



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF ISABELA**  
City of Ilagan

## *Office of the Governor*

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 01  
Series of 2023

**AN ORDER DECLARING MORATORIUM ON QUARRY OPERATIONS IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT OF CABATUAN WITH THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF ISABELA TAKING OVER ANY AND ALL EXISTING QUARRY OPERATIONS AND FURTHER ORDERING THE IMMEDIATE REHABILITATION AND DESILTING OF THE AREA.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 129 of Republic Act 7160 also known as the Local Government Code of 1991 mandates that each local government unit shall exercise its powers to create its own sources of revenue and to levy taxes, fees and charges subject to the provisions herein stated consistent with the basic policy of local autonomy;

**WHEREAS**, the permit to extract sand, gravel and other quarry resources shall be issued exclusively by the Provincial Governor, pursuant to the Local Government Code of 1991 and to the duly enacted ordinance of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan;

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 05 series of 2014 was enacted to regulate the extraction, disposition, utilization, processing of quarry and other mineral resources within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province of Isabela and imposing various taxes and fees therefore;

**WHEREAS**, Article V Section 27 of Ordinance No. 05 provides that monitoring of sand, gravel and other quarry and mineral resources by the Provincial Government thru the Isabela Environment and Natural Resources Office as its implementing arm on environment and natural resources concerns is tasked to effectively carry out the enforcement of pertinent laws on small scale mining and quarrying operations for proper collection of taxes and fees on sand gravel and other quarry resources by the Provincial Treasurer's Office;

**WHEREAS**, the newly elected Municipal Mayor of Cabatuan, Isabela, Hon. Bernardo A. Garcia, Jr. on his letter to Regional Director Mario Ancheta of DENR-MGB RO2, expressed immensely the dismal state of quarry sites within the municipality due to unregulated quarrying activities and the unrehabilitated state of this areas leading to several drowning incidents;

**WHEREAS**, the Isabela Environment and Natural Resources Office had conducted ocular and drone inspection of the Quarry Sites in the Municipality of Cabatuan and agreed with the Local Chief Executive of Cabatuan that the quarry operations be halted and the areas or sites are to be rehabilitated and desilted immediately;

**WHEREAS**, there is an ongoing desilting program for river tributaries in the province and likewise the re-assessment of the present condition of all quarry site and geo- hazard zones in the Province of Isabela to ensure that these areas are not excessively quarried and safe for operations to assure that the waterflows of rivers will not be impeded and degradation of riverbanks are prevented;

**WHEREAS**, in the exercise of police power, the Provincial Governor is empowered to issue and enact protective and prohibitory orders to promote and uplift the general welfare of the people;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises and by virtue of the power vested in me by law, I, **RODOLFO T. ALBANO III**, Governor of the Province of Isabela, do hereby order as follows;

**SECTION 1. TITLE.** – This shall be known as “An Order Declaring Moratorium on Quarry Operations in the Local Government Unit of Cabatuan with the Provincial Government of Isabela Taking Over Any and All Existing Quarry Operations and Further Ordering the Immediate Rehabilitation and Desilting of the Area”.

**SECTION 2. PURPOSE.** – This Order is hereby issued in consideration of the present state and condition of the Quarry sites in the Municipality of Cabatuan of this province that needs desilting and rehabilitation.

**SECTION 3. DURATION.** – This moratorium/suspension shall remain valid and effective pending the outcome of the rehabilitation and desilting activities and/or until lifted.

**SECTION 4. SUSPENSION OF ALL QUARRY PERMIT ISSUED.** – All quarry permits issued by the Provincial Government of Isabela (PGI) in the Municipality of Cabatuan, Isabela, are hereby temporarily suspended during the duration and effectivity of this Order.

**SECTION 5. FAILURE TO COMPLY.** – The suspension of quarry permit is tantamount to “no quarry permit” issued, thus, failure to comply with this Order shall be considered and proceeded as violation and may cause the permanent revocation of the quarry permit, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate cases under any existing pertinent laws.

**SECTION 6. DIRECTIVE TO ISABELA ENRO** – The Isabela Environment and Natural Resources Office is hereby directed to closely coordinate with the Isabela Police Provincial Office, National Government Agencies, Desiltation and Rehabilitation Team and respective officials of the concerned barangays for the proper implementation of this Order.

**SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** Should any part of this executive order be declared unconstitutional or invalid by proper authority, other provision herein which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE.** - All orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed, superseded or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately, until otherwise revoked or repealed.

Done in the Province of Isabela this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

  
RODOLFO T. ALBANO III  
Governor 