

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Regional Office No. 1
DENR Bldg., Government Center, Sevilla, City of San Fernando,
La Union

May 27, 2019

ENGR. ANN TARALA

Site Engineer

R.U. Aquino Construction and Development Corporation

6th Flr. Pines View Hotel, 24 Legarda Rd

2600 Baguio City

Dear Engr. Tarala:

This has reference to your ongoing Upgrading of the Aringay Bridge Project in La Union, which is the subject of our recently conducted onsite validation due to a verified complaint regarding an alleged air and water pollution brought by a mobile batching plant near the said area. Our technical personnel found out during the onsite validation that a temporary concrete mixing area was established along the riverbank located upstream of the northern abutment of Aringay Bridge.

DPWH-LUED 2 revealed that the said bridge upgrading is under contract with your construction firm, R.U. Construction and Development Corporation and your company owns the temporary concrete mixing area located adjacent to the said bridge.

Relative to this, you are hereby required to present proof of authority to utilize the riverbank as temporary concrete mixing area and institute the following measures;


1. Increase the frequency of sprinkling water along the haul access roads especially during concrete mixing operation.
2. Refrain from discarding unused and diluted concrete mixtures along the river bank.
3. Remove the hardened concrete mixture deposited along the riverbank.
4. Present authority over the area to use as a temporary concrete mixing area for the on-going bridge upgrading project else must vacate the said area.

We appreciate receiving the proof of authority to use the area the soonest time possible. Failure to comply with the above-mentioned measures shall mean suspension of any activity and abandonment of the area.

For your strict compliance and guidance.

Very truly yours,


ENGR. MARIA DORICA NAZ-HIPE, CESE
Regional Director

 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU RO1
Office of the Regional Director

COMMUNICATION LETTER



RECORDS-2019-5-191

10:25:18 AM

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Tel. Nos. (072)-607-3057 / 700-2448; Fax No. (072)-700-2449; e-mail: embdenr1@yahoo.com



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Regional Office No. 1
DENR Bldg., Government Center, Sevilla, City of San Fernando,
La Union

MEMORANDUM:

FOR : **CARLITO M. TUBALLA**
Regional Executive Director, DENR R1

FROM : **MARIA DORICA NAZ-HIPE**
Regional Director, EMB R1

SUBJECT : Investigation report on the alleged air and water pollution from a mobile batching plant along Aringay River in Aringay, La Union

DATE : May 27, 2019

This has reference to the memorandum from PENRO La Union dated May 11, 2019 regarding the above-mentioned subject which was received by our Office on May 20, 2019. Accordingly, a mobile batching plant is causing air and water pollution in the area. Relative to this, our technical staff conducted a parallel investigation on May 24, 2019 (*kindly see attached investigation report*).

The temporary concrete mixing area is not covered by the provision of PD 1586. However, several observations were also noted, among others are; intermittent yet minimal dust dispersion, hardened concrete along riverbanks, no permanent facility. There were no traces of discharged RC Superconplas-SRW® (chemical) into the river.

The contractor was therefore advised to refrain from discarding unused or backwash concrete mixture at the adjacent riverbank and to intensify water sprinkling along the access road. The contractor was required to present a proof of authority for the use of the said area as a temporary concrete mixing area and all temporary facilities relative to the upgrading of Aringay Bridge project else should vacate the said area.

For information and further instruction.

cc: PENRO- La Union


ENGR. MARIA DORICA NAZ-HIPE, CESE

 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU R01
Office of the Regional Director

MEMORANDUM



RECORDS-2019-5-191

10:26:51 AM

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Regional Office No. 1
DENR Bldg., Government Center, Sevilla, City of San Fernando,
La Union

May 27, 2019

Honorable ERIC O. SIBUMA
Municipal Mayor
Municipal Building, Aringay
2502 La Union

Dear Mayor Sibuma:

This has reference to the ongoing upgrading of the Aringay Bridge Project in your municipality, which is the subject of a verified complaint regarding alleged air and water pollution brought by a mobile batching plant near the said area. Our technical personnel found out during the onsite validation that a temporary concrete mixing area was established along the riverbank located upstream of the northern abutment of Aringay Bridge.

Further, the said bridge upgrading is under contract with R.U. Construction and Development Corporation with DPWH-LUED 2. The contractor was advised to refrain from discarding of used/ excess concrete mixture on the riverbank.

