meet modern challenges? Like, perilous drone incursions into airport perimeters are becoming frequent. Collisions have occurred with an airplane in the United States and a helicopter in Canada, and hours-long runway shut-downs and flight delays caused in many cities. Would the lawmakers' solution be to hire Superman for sky patrol, or penalize wrongful drone users, require registration of units, and install "geofences" (map sensors) that automatically cut off signal between the remote control and trespassing drone? Also, new treatments are being discovered for HIV/AIDS. Should legislators fund those with laws, or take bribes first from pharmaceutical distributors?

On criminal liability, the lawmaking trio says that nine-year-olds are being used as drug couriers, so must be "criminalized." The scientists argue that those youngsters are victims, not culprits. Along with petty-thieving minors and vagrant street children, they need foster parenting and counseling in Bahay Pag-asa or halfway houses. As for heinous offending teenagers in rape, arson, murder, kidnapping, narco-trafficking and terrorism, those need isolating from society for intensive reformation. But not prison till they turn adult and recidivist.

So keep the liability age at 15 and make that 2006 law work once and for all, the scientists say. Solve the shortage of (1) Bahay Pagasa, only 55 operational out of 114 initially targeted; (2) social workers, only one handling up to 50 inmates instead of the ideal ten; and (3) state funding, only P190 million released since 2013 instead of P400 million per year starting then.

The male trio agrees with all that. Just the same they're adamant to criminalizing at age-9 if not 12, without saying why. Unlike them, Speaker Gloria Ma-

capagal Arroyo was candid to explain her vote: "It's what the President wants."

In launching the Great Manila Bay Rehab the Environment department issued closure orders on three long polluting bayside restaurants, then left the enforcement to the city mayors. Was it a cruel joke or an unusual punishment?

Of common knowledge is that mayors in the first place abet the continued spewing of waste into the bay despite citizens' complaints. Establishments can be fined up to P200,000 a day for pollution. Mayors' bagmen accept only a fraction to look the other way.

Sanitation, cleanliness, and beautification are among mayors' basic duties. But their only interest in garbage is the hundreds-million-peso kickbacks derived from collection contractors. The amount of kickback depends on the number of garbage trucks contracted. The more garbage to collect, the more trucks to field, and more money to pass under the table. That's why mayors do not enforce segregation, composting, and recycling, which reduce ordinary garbage by two-thirds.

Still, it's a natural start for environment officials to depend on the local officials for the Bay rehab. They may not have field enforcers that mayors do, but they wield coercive power. Hand-in-hand with the Environment is the Dept. of Interior and Local Government. Cracking the whip, the latter can make mayors themselves expose the once-bribing polluters. Involved in the rehab too are Housing and land use agencies. Mayors must give way to them, and stop coddling creek-side squatters and factories from which they derive votes and campaign donations.

DENR and partners are still crafting a master plan for the Bay rehab. That's obvious from the way some claim that it can be swimmable by yearend, while others say three years or even a generational habit change. After mobilizing the mayors and city bureaucrats, the barangay officials will follow, then the residents and office-goers.

The rehab should involve the whole Mega Manila. Meaning, not only the 17 cities of Metro Manila, but also the bayside provinces of Bataan, Pampanga, Bulacan, and Cavite. As well, the parts of Laguna and Rizal provinces that surround Laguna de Bay, which empties into the Manila Bay.

Catch *Sapog* radio show, Saturdays, 8-10 a.m., DWIZ (882-AM).

Gotcha archives on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jarius-Bondoc/1376602159218459>, or The STAR website <https://beta.philstar.com/columns/134276/gotcha>



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



19
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2010

DATE

Sa pagsisimula ng Manila Bay rehab

45 TONS NG BASURA NAHAKOT

UMAABOT na sa 45 toneladang basura ang nahakot na sa isinasagawang clean up drive sa Manila Bay.

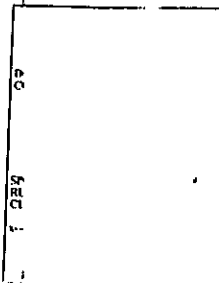
Ayon sa mga residente, unti-unti nang nagkakaroon ng improvement ang amoy ng Manila Bay

matapos unti-unting makolekta ang mga basura.

