PUBLIC HEARING REPORT (PHR) Proposed 3.0 MMTPY Cement Plant Complex Project with Quarry Barangay Baha and Barangay Talibayog

Submitted by: Asturias Industries Inc.

Submitted to: Environmental Management Bureau – Central Office





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5 April 2019

ENGR. METODIO U. TURBELLA

Director, Environmental Management Bureau – Central Office Department of Environment and Natural Resources EMB Building, DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue Diliman, Quezon City

ATTENTION	:	Atty. Michael Drake Matias Chief, EIA Division
SUBJECT	:	Public Hearing Report (PHR) Proposed 3.0 MMTPY CEMENT PLANT COMPLEX WITH QUARRY PROJECT Barangay Baha and Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas

Dear Dir. Turbella,

We are submitting herewith the **Public Hearing Report (PHR)** of the **Proposed 3.0 MMTPY Cement Plant Complex with Quarry Project** in Barangay Baha and Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas. The PHR documents issues and suggestions raised by various stakeholders during the Public Hearing conducted at the Baha Elementary School in Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas on March 28, 2019 (Thursday).

For inquiries, you may contact our EIA Study Team at (02) 442-2830.

On behalf of Asturias Industries, Inc.:

Jose Marie U. Lim, MSc. EIA Project Team Leader LCI Envi Corporation

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	:	Proof of Publication of the Notice of Public Hearing (March 13 & 20, 2019)
Attachment 2	:	Proof of Receipt of Public Hearing Invitation Letters
Attachment 3	:	Public Hearing Attendance Sheets
Attachment 4	:	Public Hearing Presentation Material
Attachment 5	:	Transcript of the Public Hearing Proceedings
Attachment 6	:	Video Recording of the Public Hearing Proceedings

SECTION 1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

- ¹ Asturias Industries Inc. intends to construct and operate a cement plant complex with quarry in Brgy. Baha and Brgy. Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas. The proposed project will be located inside the 464.08-hectare industrial park that will be developed in the area. The park is also owned by Asturias Industries Inc.
- ² The cement plant will have a total clinker production capacity of 3.0 MMTPY, composed of 2 lines with 1.5 MMTPY capacity each. The operation of the cement plant will also be using the pier facility that will be constructed as part of the operation of the industrial park.
- ³ The proposed project will be done in 3 phases. Phase 1 of the project is intended for the construction and operation of the cement grinding facility of Line 1 that will have a clinker production capacity of 1.5 MMTPY. In Phase 2, facilities for the clinker production for Line 1 will be constructed and the full cement plant of Line 1 will be operated. Quarry operations will also start during this phase to supply the limestone and shale requirements for the cement production. Line 2 of the full cement plant will be constructed and operate in Phase 3. Additional limestone and shale requirements for the operation of Line 2 will also be supplied by the quarry.
- ⁴ This project was already granted an ECC in June 29, 1998 (9803-003-105) but did not proceed as planned due to economic reasons and some issues on land use classification. The present site was initially covered for distribution by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) even with previous mining and quarrying activities undertaken in the area. After a long and tedious legal battle, the same area was confirmed as a 'mineralized area' by the Supreme Court of the Philippines virtually declaring the mistake committed by the Department of Agrarian Reform. After the SC decision was declared, the Proponent decided to re-establish the plans for the proposed cement plant project. However, under the EIS procedural guidelines, the proposed project's ECC issued in 1998 has already lapsed its validity of five years.
- ⁵ The Proponent re-applied its ECC last 2011. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was submitted and was reviewed by the EIARC. However, the Proponent was not able to provide the additional information requested by the EIARC during the final meeting last 2013. One of the members of the review committee requested for the final exploration report of the project however, there was a status quo issued by the Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB) hence, the proponent was prevented from entering the site and was not able to conduct exploration activities.
- ⁶ The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Regional Office IV-A (CALABARZON) suspended the mineral exploration activities of the MPSA 071-97-IV last April 17,2008. This was due to some issues with the local community involving the land dispute in the area. Asturias Industries, Inc. made necessary actions and were able to resolve the issues. With this, the MGB RIV-A lifted the suspension last July 13,2018 and granted 20 months of exploration activities under the mentioned MPSA.
- ⁷ With this, the Proponent is again updating the EIS prepared last 2011 to continue its ECC application. MPSA 071-97-IV will be utilized for the quarry operations of the proposed project. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study used the EIS Scoping and Screening Form for Mining Projects as a guide in the impact analysis.

