



**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** **The Directors**  
Policy and Planning Service  
Legal Affairs Service  
Climate Change Service

**The Bureau Directors**  
Biodiversity Management Bureau  
Forest Management Bureau  
Land Management Bureau  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau

**The Executive Director**  
National Water Resources Board

**The Regional Executive Director**  
Cordillera Administrative Region

**The Officer in Charge**  
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

**FROM :** **The Director**  
Legislative Liaison Office

**SUBJECT :** **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON HR NO. 748 entitled:  
"RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF  
LEGISLATION, ON THE ISSUED CERTIFICATION  
PRECONDITION TO PAN PACIFIC RENEWABLE POWER  
PHILIPPINES CORPORATION AND ENSURE THE RIGHTS  
AND WELFARE OF ISNAG INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF  
KABUGAO, APAYAO AGAINST HARASSMENT AND  
INTIMIDATION" FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**DATE :** 11 April 2023

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The Committee on Energy of the House of Representatives sent an electronic mail dated 11 April 2023, which requests the Department's comments on House Resolution No. 748, introduced by Representatives Raoul Manuel Arlene D. Brosas, and France L. Castro, entitled: "RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ISSUED

**CERTIFICATION PRECONDITION TO PAN PACIFIC RENEWABLE POWER PHILIPPINES CORPORATION AND ENSURE THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF ISNAG INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF KABUGAO, APAYAO AGAINST HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION”.**

In this regard, may we respectfully request your **comments/recommendations** on the above-mentioned resolution. Kindly submit it **on or before April 14, 2023, at 5 PM** through email at [denrilo@denr.gov.ph](mailto:denrilo@denr.gov.ph). Attached herewith are the letter and a copy of the House Resolution for your reference.

**ROMIROSE B. PADIN**

cc: Undersecretary Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs



## COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

CTSS 1, Committee Affairs Department, 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr., RVM Building, House of Representatives, Constitution Hills, Quezon City  
Tel. No. +63 2 8931-3593 or 8931-5001 local 7133; Fax No.: +63 2 8931-3593

April 11, 2023

**SECRETARY ANTONIA "TONI" YULO-LOYZAGA**  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear Secretary Yulo-Loyzaga:

May we refer to you for comments on **House Resolution No. 748**, introduced by Representatives Raoul Manuel Arlene D. Brosas, and France L. Castro, entitled: "RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ISSUED CERTIFICATION PRECONDITION TO PAN PACIFIC RENEWABLE POWER PHILIPPINES CORPORATION AND ENSURE THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF ISNAG INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF KABUGAO, APAYAO AGAINST HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION";

We would appreciate receiving your comments within five (5) working days from receipt hereof.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

**HON. LORD ALLAN Q. VELASCO**  
Chairperson

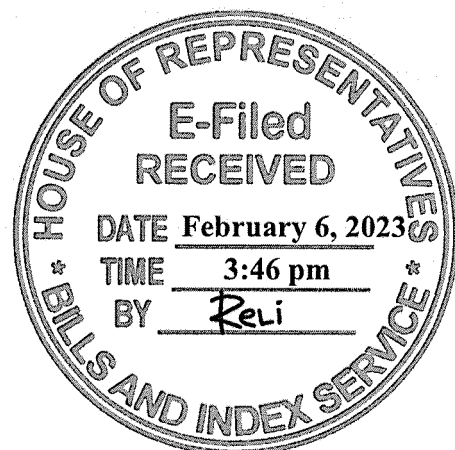
FOR THE CHAIRPERSON:

  
**MELANIE T. ANAIN**  
Committee Secretary

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 748



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Introduced by  
**KABATAAN Party-list Representative RAOUL DANNIEL A. MANUEL,**  
**GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,**  
**and ACT TEACHERS Party-list Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO**

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**RESOLUTION**  
**URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL**  
**COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO CONDUCT AN**  
**INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ISSUED CERTIFICATION**  
**PRECONDITION TO PAN PACIFIC RENEWABLE POWER PHILIPPINES**  
**CORPORATION AND ENSURE THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF ISNAG**  
**INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF KABUGAO, APAYAO AGAINST HARASSMENT AND**  
**INTIMIDATION**