Matatandaang Linggo nang simulan ng pamahalaan sa pangunguna ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang rehabilitasyon sa Manila Bay.

Ilang establisimiyento rin ang ipinasara matapos mapatunayang nagtatapon ng dumi sa Manila Bay.

Una nang isinara ang Manila Zoo matapos mapatunayang nagtatapon ito ng dumi sa nasabing katubigan.





Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Abante

UNA SA BALITA



01 FEB 2019

DATE

Tuluy-tuloy na sana ang ganda ng Manila Bay

Dear Abante,
Nagsimula na ang opisyal na rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

Nakalikom ang Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) ng halos 45 toneladang basura sa nasabing clean up drive, na pumuno ng 11 na truck.

Kumalat sa Facebook ang mga litrato ng Manila Bay, matapos maglinis ng higit sa 5,000 volunteer upang tumulong sa 'Battle for Manila Bay', na kitang-kita ang pagkakaiba sa madumi nitong itsura bago pinagtulangang linsin.

Naghain na ng ceased and desist order ang Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) sa mga establisimyento na malapit sa Manila Bay.

Ang mga establisimyento daw na lto ay pinagmumulan ng pollutive water sa Manila bay.

Sana ay magtuloy-tuloy na nga ang pagbabalik ng ganda ng Manila Bay.

Maraming salamat.
Ezekiel Golbat
Makati



Kooperasyon ang kailangan para tuluyang malinis ang Manila Bay - Bong Go

NANAWAGAN ng kooperasyon, si dating Special Assistant to the President Christopher Bong Go para tuluyang malinis ang Manila Bay.

Sinabi ni SAP Bong na kung sasabayan ng kooperasyon ang political will ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ay imposibleng hindi magtagumpay ang pag-nanais ng pangulo na malinis ang Manila bay tulad ng ginawa sa Boracay island.

Ayon kay SAP Bong, mahalaga ang pagtutulongan upang maisakatupa-

ran ang mga plano ng pamahalaan para sa sam-bayanan.

Samantala, kinumpirma ni SAP Bong na tutulongan niya ang lone volunteer na hang-gang sa ngayon ay nag-sasagawa ng sarili niyang cleanup drive sa Manila Bay kahit wala siyang gamit.

Iginiit ni SAP Bong na dahil sa political will ng pangulo, kitang kita ngayon ang malaking ipinag-bago ng Boracay island na maipagmamalaki sa buong mundo.

(Vanz Fernandez)



Goitia pumalag sa panukala ng Makabayan bloc

TINUTULAN ni Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) Executive Director Jose Antonio 'Pepeton' Goitia ang panawagan ng mga miyembro ng Makabayan bloc sa Kamara ng mga Representante na ipagpali-ban ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay habang hindi pa nailalatag ang komprehensibong pag-aaral kaug-nay sa magiging implikasyon nito sa informal settler families (ISFs).

Nilinaw ni Goitia na ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay, tulad ng rehabilitasyon ng Pasig River ay mata-gal nang nasimulan ngunit may mabagal na suporta ng publiko partikular sa ISFs.

"As soon as the public learned of President Rodri-go R. Duterte's order to rehabilitate the Manila Bay, a tributary of the Pasig River and vice-versa, more peo-ple are now volunteering in our fight to clean and to protect our waterways," ani Goitia. "Likewise, more and more ISFs are becoming willing to self-dismantle their settlements and to be relocated."

Pinabulaanan din ni Goitia na walang maaayos na malilipatan ang mga ISF dahil tumatalima sila sa utos ni Pangulong Duterte na "walang' demolisyon kung walang relokasyon."

"Said families have long been living in danger given their high exposure to waterborne diseases, and their inhumane conditions have made them vulnerable to committing illegal activities. With that, their relocation is a top priority in the process of rehabilitating the Ma-nila Bay, the Pasig River and all our waterways in the Metro," diin ni Goitia. "If only they (Makabayan bloc) consulted the Department of Environment and Natu-ral Resources or the PRRC, they would know that all their recommendations have long been addressed."



