



Date: January 14, 2022

ECC-R4B-2201-0005

Mr. VIRGILIO E. OFINA

Vice President

PLDT, INC.

Ramon Cojuangco bldg., Makati Avenue,
Makati city, Philippines

Subject: **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE**

Dear Mr. *Ofina*;

This refers to the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) application for the Proposed **Domestic Submarine Cable Area 1 Project – Region IV-B Segment 8** to be located at **Brgy. Guitna, Looc, Occidental Mindoro** and **Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro**.

After satisfying the requirements of the said application, this Bureau has decided to grant an ECC for the above-mentioned project.

With the issuance of this ECC, you are expected to implement the measures presented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), intended to protect and mitigate the project's adverse impacts on community health, welfare, and the environment. Environmental considerations shall be incorporated in all phases and aspects of the project.

This Certificate does not create any right nor be used as an authorization to implement the project; you may proceed with the implementation only after securing all the necessary and relevant permits from other pertinent Government Agencies. This Office shall be monitoring the project periodically to ensure strict compliance with the stipulations cited in the attached ECC.

Please be guided accordingly.


JOE AMIL M. SALINO
Regional Director

IS no: R4B-2021-014633

Protect the environment... Protect life...





ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE
(Issued under Presidential Decree 1586)
ECC-R4B-2201-0005

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PROPONENT, **PLDT, INC.**, represented by its Vice President, **VIRGILIO E. OFINA**, is granted this Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC), for the proposed **DOMESTIC SUBMARINE CABLE AREA 1 PROJECT – REGION IV-B SEGMENT 8** located at **Brgy. Guitna, Looc, Occidental Mindoro** and **Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro**, by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB).

SUBJECT ONLY to the conditions and restrictions set in this ECC and in the attached document labeled as Annexes A and B.

This Certificate is issued with the following details:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<p>The ECC covers the Domestic Submarine Cable Area 1 Project – Region IV-B Segment 8 with a total cable distance of 68.30 kilometers located at Brgy. Guitna, Looc, Occidental Mindoro and Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro with geographical coordinates of 13.72108834° N Latitude; 120.2508168° E Longitude and 13°27.770' N Latitude; 120°45.555' E Longitude, respectively.</p> <p>Project components/ facilities enumerated to wit:</p> <p>(1). Submarine Cable – <i>Telecommunication fiber optic cables in the seabed and buried under the beach and near shore areas – 68.30 kilometers;</i></p> <p>(2). Beach Manholes (Land Site A and Land Site B) – <i>The BMH will have a dimension of 1902 mm x 3402 mm x 2605mm; the beach manhole (BMH) in Brgy. Guitna, Looc, Occidental Mindoro will connect to the beach manhole in Brgy. Lumang Bayan, Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro.</i></p> <p>The project shall operate and maintain its submarine cable and support facilities as contained in the submitted Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).</p>

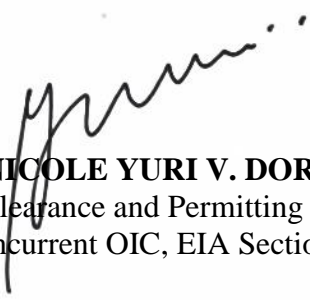




This Certificate is issued in compliance with the requirements of Presidential Decree No. 1586, and in accordance to DENR Administrative Order (D.A.O.) No. 2003-30. Non-compliance with any of the provisions of this Certificate shall be a sufficient cause for the cancellation of this Certificate and/or imposition of a fine in an amount not to exceed Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) for every violation thereof without prejudice to imposition of fines and penalties under other environmental laws. The EMB, however, is not precluded from reevaluating and correcting any deficiencies or errors that may be found after issuance of this Certificate.

Issued at EMB-R4B, 1515 L and S DENR By the Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila, this **January 14, 2022.**

Recommending Approval:


EnP. NICOLE YURI V. DORADO
OIC, Clearance and Permitting Division
and concurrent OIC, EIA Section

Approved:


JOE AMIL M. SALINO
Regional Director





SWORN ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

I, **VIRGILIO E. OFINA**, duly representative of **PLDT, INC.**, with office address located at **The Ramon Cojuangco bldg., Makati Avenue, Makati City, Philippines**, takes full responsibility in complying with all conditions in this Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC).

VIRGILIO E. OFINA
Signature

TIN No. _____

Subscribed and sworn before me this _____, the above-named affiant taking oath presenting _____, issued on _____ at _____.

