Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City Tel. Nos. (02) 8920-0689 / 8925-8275 / 0917-885-3367 / 0917-868-3367 Website: http://www.denr.gov.ph / E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

MEMORANDUM

FOR

All Undersecretaries

The Head Executive Assistant All Assistant Secretaries

All Bureau Directors All Service Directors

Executive Directors (MBCO, RBCO, ELEPS)

Heads of Attached Agencies (NAMRIA, NRDC, NWRB, LLDA)

Regional Executive Directors, Region III Regional Directors and MGB Region III

FROM

The Undersecretary

Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MARCH

16, 2023, 1:30 PM AT THE OSEC CONFERENCE ROOM

DATE

MAR 2 7 2023

We are furnishing herewith the Highlights of the Special Meeting held on March 16, 2023, 1:30 PM at the OSEC Conference Room, which tackled the Updates on the quarrying in close proximity to the Subic-Clark Bridge with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

FOR INFORMATION AND/OR APPROPRIATE ACTION.

R. LEONES

MEMO NO. 2023 - 255



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DENR UPDATES ON THE QUARRYING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE SUBIC-CLARK BRIDGE MEETING

16 March 2023, 1334H – 1457H (PST) 4F DENR OSEC Conference Room, Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

PRESIDED BY: SEC. MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

ATTENDEES: Usec. Carlos P. David

Usec. Jonas R. Leones Usec. Juan Miguel Cuna

HEA Jose Joaquin Y. Loyzaga

RED Paquito Moreno, DENR Region III

RD Noel Lacadin, MGB Region III

Representative/s from Department of Transportation (DOTr)

Representative/s from Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)

Representative/s from Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA)

Representative/s from North Luzon Expressway (NLEX)

Secretariat

REFERENCE: SENR'S GUIDANCE/HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EXECOM MEETING NO. 2023-07

The meeting commenced at 1:34 PM and was presided over by Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga.

AGENDA	DISCUSSIONS/AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SECRETARY	PERSON/ OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	Timeline
1. Dredging meeting with Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources	 Sec. Loyzaga stated that DENR does not have a mechanism to jointly conduct the monitoring process. She emphasized that whatever the science and engineering interventions of different agencies will advise, the agency will respond to the said requirements, including the scientific evaluation. Sec. Loyzaga clarified if there is a protocol to establish and address this kind of joint execution of the various agencies' mandates and coordinate vertically in terms of monitoring and safeguarding the investment in the infrastructure. Sec. Loyzaga asked the body on most appropriate 	BCDA, DOTr, and DPWH	
(DENR)	 Based on the 2019 report of JICA submitted to DPWH on nearby Mancatian Bridge, the quarrying was the root cause for the rapid degradation and recommended "no-quarry" zones, within 5 km upstream and 5 km downstream. However, the 5 km was negotiated to 1 km based on the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Mining law. It was concluded that the JICA's recommendation of 5 km was not adopted. 		
	 Sec. Loyzaga stated that there should be a recommendation from the agency that manages the infrastructure based on their assessment on the structure, and preventive measures that can be implemented by the different agencies concerned. Sec Loyzaga recommended that the concerned agencies such as BCDA to release a statement/precautionary 	BCDA, DOTr and DPWH	

AGENDA	DISCUSSIONS/AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SECRETARY	PERSON/ OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	Timeline
	guidance/intervention at this point. • Sec. Loyzaga sought guidance on establishing the basis for the issuance of the suspension, period/ timerame, and recommended options.		
	 The next steps are the following: 1. BCDA, DOTr, and DPWH to assist the DENR in taking the necessary actions based on the results of their risk assessment. 2. Joint inspection by the BCDA, DOTr, DPWH and DENR shall be conducted. DENR shall be looking into environmental considerations. 3. Revisit the identified 5km. As such, the precautionary guidance should be qualified. 4. Consult the DOST-PHIVOLCS for the hazard mapping and baseline assessment. 5. DENR to take into account all the ECCs and quarry permit issuances. 6. DPWH to provide real-time monitoring of the bridge which will serve as a scientific basis. 7. BCDA, DOTr, and DPWH to conduct a small group meeting to discuss collective advise for the DENR. 	BCDA, DOTr, DPWH and DENR	

The meeting adjourned at 2:57 PM, same day.

Prepared by:

Policy Studies Division
Policy and Planning Service