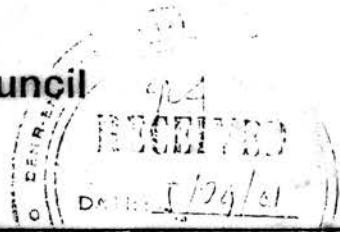




Republic of the Philippines  
**Regional Development Council**

National Economic and Development Authority  
 Region 10 (Northern Mindanao)  
 RDC Building, Corner Capistrano Echam Streets  
 9000 Cagayan de Oro City



Tel. No. (08822) 723436, 722168, 726161, (088) 856-1920; Telefax (08822) 728072; e-mail: neda10@norminet.org.ph  
 Website: www.norminet.org.ph

May 28, 2001

**RED Fernando P. Quililan**  
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 Office of the Regional Executive Director  
 Region 10, Macabalan, Cagayan de Oro city

Attention : **Dir. Ruth Sabijon**  
 Environmental Management Bureau  
 Region 10 Office

Dear RED Quililan:

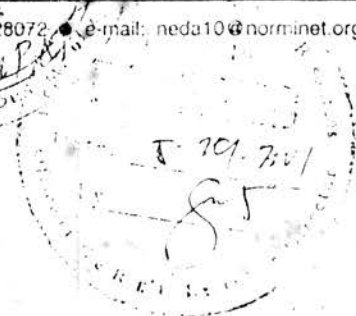
The Regional Office of the Department of Tourism (DOT) in its letter dated 2 May 2001 requested the support of the Regional Development Council towards the preservation of Cagayan de Oro City's Huluga Cave and its open site where the 13<sup>th</sup> century old potsherds can still be collected along the surface. Said request was the result of an on ocular inspection conducted by a team composed of historian, anthropologist, tri-media together with the Regional Office of the Department of Tourism that the Bridge the City Government of Cagayan de Oro is currently constructing that will connect Sitio Taguanao of Barangay Indahag to Brgy. Balulang all of this city would demolish the aforementioned historical area of Cagayan de Oro City of prehistoric times.

In response to this request, the Regional Development Council of Region 10 organized an inter-agency monitoring team to immediately conduct on site inspection if indeed said construction of the bridge will have a negative impact on the prehistoric Huluga Cave and its open site. Said inter-agency monitoring team is composed of technical staffs coming from the following agencies/institutions: National Economic and Development Authority, Department of Tourism, Department of Public Works and Highways, Environmental Management Bureau and from the academe.

The following are the observations of the group:

- There is an on-going construction of the bridge even without the necessary Environmental Compliance Certificate to construct issued to the project proponent.
- The extent of damage to the prehistoric Huluga Cave and its open site as a result of the on-going construction of the bridge cannot be well established in as much as the project do not have the required Environmental Impact Assessment Study (a required document for Environmentally Critical Projects;
- Negative impacts of the project as well as its social acceptability can be address only if the Department of Environment and Natural Resources through its Environmental Management Bureau will compel the project proponent to comply with DAO 96-37 issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

*MUSA  
 RD/EMB  
 for NEDA  
 Inform  
 of action  
 taken  
 RED Q*

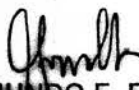


*CA-1540*

The Regional Development Council of Region 10 would appreciate it very much if you could provide this office an update of your agency's action to address the above concerns soonest as possible.

We are counting on your wholehearted support to develop our region within the context of sustainable development.

Very truly yours,



**RAYMUNDO E. FONOLLERA, Ph.D.**  
Regional Director, NEDA-10  
Vice Chair, RDC-10

Copy Furnished:

1. DENR-Central Office
2. EMB-Central Office
3. DOT-Region 10