Also, we have required the said construction company to present proof of authority over the riverbank to be utilized as a temporary concrete mixing area else they shall vacate the area the soonest time possible.

For information and appropriate action of the Honorable Mayor.

Very truly yours,


ENGR. MARIA DORICA NAZ-HIPE, CESE
Regional Director



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU RO1
Office of the Regional Director

COMMUNICATION LETTER



RECORDS-2019-5-191

10:28:06 AM

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Regional Office No. 1
DENR Bldg., Government Center, Sevilla, City of San Fernando,
La Union
INVESTIGATION REPORT ON COMPLAINT

Nature of Complaint : Alleged air and water pollution from mobile batching plant
Location : Poblacion, Aringay, La Union
Contact Number : Not acquired
Investigating Officer : Ryanne Narvaez
Date and Time of Inspection : May 24, 2019 @ 9:40 AM
Date of Report Prepared : May 27, 2019

Person(s) Interviewed

Ms. Mary Anne Masing
Engr. Ann Tarala
Engr. Florante Estoesta

Title/Position

Resident near the stockpile area
Resident Engineer of R.U. Aquino Construction
Sub-contractor

A. Complaint Background:

On May 20, 2019, EMB Region 1 received a memorandum dated May 11, 2019 from Provincial Environment and Natural resources Office- La Union (PENRO-LU) regarding the alleged water and air pollution brought by a nearby mobile batching plant in Barangay Cecilia, Aringay, La Union (as per report of PENRO).

On May 24, 2019 an investigation was conducted by the undersigned to validate the veracity of the complaint.

B. General Information:

Type of Industry : Aggregates Stockpile and temporary concrete mixing area
Land use of adjoining areas:

Land Use	Radial Distance		
	20 m.	50 m.	80 m.
Residential	x		
Agricultural	x		
Bridge			x
River	x		

I. FINDINGS & OBSERVATIONS:

1. The subject of the complaint is a temporary concrete mixing area (stockpile area) for the upgrading of Aringay Bridge bridge project.

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2. The temporary mixing area is located in Barangay Poblacion, Aringay and not in Brgy. Cecilia as stated in the PENRO report. It is near the riverbank located around 80 meters from the northern abutment of the Aringay Bridge.
3. The temporary concrete mixing area is neither compact nor mobile concrete batching plants as it has no structure erected in the area (see attached photos), hence, not covered by the provision of PD 1586.
4. A makeshift warehouse was constructed to store bags of cement and stockpiles of crushed aggregates were noted in the area.
5. An oil tanker was used as water storage to supply concrete mixing needs. This oil tanker is regular filled with water extracted from the river using a portable water pump.
6. Minimal dust were noted during the time of monitoring.
7. No concrete mixing nor operation of heavy equipment was noted during the monitoring.
8. Hardened concrete were noted along the riverbank adjacent to the said temporary mixing area.
9. Several drums of RC Superconplas-SRW® were noted at the temporary concrete mixing area used as plasticizer. Plasticizer is a chemical admixture primarily used to reduce water content and retard the initial setting of concrete thus overcoming the difficulties of hot weather (<http://www.rcnewchem.com/product/rc-superconplas-srw/>). No traces that this chemical was spilled in the river.
10. No heavy equipment was noted in the area except for the oil tanker used as water container stationed in the area.

II. REMARKS:

1. As per interview with the nearest residents, Ms. Mary Anne Masing, the contractors are regularly sprinkling water along the access road of the temporary concrete mixing area to control dust.
2. According to <http://www.rcnewchem.com/product/rc-superconplas-srw/>, RC SUPERCONPLAS-SRW is a solution of a modified blend of calcium and sodium lignosulphonates and other concrete plasticizing resins in water. The solution is dark brown in color and the density is 1.12 to 1.14 kgs per liter. It is non-flammable, non-toxic and contains no chlorides and does not corrode steel. It improves the quality of concrete by reducing water requirements, improving workability and increasing strength and durability.
3. Hardened concrete mixture along riverbank were results of concrete truck mixer cleaning.
4. The foam-like scum floating in the photo of the report of PENRO are suspected residue of concrete poured along the riverbank trapped between the local water-borne leafy vegetables (kangkong).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Require the contractor to increase the frequency of sprinkling water along the haul access roads especially during concrete mixing operation.
2. Require the contractor to refrain from discarding unused and diluted concrete mixtures along the river bank. Furthermore, the contractor must remove the hardened concrete mixture deposited along the riverbank.
3. The contractor must present authority over the area to use as a temporary concrete mixing area for the on-going bridge upgrading project else must vacate the said area.
4. The construction shall be monitored periodically until the project completion to verify the consistent sprinkling of water along their haul access roads and the non-disposal of excess concrete mixture along the riverbank.