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



15
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2018

DATE

GOITIA, PUMALAG SA PANUKALANG IPAGPALIBAN ANG MANILA BAY REHAB

TINUTULAN ni Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) Executive Director Jose Antonio "Pepeton" E. Goitia ang panawagan ng mga miyembro ng Makabayan bloc sa Kamara ng mga Representante na ipagpaliban ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay habang hindi pa nailalag ang komprehensibong pag-aaral kaugnay sa magiging implikasyon nito sa informal settler families (ISFs).

Nilinaw ni Goitia na ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay, tulad ng rehabilitasyon ng Pasig River ay matagal nang nasimulan ngunit may mabagal na suporta ng publiko partikular sa ISFs.

"As soon as the public learned of President Rodrigo R. Duterte's order to rehabilitate the Manila Bay, a tributary of the Pasig River and vice-versa, more people are now, volunteer-

ing in our fight to clean and to protect our waterways," ani Goitia. "Likewise, more and more ISFs are becoming willing to self-dismantle their settlements and to be relocated."

Pinabulaanan din ni Goitia na walang maayos na malilipatan ang mga ISF dahil tumatalima sila sa utos ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na "walang demolisyon kung walang relokasyon."

"Said families have long been living in danger given their high exposure to waterborne diseases, and their inhumane conditions have made them vulnerable to committing illegal activities. With that, their relocation is a top priority in the process of rehabilitating the Manila Bay, the Pasig River and all our waterways in the Metro," diin ni Goitia. "If only they (Makabayan bloc) consulted the Department of Environment and Natural Re-

sources or the PRRC, they would know that all their recommendations have long been addressed."

Nilinaw rin ni Goitia na makikita ang rehabilitation master plan sa pamamagitan ng freedom of information electronic portal. "Postponement of the rehabilitation can never be an option because it will surely lead to the death of Manila Bay and the Pasig River as well as to the prolonged exposure of the ISFs to inhumane conditions," dagdag ni Goitia. "Instead, we respectfully call for them to join us in the 'Battle for Manila Bay'. Puso Para sa Ilog Pasig at Laban Para sa Look ng Maynila."



PANUKALA NG MAKABAYAN BLOC PINALAGAN NI GOITIA

TINUTULAN ni Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) Executive Director Jose Antonio "Pepe" E. Goitia ang panawagan ng mga miyembro ng Makabayan bloc sa Kamara ng mga Representante na ipagpaliban ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay habang hindi pa nailalatag ang komprehensibong pag-aaral kaugnay sa magiging implikasyon nito sa informal settler families (ISFs).

Nilinaw ni Goitia na ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay, tulad ng rehabilitasyon ng Pasig River ay matagal nang nasimulan ngunit mabagal na suportang publiko partikular sa ISFs.

"As soon as the public learned of President Rodrigo R. Duterte's order to rehabilitate the Manila Bay, a tributary of the Pasig River and vice-versa, more peo-

ple are now volunteering in our fight to clean and to protect our waterways," ani Goitia. "Likewise, more and more ISFs are becoming willing to self-dismantle their settlements and to be relocated."

Pinabulaanan din ni Goitia na walang maayos na malilipatan ang mga ISF dahil tumatalima, sila sa utos ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na "walang demolisyon kung walang relokasyon."

"Said families have long been living in danger given their high exposure to waterborne diseases, and their inhumane conditions have made them vulnerable to committing illegal activities. With that, their relocation is a top priority in the process of rehabilitating the Manila Bay, the Pasig River and all our wa-

terways in the Metro," diin ni Goitia. "If only they (Makabayan bloc) consulted the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or the PRRC, they would know that all their recommendations have long been addressed."

Nilinaw din ni Goitia na makikita ang rehabilitation master plan sa pamamagitan ng freedom of information electronic portal.

"Postponement of the rehabilitation can never be an option because it will surely lead to the death of Manila Bay and the Pasig River as well as to the prolonged exposure of the ISFs to inhumane conditions," dagdag ni Goitia. "Instead, we respectfully call for them to join us in the 'Battle for Manila Bay'. Puso Para sa Ilog Pasig at Laban Para sa Look ng Maynila."