Notary Public

Doc. No. _____
Page No. _____
Book No. _____
Series of _____





Annex A

I. CONDITIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

All commitments, mitigating measures and monitoring requirements, contained in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed **Domestic Submarine Cable Area 1 Project – Region IV-B Segment 8** particularly in the Environmental Management Plan/ Environmental Monitoring Plan, including any modifications and/or additional information as approved by the EMB, shall be instituted to minimize any adverse impact of the project to the environment throughout its implementation, which shall include among others to wit:

1. That the proponent shall ensure that the project implementation shall **NOT COMMENCE** unless all required/clearances from the concerned government agencies are secured. EMB shall be advised when all the permits/clearances are secured and when will be the actual date of project implementation;
2. That the proponent shall conduct an effective Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Program to inform and educate all stakeholders, especially its contractors, workers, and local residents about the mitigating measures embodied in its EIS, the conditions stipulated in this Certificate and the environmental and human safety features of the project for greater awareness, understanding and sustained acceptance of the project. The program shall be submitted to EMB-4B (MIMAROPA Region) on an annual basis;
3. That the proponent shall strictly manage all external, traffic problems, excessive surface runoff, dust, soil erosion, accidental spillage and health hazards identified in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and, in case of emergency episodes, appropriate response activities shall be immediately undertaken for the protection of the workers/ personnel, host and nearby communities and the receiving environment;
4. That preservation and easement retention of natural drainage/waterways shall be undertaken and should conform with the provisions of the DENR Administrative Order No. 97-05 (Procedures in the Retention of Areas within certain distances along the Banks of Rivers, Streams, and Shores of Seas, Lakes, and Oceans for Environmental Protection). If disturbed, a replacement drainage system shall be constructed within two (2) months from the disturbance;
5. That the solid waste management scheme as provided in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) shall be continuously implemented from the start of the project construction as well as the operation.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Further administrative conditions for the grant of this Certificate shall be strictly complied:

6. The project operations shall conform to the provisions of RA 6969 (Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990), RA 8749 (Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999), RA 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000), and RA 9275 (Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004) and other relevant policies, rules and regulations;





7. That the proponent shall set-up a competent Environmental Unit (EU) with a Pollution Control Officer, within sixty (**60**) days from the issuance of this Certificate and shall be duly accredited by this Office in accordance with DAO No. 02, series of 2014 (Revised Guidelines for Pollution Officer Accreditation). The Environmental Unit (EU) shall competently handle the environment-related aspects of the project. In addition to the monitoring requirements as specified in the Environmental Management Plan/ Environmental Monitoring Plan, the EU shall have the following responsibilities:
 - 7.1 Monitor actual project impacts vis-à-vis the predicted impacts and management measures in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Report;
 - 7.2 Recommend revisions to the EMP/EMoP, whenever necessary subject to the approval of EMB-4B (MIMAROPA Region);
 - 7.3 Ensure that data gathered during monitoring activities are properly documented, assessed, evaluated and reported to EMB-4B (MIMAROPA Region) in accordance with the standard formats;
 - 7.4 Ensure that monitoring and submissions of reports to EMB-4B (MIMAROPA Region) are carried out as required;
 - 7.5 Regular submission of the following reports:
 - 7.5.1 a semi-annual ***ECC Compliance Monitoring Report*** within fifteen (15) days at the end of each semi-annual reporting period. The CMR must be provided with supporting documents and in accordance with the prescribed format stipulated in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of P.D. 1586;
 - 7.5.2 Submit a ***Quarterly Self-Monitoring Report*** within fifteen (15) days at the end of each quarter. The SMR must be in accordance with the prescribed format of the ***Self-Monitoring Report (SMR)*** pursuant to DAO 2003-27;
 - 7.6 Submit an Abandonment Plan at least two (2) months prior to the abandonment activities. It shall include identification of “hot-spots” or areas of environmental concern, its rehabilitation, clean-up, remediation, and monitoring based on risk-based corrective action (RBCA). The project location, after clean-up and rehabilitation may be used for other purposes, subject to consultation with relevant government agencies (LGU, DA, HLURB, etc.) and the DENR;
8. That the proponent shall allocate sufficient budget for the implementation of the proposed mitigating/enhancement measures during the operation, maintenance and abandonment phases of the project;





9. That health and sanitation practices shall be observed in all phases of the project. Safety & personal protection equipment/devices shall always be provided to all employees/workers within the premises of the project site to protect them from related occupational and health hazards and risks;
10. That a billboard containing this message: **“Notice to the Public, DOMESTIC SUBMARINE CABLE AREA 1 PROJECT – REGION IV-B SEGMENT 8 of PLDT, INC. has been issued an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC-R4B-2201-0005) by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Environmental Management Bureau MIMAROPA Region on _____.”** shall be installed at all entry and exit points and in the perimeter of the project site facing the road to inform the general public within thirty (30) days from receipt of the ECC;
11. That a copy of the ECC shall be posted in a conspicuous location at the field office of the project site clearly visible to the public and shall be adequately framed or otherwise protected against damage and at the barangay bulletin board of the host barangay(s) within **thirty (30)** days from receipt of the ECC;
12. That any **authorized DENR MIMAROPA and / or EMB personnel** with proper identification card (ID) and travel/mission order, shall be allowed unconditional access to conduct an on-the-spot inspection and monitoring during project implementation without the need for prior notice to the proponent to oversee compliance to the ECC; a list and number of people or personnel to be deployed by the proponent during the aforesaid activity should be at the minimum or as needed only.