**WHEREAS**, Article XII, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities (ICCs) to their ancestral lands to ensure their economic, social, and cultural well-being;

**WHEREAS**, it is the mandate of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to protect and promote the interest and well-being of the ICCs/IPs with due regard to their beliefs, customs, traditions, and institutions;

**WHEREAS**, the province of Apayao is declared as the last ecological frontier of the North. It is one of the identified Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) in the Philippines. The municipalities of Kabugao, Pudtol, and Calanasan are nesting areas for the Philippine Eagle;

**WHEREAS**, the Isnag indigenous people of Kabugao, Apayao of the Cordillera region trooped to Metro Manila to appeal to authorities the stopping of the construction of hydropower dams of the Pan Pacific Renewable Power Philippines Corporation (PPRPPC) dubbed as Gened 1 and Gened 2 with generation capacities of 150 MW and 335 MW, respectively;

**WHEREAS**, the residential areas of Apayao may be wiped out leading to physical and economic displacement. The Isnag foresees the construction of said dams will bring ethnocide to their people and the burial grounds of the Isnag ancestors that are considered sacred may be submerged;

**WHEREAS**, according to accounts from the community, they rejected the hydropower dams proposed by Pan Pacific Renewable Power Philippines Corporation (PPRPPC) during the consensus building and decision-making three (3) times. These dams are believed to affect the Kabugao and Tawit ancestral domains within the municipalities of Kabugao, Pudtol, and Calanasan, all in the province of Apayao negatively;

**WHEREAS**, on February 24, 2021, during the monitoring of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process, the Regional Director of NCIP-CAR, Marlon Bosantog, invalidated the previous rejections;

**WHEREAS**, on April 7, 2021, the community asked for a one-month review of the Memorandum of Agreement draft for Gened 1. However, it was covertly signed on April 20, 2021, without any community participation and validation;

**WHEREAS**, on August 13, 2021, the Commission En Banc verbally approved the Certification Precondition;

**WHEREAS**, on August 27, 2021, the Community filed for Motion for Reconsideration;

**WHEREAS**, the anomalous FPIC process for Gened 2 held last December 18, 2021 lacked transparency and barred community people from participating in consensus-building and decision-making processes. Police even deployed their forces at the gate to ensure that only the NCIP-authorized elders were allowed to enter;

**WHEREAS**, the people of Kabugao alleged the NCIP and the PPRPPC of handpicking elders through massive bribery. The animosity between and among the Isnag is escalating evidenced by several incidents of physical assault and threats;

**WHEREAS**, the Isnag indigenous people demand to stop the perceived construction of the dams and to explore other sustainable and feasible means of development acceptable to the Isnag indigenous people;

**WHEREAS**, the Isnag indigenous people also demand the NCIP to immediately recall the issued CPs favoring the dams on the basis that its prevailing FPIC guidelines were deliberately not followed by its personnel, the FPIC team;

**WHEREAS**, the Isnag indigenous people also demand the NCIP to hold true to its mandate and simply weigh the controversy currently at hand using its FPIC guidelines as its yardstick. As such, the NCIP, especially the Commission En Banc, will be appraised on how their personnel, particularly the FPIC team, conduct themselves on the ground and how they twisted the noble intent of the FPIC guidelines that were forged by the Commission En Banc;

**WHEREAS**, the Isnag indigenous people have called for agencies like the DENR, NWRB, and DOE to immediately rescind, recall, or abandon their issued permits, endorsements, and contracts to the Gened dams by PPRPPC on the ground that the

CP issued by NCIP was borne out of force, intimidation, stealth, treachery, and deceit apart from the deliberate non-compliance to the FPIC guidelines.

**NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives, through the Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous People, conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the issued certification precondition to Pan Pacific Renewable Power Philippines Corporation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the House Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples act to ensure the rights and welfare of the Isnag indigenous people against harassment and intimidation.

*Adopted,*



**REP. RAOUL DANNIEL A. MANUEL**  
*Kabataan Party-list*



**REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS**  
*Gabriela Women's Party*



**REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO**  
*ACT Teachers Party-list*