

**Memorandum Order
No. 98 - 11
August 11, 1998**

SUBJECT : Moratorium On The Acceptance Of All New Application And The Approval Of All Pending Applications For Sand And Gravel Permits Along Lagnas River And Its Tributaries At Sariaya, Quezon.

WHEREAS, after frequent flooding brought about by heavy rains and typhoons, particularly during typhoon “Rosing” which hit Sariaya, Quezon in November 1995, the channels of Lagnas River and its tributaries were deposited with large volume of river bed materials;

WHEREAS, the Sariaya Municipal Government after recognizing the river system to be in critical condition, resolved to institute a flood control program which constitutes primarily the dredging of said channels;

WHEREAS, after a series of dialogues and consultation among the municipal government, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Environment and Natural Resources/Mines and Geosciences Bureau and the private crushing plant and sand and gravel operators, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) had been initially formulated for the purpose of ensuring the efficient and effective implementation of said Flood Control Projects;

WHEREAS, in view of the unsystematic and haphazard quarrying and extraction of sand and gravel in the area, the Sangguniang Bayan passed Kapasiyahan Blg. 87 on 29 October 1997 requesting for]] the temporary closure to mining location of Lagnas River and

its tributaries until the Flood Control Project has been fully implemented;

WHEREAS, on 23 February 1998, recognizing the need to protect the lives and properties in the locality and in anticipation of the effects of the “**La Nina**” phenomenon, the MGB manifested full support to the flood control program and sustained said Kapasiyahan Blg. 87.

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the foregoing premises, a **MORATORIUM** on the acceptance, of all new applications and the approval of mining permit applications along Lagnas River and its outlying areas is hereby **ORDERED** until further notice.

In consonance thereto, the following implementing guidelines and instructions are hereby issued:

1. The **MORATORIUM** shall cover the acceptance of all new applications for sand and gravel permits along Lagnas River and its outlying areas in the Municipality of Sariaya, Quezon Province.
2. The approval of all pending applications for sand and gravel operations shall be temporarily held in abeyance until the effectivity of said Order have been lifted/revoked.
3. The approval of requests for renewal of existing mining rights previously granted shall also be held in abeyance until the submission of reports/recommendations of the Multi-Sectoral Committee.
4. There is hereby created a Multi-Sectoral Committee on the sand gravel operations in Sariaya, Quezon Province which shall be chaired by the MGB-Regional Director, with membership composed of representatives from the Regional Office No. IV-

EMPAS, PENRO/CENRO, Local Government Unit, DPWH and other concerned sectors as may be defined by the Committee.

5. The Committee shall have the following functions, duties and responsibilities:
 - a. Ensure that the Moratorium Order is effectively enforced and adequately monitored.
 - b. Evaluate and assess the current status of sand and gravel operations in the area in consonance to the implementation of Sariaya Flood Control Program.
 - c. Prepare specific recommendation and action plans to appropriate authorities to adequately address problems arising from sand gravel activities which might affect or delay the rehabilitation of Lagnas River.
 - d. Submit monthly reports on their observations and recommendations to the Undersecretary for Filed Operations.

6. All expenses to be incurred by members of the Multi-Sectoral Committee shall be charged against the funds of their respective offices, subject to the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until the implementation of the Sariaya Flood Control Program have been fully accomplished or otherwise lifted or terminated by the Secretary.

SO ORDERED:

(Sgd.) ANTONIO H. CERILLES
Secretary