II. RESTRICTIONS

1. That the proponent shall submit a ***Supplemental Environmental Monitoring Report*** based on the submitted environmental monitoring/sampling scheme in addition to the environmental baseline data, sixty **(60) days** from the receipt hereof, ***and quarterly within a year during project implementation***;
2. That **NO** construction or development shall be allowed on the applied area (BMH area and Cable Alignment/Route) without **VALID** Tenurial Instrument;
3. That no other activities should be undertaken other than what was stipulated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Should there be an expansion of the project beyond the project description, construction of other structures beyond those stated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); or any change in the activity or location, shall be made subject to a new Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements;
4. That the proponent shall plant an equivalent area of the project with appropriate tree species and shall coordinate with PENRO/CENRO concerned for area identification within **thirty (30) days** after the project implementation. And the status of compliance shall be included in the semi-annual submission of CMR;
5. That the proponent shall submit actual footage of cable installation process to BMB and EMB MIMAROPA;
6. That the proponent shall reroute the cable layout in the deep areas to avoid disturbance of the ***mesophotic coral*** communities;
7. That no corals and marine flora shall be affected during the time of construction and cutting of mangroves shall be strictly prohibited;
8. That in case of transfer of ownership/management of this project, these same conditions and restrictions shall apply and the transferee shall be required to notify this Office concerned within fifteen **(15)** days as regards the transfer of ownership/management; and
9. That the proponent (**PLDT, INC.**) shall be accountable for any misrepresentation and failure to state material information in the submitted documents.

The conditions stipulated in this Certificate shall be deemed final within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof and all conditions and restrictions set forth above shall be complied with by the herein grantee. This ECC is deemed expired if not implemented within five (5) years from the date of issuance and the proponent shall have to apply for a new ECC if it intends to pursue the project.

Non-compliance with any of the provisions of this certificate shall be a sufficient cause for the cancellation or suspension of this certificate and/or imposition of a fine in an amount not to exceed Fifty Thousand Pesos (PhP50,000.00) for every violation thereof.





Annex B

PROJECT ASSESSMENT PLANNING TOOL

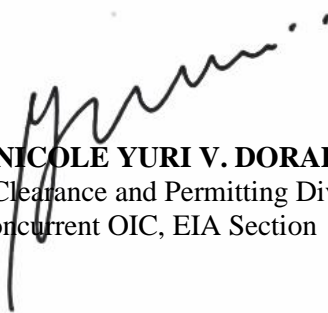
For the assistance of the Proponent, LGUs and other concerned government agencies (GAs) in the management of the project and for better coordination in mitigation on the impacts of the project on its surrounding areas and to the environment.

By way of recommendation, the following have been taken notice of by this Office and are providing these recommendations to the parties and authorities concerned for proper action and integration into their decision making-process.

Regulatory Conditions	
1. The proponent shall comply with, but not limited to the following: 1.1 P.D. 856 or the Sanitation Code of the Philippines; 1.2 P.D. 442 or the Labor Code of the Philippines including occupational health and safety; 1.3 R.A. 6541 or the National Building Code of the Philippines including adequate storm drainage system and other flood control measures and compliance to the Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness; 1.4P.D. 705 & DAO 97-05;	DOH DOLE-Bureau of Working Conditions Municipal Planning & Dev't. Office/Building Official/BFP/LGU Concerned DENR Sector concerned
2. That all appropriate construction, operational and resource-use permits/clearances from other national and local government agencies concerned shall be secured pertaining to the implementation of the project. Likewise, the proponent shall notify this Office of the reckoning date of project operation.	(i.e. NTC, PMRB, PNP, LGUs, DPWH, DOH, NWRB, HLURB, MGB, DA, DAR, DOLE, DTI, etc.)
3. Preference of employment shall be given to qualified local residents. Adequate public information for jobs available to local residents in the area shall be provided;	DOLE
Environmental Planning Recommendations for the Proponent	
2. Close monitoring of the project should be undertaken by the proponent to maintain a high level of safety and efficiency at all phases of the project and to immediately address any environmental hazard that may take place.	Proponent

For dissemination and proper action of the parties concerned.


ENGR. JOSE REYNATO M. MORENTE
EIA Review Committee Chair


EnP. NICOLE YURI V. DORADO
OIC, Clearance and Permitting Division
and concurrent OIC, EIA Section


JOE AMIL M. SALINO
Regional Director

