

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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SPECIAL ORDER No. 2002- 660

AUG 2 8 2002

SUBJECT :

CREATION OF A SPECIAL TEAM TO EVALUATE THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PEBBLE PICKING ACTIVITIES IN BRGY. CARUAN, PASUQUIN,

ILOCOS NORTE

In line with the Memorandum dated 26 July 2001 of the DENR Secretary in relation to the pebble-picking activities at Brgy. Caruan, Pasuquin, Ilocos Norte, a Special Team (ST) is hereby created to be composed of the following:

Regional Executive Director **DENR Region 1** Team Leader **DENR-MGB** Region 1 Asst. Team Leader Regional Director Team Member Regional Director DENR-EMB Region 1 Ariel C. De Sesto **DENR-OUENRO** Team Member Team Member Jorge M. Conti DENR-OUENRO Team Member LGU Representative PMRB-llocos Norte NGO Representative PMRB-Ilocos Norte Team Member Team Member Representative Office of the Mayor Pasuquin, Ilocos Norte

The Special Evaluation Team as created shall among others:

- 1. Evaluate the extent of the pebble picking operation and its impact to the environment and sustainability;
- 2. Determine the extent of its contribution to the livelihood of the population;
- 3. Study the social implication of the pebble picking activities if banned in the area;
- 4. Resolve with finality the nagging issue of alleged illegal pebble picking raised by Mr. Paul Colyer to give peace both to Mr. Colyer and the pebble pickers of Brgy. Caruan, Pasuquin, Ilocos Norte;
- 5. Find ways and means on how pebble picking can continue as source of livelihood of the population in the locality in a sustainable way without irreversibly degrading the environment; and
- 6. Submit a Report on the compliance of this Order to the Office of the Secretary through the Office of the Undersecretary for Environment and Natural Resources Operations within 15 days upon completion of the evaluation conducted in the area.

All expenses incurred in connection with the said evaluation shall be charged against the funds of the Team's respective offices, subject to usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately

EHERSON T. ALVAREZ

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