NETIZENS NAPABILIB SA PAGBABAGO NG MANILA BAY

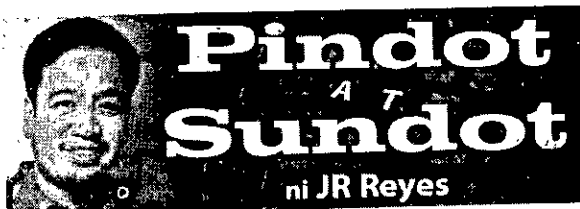
NAPABILIB ang mga netizen sa malaking pagbabago ng Manila Bay kahit kasisimula pa lamang ilunsad ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources ang "Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project" kung saan libo-libong katao ang nakiisa sa ginahap na malawakang clean-up drive nito lamang linggo.

Nag-viral sa social media ang "before and after photos" ng Manila Bay at dahil sa ilang taon na nasanay ang mga tao na dumaraan sa paligid ng nasabing baybayin na puno ng basura at may nakasusulasok na amoy, hindi sila makapaniwala dahil nakita na ulit ang buhangin dito at may mga ibon pa na namataan.

Ayon sa post ng isang Jo Soliman sa Facebook, nagpasalamat ito sa mga ahensiya ng gobyerno, lalo na kay Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte dahil nabigyang-pansin nito ang pagpapalinis sa marumi at mabahong Manila.

Ilang netizen din ang nagpahayag na hindi na sila pupunta pa sa malalayong probinsiya upang maligo sa dagat, dahil kung tuluyan na raw magiging malinis at manumbalik ang dating ganda ng Manila Bay ay dito na sila mamamasyal at maliligo.

Sa kabila ng ginagawang puspusang paglilinis sa Manila Bay, may isang concerned citizen na nag-post din sa social media kung saan ipinakita nito ang grupo ng mga estudyante na



naninigarilyo at kumakain ng chichirya sa buhanginan ng nasabing baybayin. Napansin nito na itinapon ng mga estudyante ang upos ng kanilang sigarilyo sa buhangin gayundin ang balat ng kanilang pinagkainan.

Dahil sa pagkadismaya ng concerned citizen ay sinaway niya ang mga ito kaya pinulot ng mga pasaway ang kanilang basura at itinapon sa basurahan.

Sa aking pananaw, huwag nating ibuhos ang lahat ng sisi sa pamahalaan ang pagiging marumi ng Manila Bay. Dahil ang kawalan ng disiplina ng bawat mamamayan, lalo na ang mga nagtutungo sa nasabing baybayin ang isa sa mga dahilan kaya napabayaang natin ito. Kaya makatuwiran lang ang mga poster ni Mayor Erap na nagsasaad na kung hindi mo kayang mapanatiling malinis ang iyong kapaligiran, huwag ka na lang magdumi.

Maaaring magpadala ng inyong puna at reklamo sa aking email address na jrreyes.0428@gmail.com o pwede rin magpadala ng mensahe sa 0998-2025510.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



5/6
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER
 PAGE 1
STORY
 BANNER
STORY
 EDITORIAL
 CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE



PROYEKTONG RECLAMATION SA MANILA BAY PABOR SA NAKARARAMI

ITONG mga militanteng grupo ay tila talagang ayaw umangat ang Filipinas. Kamakailan, naglabas sila ng pahayag sa pagtutol ng reclamation project sa Manila Bay dahil marami raw mga maralita at mga mangingisda na mawawalan ng tirahan at hanapbuhay. Napakasimple lang ng kasagutan diyan. Para sa lahat ng nagmamahal sa ating Inang Bayan, ang dapat lamang nating isipin sa mga suliranin ng ating bansa ay ito... 'ilagay lang natin lahat sa

lugar'. Kung ganito lang ang nasa isipan nating lahat, tiyak na ang pamuhay natin at estado ng ating ekonomiya ay tulad sa Singapore. Ilagay lang natin kung ano ang nararapat. Una, ang mga mahihirap ay dapat bigyan ng pagkakataon na umangat ang kalidad ng kanilang buhay. Subalit ang mga makakaliwa at mga militanteng grupo ay nag-uudyok sa kanila na hindi kailangang magbago at manatili sa kanilang tinitirahan at uri ng kanilang

