



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Regional Office No. VIII
DENR 8 Compound, Brgy. 2, Jones Extension, Tacloban City
Telefax: (053) 832-2319

Email: r8support@emb.gov.ph emb8@yahoo.com

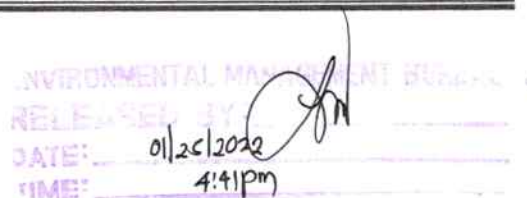
Website: r8.emb.gov.ph



24 January 2022

MR. ALEX OPERARIO

Administrator - Taft Hydro Project
Taft Hydro Energy/ Iraya Energy Corporation
Brgy. San Rafael Taft, Eastern Samar



Dear Sir,

This has reference to the investigation/site monitoring conducted on 11 November 2021 by our legal and technical staff at your **Hydro Power Energy Project** located in Brgy. San Rafael Taft, Eastern Samar. The following are the findings and observations formulated, to wit:

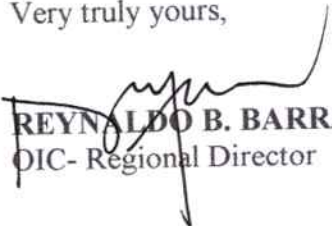
- 1) **IRAYA ENERGY CORPORATION** is granted with the following Environmental Compliance Certificates (ECCs):
 - **Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC)** with Reference Code: **ECC-R08-1407-0074** was issued by this Office on **14 August 2014** to **IRAYA ENERGY CORPORATION** for the **Taft Mini-Hydropower Project** located in **Barangay San Rafael Taft, Eastern Samar** with a **total power production capacity of 12.5 MW**. Such ECC was amended with the issuance of a new ECC with Reference Code: **ECC-OL-R08-2019-0167** on **21 September 2019** covering an area of **7775 square meters** and with increased capacity from 12.5 MW to **30 MW**. This ECC is currently being utilized by the project.
 - Another ECC with Reference Number **ECC-R08-2106-0010** was issued on **16 July 2021** for the **15 MW Upper Hydropower Plant project**. ECC was amended on **28 September 2021** with the addition of facilities to include **weir, reservoir/forebay, power intake and waterways, powerhouse, and access roads**. **Total project area is 43, 850 square meters**. According to Mr. Alex Operario, this project has not yet been implemented.
- 2) The hydropower plant project started its implementation on 28 February 2020 covering the project issued with **ECC-OL-R08-2019-0167**. No Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR) was submitted to this office through the online system.
- 3) The project is situated under a dense forest cover within the Samar Island National Park. Project was issued with Special Use Agreement in Protected Areas (SAPA) Certification (SINP SAPA No. 2019-01) on January 24, 2020 valid until January 24, 2045 covering an area of **0.775 hectares**.
- 4) **ECC Condition I.3** provides for the "planting of appropriate tree species shall be undertaken on a designated area on the project site. Proof of compliance (photographs of the planted trees) shall be submitted to the EMBR8 within 90 days upon receipt of the ECC. **No records of submitted compliance to this condition.**
- 5) **ECC Condition I.5** provides for the designation of Pollution Control Office to competently handle environment related aspects of the project. **No Pollution Control Officer is designated for the project.**
- 6) The project is provided with an office building and staff house. Septic tank is provided for anaerobic digestion of generated domestic wastewaters. **No Discharge Permit was issued to the project.**
- 7) Four (4) units Superhulk brand standby diesel engine generator sets (1-220 KVA, 1-100 KVA, 2 50 KVA) are utilized in the project construction. One unit crushing plant facility was observed at the upper portion of the water intake structure, but such was observed non-operational. Accordingly, facility is due for dismantling. **No Permit to Operate were issued to the equipment.**

- 8) Proper solid wastes management was not implemented. Solid wastes were not segregated and properly disposed.
- 9) No ECC billboard were observed installed at the project entry point.

Relative thereof, please be informed that this Office invites you or your authorized representative for a Technical Conference on January 31, 2022, @ 1400H, at EMBR8 Conference Room, DENR8 Compound, Brgy. 2, Jones Extension Tacloban City to discuss the above-cited non-compliances and formulate commitments, if necessary, on the mitigating measures to be implemented to prevent imminent danger to life or property of the project operations.

Please be guided accordingly.

Very truly yours,


REYNALDO B. BARRA, PME.
OIC- Regional Director