



REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL – ILOCOS REGION

C/O NEDA REGIONAL OFFICE 1

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 3rd REGULAR MEETING OF THE RDC-1 EXCOM HELD ON 13 APRIL 2016 AT THE NEDA-1 CONFERENCE ROOM, SAN FERNANDO CITY, LA UNION

RDC-1 ExCom Resolution No. 38, S. 2016

RECOMMENDING TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES RAMON J.P. PAJE THE DESIGNATION OF THE AMBURAYAN RIVER AS A WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 9275, OR THE PHILIPPINE CLEAN WATER ACT OF 2004

WHEREAS, Republic Act 9275, or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, provides that the state shall pursue a policy of economic growth in a manner consistent with the protection, preservation and revival of the quality of water resources within the framework of sustainable development;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state to; (1) formulate a holistic national program of water quality management that recognizes that water quality management issues cannot be separated from concerns about water sources and ecological protection, water supply, public health and quality of life, and (2) to encourage civil society and other sectors, particularly labor, the academe and business undertaking environment-related activities in their efforts to organize, educate and motivate the people in addressing pertinent environmental issues and problems at the local and national levels;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 indicates that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, in coordination with the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) shall designate certain areas as Water Quality Management Areas (WQMA);

WHEREAS, the Amburayan River System and its tributaries and watershed areas cover the Provinces of Benguet, La Union and Ilocos Sur, thereby providing an abundant supply of natural resources for agricultural, industry and livelihood purposes;

WHEREAS, the Jaime V. Ongpin Foundation, Inc. (JVOFI), through the project "*Protecting and Defending the Amburayan River Basin and Watershed Through Good Governance and Active Peoples' Participation*", spearheaded a collaborative effort to bring together concerned stakeholders in the management of the Amburayan River Basin and Watershed and institutionalize an agreement that would ensure the protection of the rights and interests of all stakeholders to protect the integrity of the watershed;

WHEREAS, the JVOFI, in partnership with the Environment and Management Bureau, various government, non-government and private institutions, and concerned municipalities in Region 1, among which are as follows: Santol, Bangar and Sudipen in La Union and Sugpon, Alilem, Tagudin, Suyo, Sigay and Cervantes in Ilocos Sur, have



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conducted a series of meetings and consultations to gather pertinent information, discuss related issues and generate support for the project;

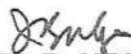
WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of caring and protecting the region's water resources, and the potential benefits that can be derived from the project, the RDC-1, through the Environment and Natural Resources Sector Committee, approved the endorsement of the project to the RDC-1 ExCom on March 29, 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the above premises, **BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to recommend to the Honorable Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Ramon J.P. Paje the designation of the Amburayan River as a Water Quality Management Area pursuant to Republic Act 9275, or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004;

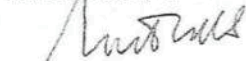
RESOLVED FURTHER, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Jaime V. Ongpin Foundation, Inc., the Environmental Management Bureau and concerned LGUs for their information, support and appropriate action.

APPROVED, this 13th day of April 2016 in San Fernando City, La Union.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:


IRENEA B. UBUNGEN
RDC-I ExCom Acting Secretary
(NEDA-I Office Caretaker)

ATTESTED:



NESTOR G. RILLON
RDC-I ExCom Vice-Chairman and Presiding Officer
(NEDA-I Regional Director)