hanapbuhay. Pangalawa, ang maling sistema ng pangingsda ng ating mga kapatid sa dalampasigan ng Manila Bay ay dapat ayusin. Unti-unting mauubos ang isda sa Manila Bay dulot ng polusyon. Kung ano ang kita nila doon, patuloy na liliit pa 'yan dahil nawawala ang ang mga isda. Bigyan sila ng mas modernong teknolohiya ng pangingsda upang mas makapunta sila sa laot kung saan mas marami silang mahuhuling isda. Sinagot na ng Palasyo ang isyu tungkol

sa proyektong paglilinis, rehabilitasyon at reclamation sa Manila Bay. Ayon kay Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo, magbibigay ng karagdang kita ang bansa at magiging benepisyo ito sa ating lahat. "When you clean up Manila Bay, certainly all of us will benefit. With respect to reclamation, even government will benefit from that because we get, if I understand correctly, it's 65-35. We get 65 [percent] there, that's huge," sabi ni Panelo. Sa madaling salita,

malaki ang kikitain ng ating gobyerno sa pamamamagitan ng buwis kapag natuloy ang nasabing proyekto. Bukod dito, ang lawak ng lugar ng reclamation ay parang 10 beses ang laki sa Bonifacio Global City o BGC sa Taguig City. Pagkakataon natin na ayusing mabuti ang latag ng nasabing lugar. Sa pagplano nito, tiyak na gagawa sila ng sistema upang magsilbing proteksiyon sa pagtapon ng basura at dumi sa Manila Bay. (Sundan sa pahina 6)

MAGKAPE KAYA... (Mula sa pahina 5)

Mawawala na ang kasalukuyang mga lumang gusali at negosyo na nagtatapon ng dumi sa Manila Bay. Sabi ko nga sa isinulat ko dati dito sa aking kolum, saan na nila itatapon ang kanilang dumi at basura? Wala na sa tabi ng kanilang negosyo ang Manila Bay dahil nagkaroon na ng reclamation. Tulad sa bansang Singapore, ang mga malinis, masinop at maayos na lugar kung saan nandoon ang mga modernong gusali, makabago at malawak na kalsada, modernong transportasyon, paliparan, daungan ng mga barko, tourist attractions at iba pa ay nasa lugar na nagkaroon ng reclamation project. Gumawa sila ng master plan kung papaano nila mapabubuti ang kanilang bansa. At ano ang resulta? Umasenso ang Singapore at ang mga dating mahihirap ay nagkaroon ng oportunidad upang magkaroon ng mas magandang hanapbuhay. Huwag na tayong magpapaniwala sa mga militanteng grupo na ito. Panahon na upang magkaisa tayo para umangat ang ating bayan. Kaunting pusok

ng dibdib sa mga mabubuting proyekto na makatutulong sa pag-asenso ng ating ekonomiya. Tama na ang pamomolitika. Kaya napag-iwanan tayo sa kangkungang ay dahil sa ganitong kláseng pag-iisip. Kitang-kita naman kung gaano kaseryoso ang administrasyon ni Duterte upang ayusin ang ating kalikasan. Nalinis ang Boracay matapos ang ilang dekadang kapabayaang. Maraming umangal sa una. Subalit kita naman natin ang resulta ng kaunting pag-sasakripisyo. Ganito rin ang isyu sa paglilinis ng Manila Bay. Maraming kumontra. Mahirap daw ito gawin. Subalit nakita natin ang determinasyon ng ating pamahalaan sa tulong ng ilan sa pribadong sektor at volunteers. Nilinis nila ang dalampasigan ng Manila Bay malapit sa US Embassy at sa may Manila Yacht Club. Nakabibigla. Para kang bumalik sa panahon kung saan nasa dalampasigan ka ng Manila Bay noong panahon ng 1930s. Kaya malinaw pa sa sikat ng araw na ang rehabilitasyon at reclamation project sa Manila Bay ay pabor sa nakararami.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1900

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

9
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE



NEW MANILA BAY – People flock to the bay walk along Roxas Boulevard to see the new Manila Bay, after photos of the clean shore were widely shared in social media. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and volunteers started on the bay's massive clean-up as part of its rehabilitation last Jan. 27. (Ali Vicoy)



Abante

UNA SA BALITA

2
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2010

DATE



PASYALAN! — Muli na namang sumisigla ang Manila Bay na unti-unti na ring dumarami ang mga namamasyal. (Jonas Sulit)



Boracay road rehab lined up

By Raymart T. Lolo

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is set to start the second phase of its road rehabilitation works in Boracay island anytime soon.