Prepared by:


RYANNE N. NARVAEZ
QRT Member/ Engineer IV

Noted By:


ENGR. ANTONIO L. ESTRADA
Chief, EMED

Approved By:


ENGR. MARIA DORICA NAZ-HIPE, CESE
Regional Director



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU DISPOSITION FORM

*RECORDS-2019-5-191

Subject:	PENRO La Union Memorandum dated May 11, 2019 re: Inspection and Investigation Report on the mobile batch plant allegedly causing air and water pollution, located at the Eastern Side of Aringay Bridge, located in Brgy. Cecilia, Aringay, La Union		
Document Date:	May 11, 2019	Document Type:	Letter - Others
To/For	Remarks	From	Date

ORD For appropriate action - RECORDS 5/20/2019 4:38:41 PM

5/21 11:25 AM C, EMB For evaluation and further AA - Ryanne please have this investigated for signature 5/21/19 5/21/19 6/4/19

JUN 10 2019 for revision 6/13/19

Atty. for signature 6/19

JUN 19 2019 signed 6/20

Records Mary or 6/27/19

Action Taken/Status		
A. For approval/signature	G. Please prepare reply	M. For posting
B. For appropriate action	H. Please note and return	N. Please attend
C. For notation/comments	I. Please file	O. Please send representative
D. For recommendation	J. RUSH/URGENT	P. For our record
E. For information	K. For Monitoring	
F. For Compliance	L. For Investigation	



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
San Fernando City, La Union
Tel. No. (072)888-7567/Telefax: 242-3780



MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR Region 1, San Fernando City, La Union

FROM : The PENR Officer
DENR - PENRO La Union

SUBJECT : INSPECTION AND INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE MOBILE BATCH
PLANT ALLEGEDLY CAUSING AIR AND WATER POLLUTION,
LOCATED AT THE EASTERN SIDE OF ARINGAY BRIDGE, LOCATED
IN BRGY. CECILIA, ARINGAY, LA UNION.

DATE : MAY 11 2019

We are forwarding the Memorandum of MGB Embedded Personnel in DENR PENRO La Union dated April 10, 2019, regarding the inspection and investigation report on the mobile batch plant alleged causing air and water pollution, located at the eastern side of Aringay Bridge, located in Brgy. Cecilia, Aringay, La Union.

For your information and further action with reference to RA 9275 or the Clean Water Act and PD 1508, RJS.


FOR. MAXIMO F. SORIANO JR.

CC:

1. The Regional Director
EMB – Region 1
2. The Hon. Mayor
Municipality of Aringay, La Union



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
San Fernando City, La Union
Tel. No. (072)888-7567/Telefax: 242-3780

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The PENR Officer
La Union

THRU : The OIC Chief, Technical Services Division

FROM : MGB Embedded Personnel
PENRO La Union

SUBJECT : INSPECTION AND INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE MOBILE BATCH
PLANT ALLEGED CAUSING AIR AND WATER POLLUTION, LOCATED
IN THE EASTERN SIDE OF ARINGAY BRIDGE LOCATED IN BRGY.
CECILIA, ARINGAY, LA UNION.

DATE : APRIL 10, 2019

In compliance with the verbal instruction of Forester Maximo F. Soriano Jr., PENR Officer of this Province last April 8, 2018 the undersigned's coordinated to the Municipality of Aringay, La Union for the conduct of plant inspection and verification on the alleged air and water pollution created by the Batch Plant.

Findings and Observation

Initially there was coordination undertaken at the Municipality of Aringay, La Union. Mr. Edelito Gajo, the Municipal Planning Development Coordinator of the Municipality of Aringay, La Union informed us, that the Batch plant is owned by Mr. Eric Sibuma.

During the inspection, there are silts coming from the batch plant that is discharged directly to the river. Drums of chemicals (RC Superconplas-SRW) are also present in the area. Dust is also observed during the loading of aggregates and cement to the concrete mixer truck.

