



MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO : **The Undersecretaries**
Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment
Field Operations – Mindanao and Environment

The Bureau Directors
Environmental Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau

All Regional Executive Directors

All Regional Directors
Environmental Management Bureau

SUBJECT : **DIRECTIVES ON THE STRICT MONITORING OF EXISTING
STRUCTURES AND THE APPROVAL OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATES (ECCs)
FOR PROJECTS WITHIN PROTECTED AREAS (PAs)**

DATE : **MAR 26 2024**

Consistent with the objective of the RA 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System (ENIPAS) in recognizing the critical importance of protecting and preserving the ecological integrity of all natural, biological, physical diversities and unique features of the environment within Protected Areas (PAs), the following directives are to be implemented to ensure stricter oversight and adherence to environmental regulations within PAs:

1. Conduct an inventory of existing structures within PAs;
2. Evaluate the compliance of existing structures within PAs with environmental regulations and standards;
3. Conduct a comprehensive review of all ECCs issued for projects within PAs.

Approval by the Regional Offices of all ECC applications for projects within PAs is hereby **SUSPENDED** until further notice.

All pending and future ECC applications for projects within PAs processed at the Regional Offices shall be submitted to the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Central Office for final review and approval.

Included in the approval process of ECCs within PAs by the EMB CO, shall be securing a clearance from the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB). No ECC shall be approved without the endorsement of the BMB.

For ECCs of Environmentally Critical Projects (ECPs), the clearance of the Secretary or her duly authorized representative shall still be required.

For your guidance and strict compliance.

MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA



Copy Furnished:
All Undersecretaries
All Assistant Secretaries
All Central Office Directors
All Bureau Directors
All Attached Agencies