Phase II, on the other hand, will cost P300 million which was up for bidding last month.

Boracay Island was re-opened to the public on 26 October 2018, six months after President Rodrigo Duterte ordered its shutdown to address the violation of environmental laws that turned the

island into what the Chief Executive had described as a "cesspool."

According to DPWH, the new phase of the road project includes rehabilitation works in Crossing Rotunda to Tambisaan port in Barangay Manoc-Manoc and from Yes FM radio station to City Mall in Barangay Balabag.

Aklan District Engineer Noel Fuentebella said works on Phase I are about to be finished.

The road improvement from Cagban jetty port in Manoc-Manoc to Elizalde Compound in Balabag was prioritized by the DPWH as part of Boracay's six-month rehab plan last year.

Phase I of the project costs P490 million and includes the expansion of the existing road from six meters to eight meters-wide, as well as the installation of gutters, bike lane, drainage and sidewalks.

Phase II, on the other hand, will cost P300 million which was up for bidding last month.

Prior to the road rehabilitation, the DPWH had conducted clearing operations of illegal structures within the main road.

The DPWH wants to complete the 20-kilometer Boracay road rehabilitation project within two years or until April 2020.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Strategic Communication Initiatives Service

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1908

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

13
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019
DATE

House probes illegal logging in Samar

By **RESTITUTO A. CAYUBIT**

TACLOBAN CITY – The House of Representatives is investigating reports of rampant illegal logging in the provinces of Samar and Northern Samar that triggered flashfloods and landslides during Storm Usman last December.

Northern Samar First District Rep. Raul A. Daza told Manila Bulletin in a

phone interview that House Environment and Natural Resources Chair Rodrigo A. Abellanosa launched the initial investigation last Jan. 29 following complaints lodged by Daza and Samar First District Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento.

Sarmiento and Daza called on Abellanosa to expose the people behind the illegal cutting of trees in Samar so they could be prosecuted.

Landslides and flooding left five people dead in Samar and eight in Northern Samar.

Daza lauded the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Eastern Visayas through PENRO Elpidio Simon, members of the Philippine Army led by Brig. Gen. Ramil Bitong of the 803rd Infantry Brigade based in Catarman and the Philippine National Police (PNP) led

by Sr. Supt. Reynaldo de la Cruz for confiscating around P2.6 million worth of illegally cut lumber at Kilometer 11 in San Isidro, Northern Samar, last week.

San Isidro Mayor Ferdinand Avila admitted the illegal cutting of trees in his town and asked the help of law enforcement agencies.

DENR Eastern Visayas Regional Director Crizaldy Barcelo ordered an

operation using drones to ferret out illegal loggers.

As a result, illegally cut lumber was found in the mountains of San Isidro and confiscated.

Simon said they are trying to identify the owner of the abandoned lumber.

The lumbers will be donated to victims of flashfloods and landslides to be used in rebuilding their homes.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A4
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE

Taal Lake fish kill spares endangered 'tawilis'

The endangered freshwater sardine "tawilis" was not affected during the recent fish kill in Taal Lake, according to the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). But around P5 million worth of "bangus," or milkfish, died in fish cages due to a phenomenon called "sulfur upwelling" near Taal volcano. Willy Cruz, BFAR regional director, said the phenomenon was not new and that the agency had been monitoring its occurrence in the lake since 2000. Sulfur upwelling usually happens between November and February when winds are stronger, disturbing the sediments in the lake. This results in the upwelling of hydrogen sulfide, a poisonous gas that reduces dissolved oxygen in the water, thereby suffocating marine animals. —KARL R. OCAMPO



Oceana urges temporary fishing ban for *tawilis*

ENVIRONMENT advocate Oceana Philippines has called on government agencies to implement a temporary fishing ban on *tawilis* (*Sardinella Tawilis*), to allow the only freshwater sardine in Taal Lake to repopulate.

