


Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
Regional Office No. VIII
Tacloban City, Philippines

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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
RELEASED BY: 
DATE: 2/14/2022
TIME: 3:12pm

IN RE: CANCELLATION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE
(ECC-08-040901-0193) OF
PEDRO E. ESPÍÑA'S COMMERCIAL SAND AND GRAVEL
EXTRACTION PROJECT AT BARANGAY VILLA,
LAVEZARES, NORTHERN SAMAR

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ORDER

This Order is being issued in view of the on-site project validation conducted by technical personnel of this Office upon the **Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC)**, with **Reference No. ECC-08-040901-0193**, issued to **Mr. Pedro E. Espiña** last **September 7, 2004** for its **Commercial Sand and Gravel Extraction Project** located at **Barangay Villa, Lavezares, Northern Samar**.

The validation conducted was aimed at ascertaining the validity of the subject ECC *vis-à-vis* the requirements of existing and new policies.

Facts

On February 9, 2021, technical personnel from the PEMU Northern Samar of this Office conducted an on-site project validation upon the **Commercial Sand and Gravel Extraction Project** of **Mr. Pedro E. Espiña** located at **Barangay Villa, Lavezares, Northern Samar**.

The validation revealed the following findings:

1. That the project has commenced implementation/operation since the ECC was issued.
2. That the project, however, has stopped operation for more than five (5) years. The project is no longer operational for more than five (5) years due unavailability/scarcity of resources (Sand and Gravel) within the area applied for extraction and no request for ECC relief has been filed. The non-operational status was confirmed by the PMRB based on the records that the proponent has not renewed the extraction permit for more than 5 years.
3. No reports were submitted per office records.

Based on the foregoing grounds, the validating personnel has recommended for the cancellation of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) issued by this Office for the said project.

Ruling

This Office finds that the ECC should be cancelled because the Project has stopped operation/implementation for more than five (5) years.

Under **Paragraph (g), No. 4** of the **Revised Guidelines for Coverage Screening and Standardized Requirements** of the **Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System**, projects that have stopped operation for more than five years are not required to obtain a new ECC, provided ALL the following conditions are met:

1. CMR/CMVR had continuously been submitted or an official request for suspension of the CMR/CMVR had been approved by EMB.
2. No request for relief and/or cancellation of ECC had been approved.
3. The resumption of operation will not involve expansion of terms of production capacity (volume of output; number of product lines) or area.
4. The resumption of operation will not involve changes or medication in technology/ production method or manufacturing process/operation used.
5. There is no change in ownership or corporate dissolution.

Otherwise, an application for new ECC has to be filed and approved prior to resumption of operation.

Here, the findings reveal that the project has stopped operations for more than five (5) years. Although the proponent is yet to communicate an intention to resume operations, it is incumbent upon the proponent to show that all the above conditions are met if it intends to resume operations in the future. Accordingly, this Order presents an opportunity for the project proponent to prove that the said conditions were or will be met. Otherwise, the ECC Cancellation is in order.

WHEREFORE, premises considered, this Office finds that Environmental Compliance Certificate, with Reference **ECC-08-040901-0193**, issued to **Mr. Pedro E. Espiña** for its **Commercial Sand and Gravel Extraction Project** at **Barangay Villa, Lavezares, Northern Samar** is hereby **CANCELLED**.

The Project Proponent, **Mr. Pedro E. Espiña**, is hereby given an opportunity within a period of **Fifteen (15) days** from receipt of this Order to submit its position/explanation on the matter, the failure of

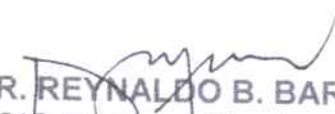
ORDER

In re Cancellation of ECC-08-040901-0193

which to do the same shall be deemed a waiver of its right to contest the cancellation and the cancellation shall be deemed final and executory.

SO ORDERED. FEB 11 2022

Tacloban City, Philippines.


ENGR. REYNALDO B. BARRA
OIC-Regional Director

Copy furnished:

Mr. Pedro E. Espiña
Barangay Villa, Lavezares, Northern Samar