⁸ **Table 1** provides some basic information regarding the proposed project, the Proponent, and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) preparer.

Name of Project	3.0 MMTPY Cement Plant Complex with Quarry				
Project Location	Sitio Punta, Brgy. Baha and Brgy. Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas				
Nature of Project	Cement Plant with Quarrying				
Project Size	Line 1 Line 2 Total				
,	1.5 Million Metric Tons	1.5 Million Metric Tons	3.0 Million Metric Tons		
	per Year (MMTPY)	per Year (MMTPY)	per Year (MMTPY)		
	Clinker	Clinker			
Proponent Name	Clinker Clinker Clinker Asturias Industries Inc Clinker Clinker				
Proponent Authorized	Mr. Ricardo L. Yabut				
Representatives	General Manager				
	Atty. Micaela A. Rosales				
	Authorized Representative				
	Office of the President				
Proponent Address and		-Wack, Mandaluyong City			
Contact Details	Tel. Nos.: (+63-2) 7267016 / (+63-2)-7261969				
EIA Preparer (Consultant)	LCI Envi Corporation				
Preparer Contact Person	Engr. Jose Marie U. Lim, MSc.				
	EIA Team Leader				
Preparer Address and	Unit 8L-M Future Point Plaza 3				
Contact Details	111 Panay Avenue, South Triangle				
	Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines				
	Tel. No.: (632) 442-2830				
	Fax No.: (632) 961-9226				

Table 1: Basic Information on the Proposed Project, Proponent, and EIA Preparer

SECTION 2

ACTIVITY RATIONALE

- ⁹ The Public Hearing for the proposed 3.0 MMTPY Cement Plant Complex with Quarry project was initially scheduled on March 29, 2019, a whole month after the 1st EIA Review Committee (EIARC) Technical Review conducted last February 27, 2019 but was moved to March 28, 2019.
- ¹⁰ The Notice of Public Hearing, along with the e-copy of the full Draft EIS and the EIS Summary for the Public (ESP) in both Filipino and English, was posted in the EMB Website on March 4, 2019 for free public viewing. The Notice was likewise published in The Philippine Daily Inquirer on March 13 and 20, 2019, with the proof of publication provided as **Attachment 1** of this report.
- ¹¹ The official memorandum and invitation (signed by the EMB-EIAMD Chief) were distributed, with a copy of the ESP and the Notice, on March 12 to 17, 2019 to the following invitees identified based on Section 5 of DAO 2017-15.
 - LGUs in areas where all project facilities are proposed to be constructed/situated and where all operations are proposed to be undertaken (a)
 - o Municipal LGU of Calatagan, Batangas (host municipality)
 - Barangay Baha (host barangay)
 - Barangay Talibayog (host barangay)
 - o Barangay Palikpikan, Balayan (adjacent barangay)
 - o Barangay Santol, Balayan (adjacent barangay)
 - Barangay Caloocan, Balayan (adjacent barangay)
 - Government agencies with related mandate on the type of project and its impacts (b)
 - DENR Region IV-A CALABARZON
 - \circ DENR EMB Region IV-A CALABARZON
 - DENR MGB Region IV-A CALABARZON
 - o Batangas Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO)
 - Interest groups, preferably those with mission/s specifically related to the type and impacts of the proposed undertaking (c)
 - \circ Farmers Association
 - o Talipapa Community Builders Association
 - \circ Senior Citizen
 - \circ Women's Organization
 - Fishermen Group

• Local institutions (f)

 \circ Baha Elementary School

- ¹² No "households, business activities, industries that will be displaced" (d) and "people whose socioeconomic welfare and cultural heritage are projected to be affected by the project especially vulnerable sectors and indigenous populations" (e) were identified for the proposed project.
- ¹³ The proof of receipt of the memorandum and invitation are provided as **Attachment 2** of this report.