The group said the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) should work together in imposing the ban to protect *tawilis* from going extinct.

"The Protected Area Management Board of Taal Volcano Protected Landscape has already endorsed seasonal closure of *tawilis* to give it time to reproduce. The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources proposed a three-month fishing ban on *tawilis* since 2013. The DENR and BFAR must join forces to curb the major threats to the survival of *tawilis* and to ensure that there is sustainable management of this species," said lawyer Gloria Estenzo Ramos, vice president of Oceana Philippines.

Ramos said seasonal closure would help revive the *tawilis* pop-

ulation in Taal Lake, but stressed that it must be accompanied by other long-term and sustainable fisheries management measures, such as tight control on fish pens, regular monitoring of water quality, prevention of invasive species, and no-nonsense enforcement of environmental laws.

This was echoed by Pablo Rosales, chairman of the *Progresibong Alyansa ng mga Mangingisdansa Pilipinas*, who said overfishing of *tawilis* could be addressed by regulating fishing activities of commercial fishers.

"The ban must focus on the commercial fishing sector. Their boats are large, and their gears are very efficient, so they catch majority of the stocks. At the same time, municipal fishers are also displaced and left with lesser catch," Rosales said.

Earlier, fisher folk group Pam-bansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mam-amalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) also blamed the wide fishpen structures in Taal Lake for the declining population of *tawilis*. **EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ**



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Manila Standard

PAGE

UPP
DOWN

PAGE 1
STORY

BARBER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2010
DATE

Kepeco plans to build 1,000-MW coal-fired plant in Pangasinan

By Alena Mae S. Flores

KEPCO Philippines Corp. plans to build a 1,000-megawatt advanced ultra super-critical pulverized coal technology in Barangays Baquioen and Pangascasan in Sual, Pangasinan, documents showed.

Kephilco said in a submission to the Environment Management Bureau under its notice for public scoping that the project would address the need for additional capacity amid a growing economy.

"Currently, the municipality of Sual hosts the largest operating coal-fired power plant in the country. The said power plant was built last 1996 and is expected reach end-of-life by year 2024. On the other hand, the Department of Energy recognizes the rapid growing demand for power in the country," Kephilco said.

It said the proposed project would ensure the reliable delivery of electricity supply in Luzon by 2020 and beyond and would be a key infrastructure in sustaining the development of the country which achieved remarkable growth compared to neighboring countries.

"Moreover, inasmuch as coal is still the cheapest source of power generation, the project will help in at least maintaining the current price levels of electricity which is the second highest in Asia," it said.

The proposed project aims to bring progress to Sual town as it would generate more taxes and prioritize the employment of local residents.

The company said the proposed project would provide cheaper and more reliable electricity to meet future demands while economic and socially-uplifting program would be implemented.

The originally-planned power plant proposal involved a 3x300 circulating fluidized bed coal power plant at the same site with TansAsia Oil and Energy Development Corp., now Phinma Energy, as the original proponent.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Strategic Communication Initiatives Service

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1900

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

B-7
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01 FEB 2019

DATE

Public warned on health risks of mixing e-waste, regular trash

By **CHITO A. CHAVEZ**

An environmental group asked the public never to mix electronic-waste (e-waste) with regular waste to prevent toxic contents from penetrating and polluting the ecosystem that poses human health risks.

Pollution and toxic watchdog EcoWaste Coalition issued the call about safe e-waste management following the release of a new report indicating that only 20 percent of the 50 million tons of e-waste produced globally is recycled.

According to the report "A New Circular Vision for Electronics: Time for a Global Reboot," "less than 20 percent of e-waste is formally recycled, with 80 percent either ending up in landfill or being informally recycled – much of it by hand in developing countries, exposing workers to hazardous and carcinogenic substances such as mercury, lead, and cadmium."

Published by the Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE) and the UN E-Waste Coalition, the report said that "e-waste can be toxic, is not biodegradable, and accumulates in the environment, in the soil, air, water, and living things."

