

CS-60 Form No. 13-A (24)

You are cordially invited to a
Qualifying Examination

Name of Candidate: JANE P. PALACAY
Degree Sought: M.S. (Hon. Thesis) Environmental Science
Date and Place of Examination: 26 October 2006, 9:00 am, Rm. 2 Villadolid Hall
Examination Topic: "Biodiversity Survey as Part of Environmental Impact Assessment Prior to Road Development"

entitled

EXAMINATION PANEL

1. BENJAMIN...
2. TERESITA R. PEREZ, PhD
3. ...

to be given by

Ms. JANE P. PALACAY

M. S. Environmental Science candidate
Institute of Environmental Science
and Meteorology
College of Science
UP Diliman, Quezon City

DECISION OF EXAMINATION: ...
REMARKS: ...
SUBMITTED BY: ...
NOTED BY: ...

On Thursday, 26 October 2006 9:00 am
Room 2 Villadolid Hall
UP Diliman, Quezon City

Abstract

The Philippines is rapidly developing its infrastructure base to support the growing economy and burgeoning population. Some obstacles to this infrastructure development maybe avoided by deliberate human intervention, careful study and planning especially in biodiversity as affected by the loss/disturbance of habitat due to infrastructure development. To date, the extent of biodiversity loss has reached alarming proportions so that some international experts of biodiversity have proposed to consider it as a global biodiversity disaster.¹ To respond to these concerns, as well as to demonstrate to the global community that the Philippines will work to reverse these trends, initiatives for Philippines' biodiversity conservation should be undertaken especially in regards to infrastructure development, i.e. road development. Overall success in biodiversity conservation resides in a clear and explicit plan that must be addressed and what resources require protection in the national interest and how biodiversity contribute to a sustained economic development. This can only be done through intensive planning, for example by linking preservation of biodiversity with infrastructure development.

This paper discusses biodiversity as a vital part in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) with two case studies being presented as an example in road development in an area wherein presence of biodiversity was high and was greatly affected during its construction. Further the case studies presented also assessed the necessity of surveying biodiversity as SOP prior to a DPWH infrastructure activity.

(DPWH), a government agency, is tasked to build, operate, and implement some of these infrastructure projects, such as roads, bridges, hospitals, and schools. There is at present a number of infrastructure development activities carried out by DPWH all over the Philippine archipelago. These will apparently increase in the future. Examples of these are the Ternate-Naugba Road project of the DPWH wherein biodiversity loss was greatly affected by road construction and EIA was not fully implemented, and the Balabana Highway 1 in Baguio - Bontoc - Banaue (BBB) road wherein EIA was fully implemented.