SECTION 3

CONDUCT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

¹⁴ The Public Hearing was conducted from 9:00AM to 1:30PM on March 28, 2019 (Thursday) at the Baha Elementary School located in Sitio Lozano, Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas. The composition of the participants is presented in **Table 2**. The attendance sheets are provided in **Attachment 3** of this report.

	STAKEHOLDER GROUP/OFFICE/ORGANIZATION	TOTAL NO. OF REPRESENTATIVES
	n areas where all project facilities are proposed to be constructed	/situated and where all
operat	ions are proposed to be undertaken (a)	
0	Municipal LGU of Calatagan, Batangas	5
0	Barangay LGU of Baha, Calatagan	25
0	Barangay LGU of Talibayog, Calatagan	22
0	Barangay LGU of Palikpikan, Balayan	6
0	Barangay LGU of Santol, Balayan	16
0	Barangay LGU of Caloocan, Balayan	5
0	Barangay LGU of Lucban, Balayan	3
Goverr	ment agencies with related mandate on the type of project and i	its impacts (b)
0	DENR Central Office	8
0	DENR Region IV-A CALABARZON	5
Intores		
	t groups, preferably those with mission/s specifically related to the to the specifically related to the specie	he type and impacts of the
		he type and impacts of the
pr	oposed undertaking (c)	
pro O	oposed undertaking (c) Farmers Association	3
pr (0	oposed undertaking (c) Farmers Association Talipapa Community Builders Association	3 4
pr 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c) Farmers Association Talipapa Community Builders Association Senior Citizen	3 4 3
0 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c) Farmers Association Talipapa Community Builders Association Senior Citizen Women's Organization	3 4 3 19
pr 0 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c)Farmers AssociationTalipapa Community Builders AssociationSenior CitizenWomen's OrganizationFishermen Group	3 4 3 19 2
pr 0 0 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c)Farmers AssociationTalipapa Community Builders AssociationSenior CitizenWomen's OrganizationFishermen GroupBarangay Health Workers	3 4 3 19 2 3
pr 0 0 0 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c)Farmers AssociationTalipapa Community Builders AssociationSenior CitizenWomen's OrganizationFishermen GroupBarangay Health WorkersTejero Group	3 4 3 19 2 3 2 2
pr 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c)Farmers AssociationTalipapa Community Builders AssociationSenior CitizenWomen's OrganizationFishermen GroupBarangay Health WorkersTejero GroupLa Preza Association	3 4 3 19 2 3 3 2 5
pr 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	oposed undertaking (c)Farmers AssociationTalipapa Community Builders AssociationSenior CitizenWomen's OrganizationFishermen GroupBarangay Health WorkersTejero GroupLa Preza AssociationLaborhood Association	3 4 3 19 2 3 2 3 2 5 1
pr/ 0	oposed undertaking (c)Farmers AssociationTalipapa Community Builders AssociationSenior CitizenWomen's OrganizationFishermen GroupBarangay Health WorkersTejero GroupLa Preza AssociationLaborhood AssociationNeighborhood Association	3 4 3 19 2 3 2 3 2 3 1 12

¹⁵ The activity was facilitated by the the DENR-EMB Central Office Case Handlers and Public Hearing Officer. The Public Hearing program is presented in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: Public Hearing Program

	PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM
Project Title:	Proposed 3.0 MMTPY Cement Plant Complex with Quarry Project
Project Proponent:	Asturias Industries, Inc.
Project Location:	Barangay Baha and Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas
Date and Time:	March 28, 2019 @ 9:00 A.M
Venue:	Baha Elementary School, Brgy. Talibayog, Calatagan