E-waste is defined as anything with

a plug, electric cord or battery (including electrical and electronic equipment) from toasters to toothbrushes, smartphones, fridges, laptops and LED televisions that has reached the end of its life, as well as the components that make up these end-of-life products.

"When it is not being stored in cellars, drawers and cabinets, e-waste is often incinerated or dumped in landfills, or makes its way around the world to be pulled apart by hand or burned by the world's poorest, to the detriment of health and the environment," the report said.

EcoWaste Coalition said the report should encourage stakeholders to sit down anew to review current regulations and practices leading to increased e-waste prevention and reduction efforts in the Philippines.

"Although the law, specifically R.A. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, considers e-waste as special waste requiring separate handling, we often find e-waste mixed with regular trash or simply dumped in street corners," observed Primo Morillo, E-Waste campaigner of the EcoWaste Coalition.

"We need a functional system for e-waste collection nationwide that will keep

toxic pollutants from this waste stream from entering the environment through improper handling, recycling or disposal. Children, women, and workers are most susceptible to the health risks of unsafe e-waste management," he added.

Considering the moves by China, and most recently, Thailand, to ban the entry of electronic and plastic wastes from abroad, Morillo said "we feel the urgency of tightening our country's current regulations that still allow the importation of so-called recyclable materials and surpluses."

Strengthened e-waste regulations and improved e-waste management practices in the country, the EcoWaste Coalition said, will be in sync with the ongoing safe e-waste management program led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and supported by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, a member of the UN E-Waste Coalition.

PACE and the UN E-Waste Coalition called for an overhaul of the current electronics system, emphasizing the need for a circular economy in which resources are not extracted, used and discarded, but valued and reused in ways that minimize environmental impacts and create decent and sustainable jobs.



This is On Me

Floro Mercene

Plastic trash crisis

THE accumulation of plastic trash in the oceans has worsened. Every year some 8 million metric tons of plastic is dumped into the world's oceans globally. It is said that about 60 per cent of the plastic trash that ends up in the oceans is from just five countries – China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

In the late 1940s, plastic was new and popular. It was invention for consumer goods' cleanliness and durability. Nobody talked about its permanence, and difficulties with plastic waste.

Aluminum can be recycled innumerable times to make new aluminum cans, but plastic is difficult to recycle. Each variety of plastic requires a different recycling process, and plastics are made from thousands of different formulas. Sorting all that out is a huge chore and there is no financial profit.

In 1980s, a new kind of marketing strategy which is plastic packaging in minimal quantity – the sachet, took flight in Southeast Asian countries. The sachets

are cheap, flashy and convenient to sell any product to those who might not have enough cash for a larger size.

The big drawback, though, is that the plastic sachets can't be recycled, where there's no infrastructure to recycle them. Nobody collects them. The plastic does not degrade. Packets have created an epidemic of trash. They are accumulated in landfills, dumps or the natural environment together with single use plastic products i.e.; PET bottles, HDPE (harder plastic) bottles for shampoo or milk, PS (low-density) grocery bags and food packaging, plastic cutlery among others. Uncollected plastic waste ends up mostly in rivers and esteros, and drift to the ocean.

Companies should do away with single-use packaging, and instead introduce ecologically-sound packaging. The UN report predicts if the trajectory of plastic production, use, and mismanagement continues, by 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

01 FEB 2019

DATE

Climate change as 'threat multiplier'

As climate change is increasingly recognized as a "threat multiplier" by scientists, political representatives and civil society across the world, the United Nations Security Council held an open debate to discuss its concrete impact on peace and

security, and focus on tangible ways to diminish the effects of global warming.

"The relationship between climate-related risks and conflict is complex and often intersects with political, social, economic and demographic factors," said Rosemary DiCarlo, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs in her opening remarks.

"The risks associated with climate-related disasters do not represent

a scenario of some distant future. They are already a reality for millions of people around the globe – and they are not going away," she stressed.



PLASTIC bags cling to a tree after a storm near the Dudaim dump in Israel's Negev desert near the Bedouin city Rahat. These plastic wastes constitute factors on the worsening climate conditions around the world.

AFF