As per the truck driver, the concrete that is mixed in plant are used for the concreting of their public market.

For your information, based on the website (www.rcnechem.com) of the product, this chemical is a solution of a modified blend of calcium and sodium lignosulphonates and other concrete plasticizing resins in water. It is non-flammable, non-toxic and contains no chlorides and does not corrode steel, and acts to extend permissible mixing time on long hauls.

Recommendation

This report shall be endorsed to Environmental Management Bureau Region 1 for them to address the issue/concern and proper monitoring, since it is within their mandate to implement the R.A 8749 (Clean Air Act of 1999) and R.A 9275 (Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004).

ORIGINAL SIGNED

JAMES PAROCHA

Forest Ranger



ENGR. EMILIO L. BILAGOT JR.

Science Research Specialist II

CC: Regional Executive Director
DENR – Region 1

Regional Director
DENR - EMB Region 1

happy 2000

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Photo showing the silt and chemical discharged in the river.

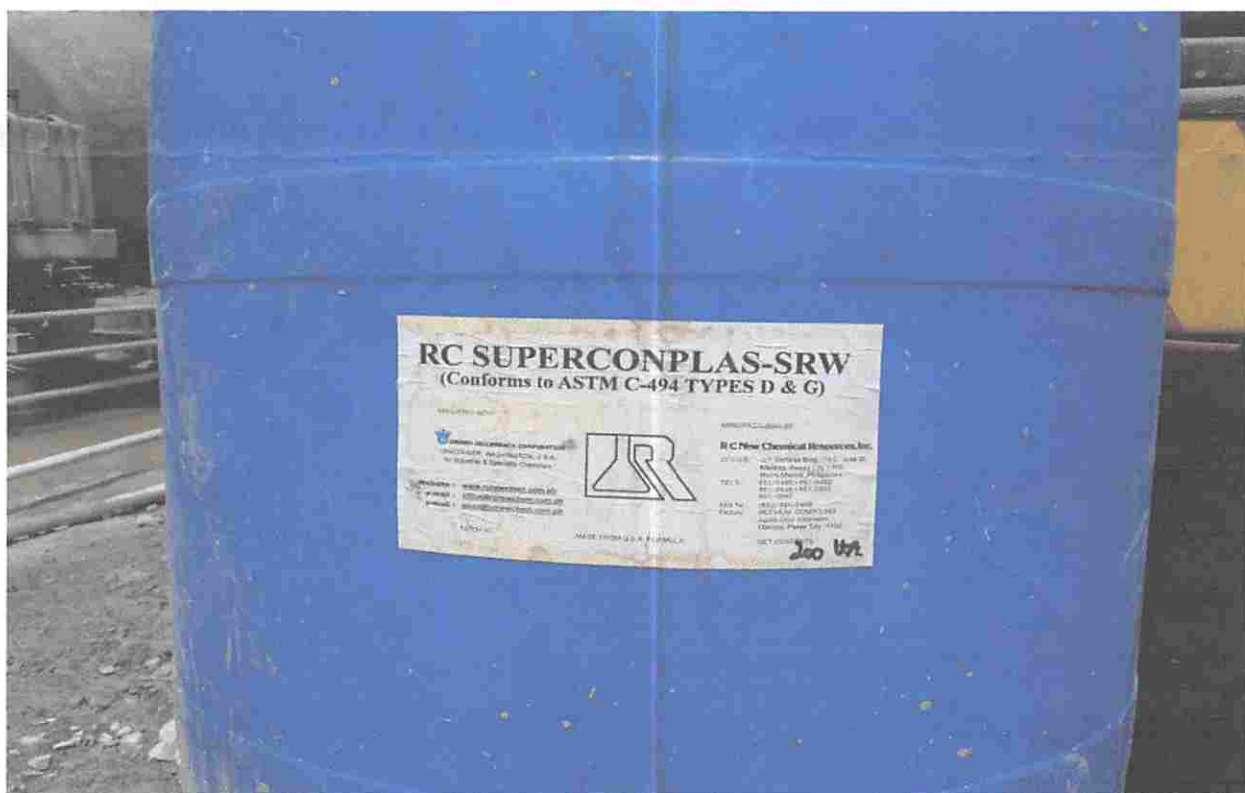


Photo showing the drums of chemicals they are using.