Oras Gawain			
7:30-9:00 AM	Rehistrasyon	1	
9:00—9:15 AM	Panalangin /Pambansang Awit		
	Pagbati mula sa Alkalde ng Calatagan	Hon. Peter Oliver M. Palacio	
	Pagpapakilala ng mga dumalo		
9:15—10:00 AM	Layunin ng Public Hearing Mga gabay para sa maayos na Public Hearing	DENR-EMB	
	Impormasyon ukol sa Proyekto	Asturias Industries, Inc.	
	Resulta ng EIA	LCI Envi Corporation	
10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Open Forum	Public Hearing Officer	
12:00 NN-1:00 PM	Pananghalian	1	
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Pagpapatuloy ng Open Forum		
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM	Paglalagom at Pagsasara ng Program	DENR-EMB	
	END	1	
FIGURE NO.	FIGURE TITLE		
1	Public Hearing Program		
PROJECT PROPONENT: STRUIAS INDUSTRIES INC.	PROJECT TITLE & LOCATION: 3.0 MMTPY CEMENT PLANT COMPLEX WITH	REPORT PREPARER: LCI ENVI CORPORATION	
ISTRUIAS INDUSTRIES INC.	QUARRY PROJECT		
	Barangay Baha and Barangay Talibayog,		
	Calatagan, Batangas		

SECTION 4

SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND CONCERNS

¹⁶ The presentation material that guided the flow of the Public Hearing is provided as **Attachment 4** of this report. The issues, concerns, and suggestions raised by the participants during the open forum and the corresponding responses of the project proponent, EIA consultant, and DENR-EMB are summarized in the matrix below.

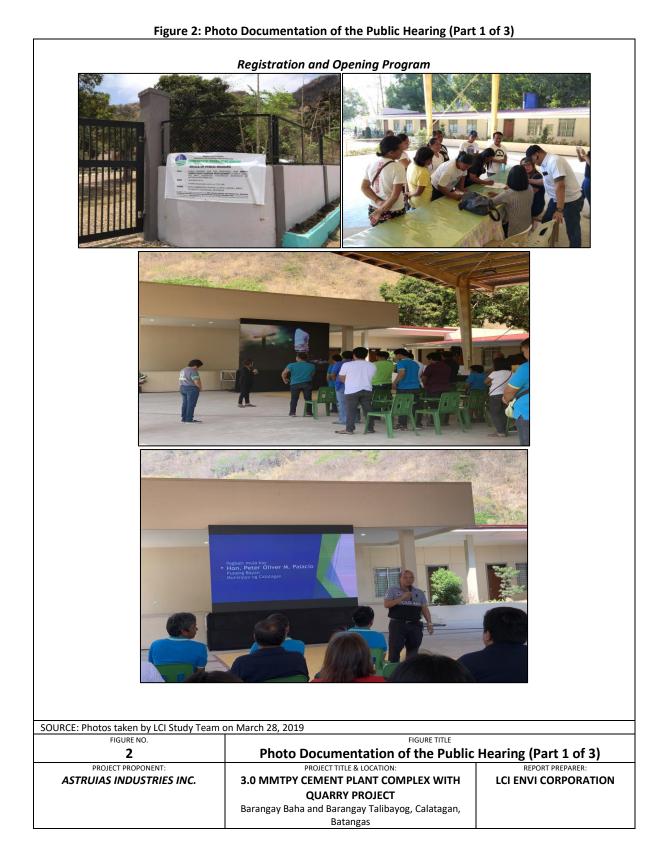
ISSUES/CONCERNS/SUGGESTIONS		RAISED BY	PROPONENT/EIA CONSULTANT	
			RESPONSES	
•	When is the final target for the start of the construction of the project?	Mr. Zaldy Zorilla	ASTURIAS: As soon as all the necessary permits such as ECC and other LGU permits were already secured, the project will start with its construction.	
•	How long will it take for the DENR-EMB to provide the decision if the ECC will be approved or not, assuming that Asturias already provided all the necessary documents?	Mr. Noel Delas Alas	EMB: After the public hearing, a final review meeting will be conducted. After the final meeting, the decision if the ECC application of Asturias will be approved or not. We assure you that we will fast track the process from our side, as long as Asturias will submit all the requirements.	
•	We would like to request the DENR to please allow the start of the project to help the local residents to have jobs.	Ms. Virgie Malaluan Mr. Rexlo Bautista Mr. Reymond Hernandez Mr. Enofre De Castro	EMB: This is noted.	
•	Do you have other studies or projection of the impacts of the project for the next future years?	Hon. Andrea Del Rosario	LCI: The environment impact study that was conducted for the project was to document the baseline or existing condition of the project area. As mentioned before, we will have MMT to monitor the activities of the project, starting from the construction phase until it operates. As far as the quarry is concern, the MGB and the proponent have estimated the mine-life or the amount of the materials that will be extracted in the area. Also, the mining permit that will be secured in the MGB will have a limit on until when they can do quarry activities in the area.	
			EMB: For the monitoring of the project, the proponent will submit on a quarterly basis a self-monitoring report to the DENR Regional Office. They will also submit semi-annualy the Compliance Monitoring Report to report the status of their implementation of thrir commitments with the ECC conditions. The proponent will also submit EPEP and FMRDP to the MGB. There are many studies still	

Table 3: Matrix of Issues, Concerns, and Suggestions raised during the Public Hearing

RAISED BY	PROPONENT/EIA CONSULTANT RESPONSES
	being conducted after the release of the ECC.
Ms. Tarcila Lopez	Mayor: As much as we want to include the NGOs and POs of Balayan, there's a law restriction since you are not from Calatagan.
Ms. Judith Magsino	Asturias: Since 2003, the Asturias Foundation was formed. The health projects of the foundation are not only for the senior citizens but also for all the concerned residents of the barangays. With the project, the funds for the Asturias Foundation will be increased to ensure that all the support needed by the residents can be provided by Asturias.
Mr. Raffy Magsino	Asturias: The objective of the Asturias Foundation is for the students to become professional so that the plant can hire them. We are also encouraging other youths to take technical vocational courses.
Mr. Mamerto Manalo	EMB: As mentioned, there will be MMT that will be formed. All issues and concerns regarding the project can be raised to them. Also, we have Environmental Complain and Action Center where you can also raise your issues and concerns.
	Ms. Judith Magsino Mr. Raffy Magsino

- ²⁸ During the public hearing, it was observed that most of the participants were favorable of the proposed project and were already waiting for its start. This is because of the employment and job opportunities that the proposed project may provide. The forum covered a wide array of subject matter, considering the multi-sectoral composition of the audience. The need for constant open communication between the community and the project Proponent, active public participation, and continuous monitoring throughout the different phases of the project implementation was highlighted during the exercise.
- ²⁹ The full transcript and video documentation of the Public Hearing proceedings are provided as **Attachment 5** and **Attachment 6**, respectively.

SECTION 5 PHOTO-DOCUMENTATION



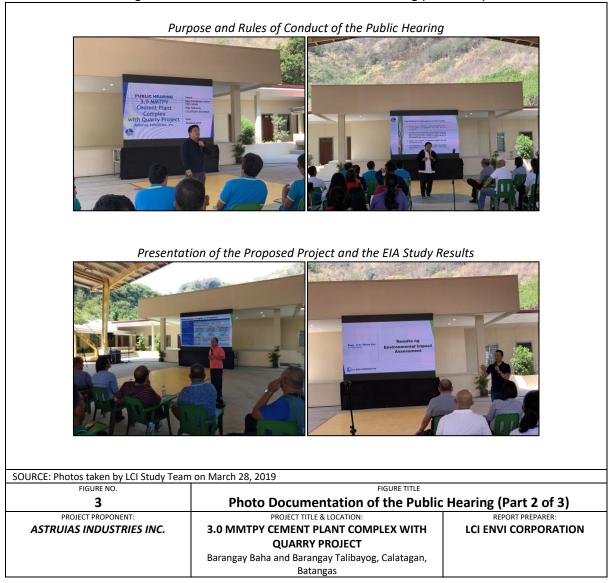


Figure 3: Photo Documentation of the Public Hearing (Part 2 of 3)

	oto Documentation of the Public Hearing (Part	,
	Open Forum and Next Steps	
	<image/>	
SOURCE: Photos taken by LCI Study Tean	n on March 28, 2019	
FIGURE NO. 4	FIGURE TITLE Photo Documentation of the Public	Hearing (Part 2 of 2)
PROJECT PROPONENT:	PROJECT TITLE & LOCATION:	REPORT PREPARER:
ASTRUIAS INDUSTRIES INC.	3.0 MMTPY CEMENT PLANT COMPLEX WITH	LCI ENVI CORPORATION
	QUARRY PROJECT Barangay Baha and Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas	

Figure 4: Photo Documentation of the Public Hearing (Part 3 of 3)