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**DENR**

**IN THE NEWS**

**Strategic Communication and Initiative Service**



# PROBLEMA SA BASURA NAHALUAN NG POLITIKA

**IDINPENSA** ng pamahalaang lokal ng Limay sa Bataan na ang suliranin sa basura ay problema ng buong lalawigan at hindi ng Limay lamang.

Sagot ito ni Limay Mayor Ver Roque sa ginawang pagpapasara ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa open dumpsite sa kanyang bayan.

Nitong nakaraang Martes (Mayo 7), binigyan ng DENR si Roque ng 'cease and desist order' kaugnay ng 'open dumpsite' ng bayan sa Brgy. San Francisco de Asis" nito, isang araw matapos ang inspeksiyong isinagawa ng isang DENR team na ni hindi diumano nakipag-ugnayan sa munisipyo ng bayan.

Iपालिwanag ni Roque na ang tambakan ng basura nila

sa Brgy. Francisco de Asis ay pansamantalang "transfer station" lamang na nakatakdang isaayos, kaya kinontrata ng Limay noon pang 2015 ang Metro Clark Waste Management Corp. (MCWMC) na naghahakot ng basura roon at itinatapon sa isang 'dumpsite' sa Tarlac.

Noong 2016, dagdag ni Roque, pinagtibay ng Limay ang 10-taong 'solid waste management plan' nito, inilipat ang mga iskwater mula sa itinalagang 'dumpsite,' ginawa ang kalsada at bakod sa paligid nito at pansamantalang ginawang 'transfer station.'

Sinabi pa ni Roque na kasalukuyang kandidato ng oposisyon sa pagkagobernador laban sa reeleksiyonistang si Gov. Albert Garcia na mis-

tulang nahaharuan ng politika ang problema sa basura sa bayan ng Limay.

"Ang ginawa ng DENR ay tila bahagi ng politika laban dahil sa mabilisang pag-isyu ng order, na itinaon pa sa huling araw ng kampanya sa halalan sa darating na Lunes. Maaaring nakahanda na nga ang order bago pa isinagawa ang inspeksiyon," dagdag nito.

Bilang bahagi ng plano, sinabi ni Roque na nitong nakaraang 2018, naglaan ng P40 milyon ang Limay para sa mga makinarya at kagamitan ng proyekto at habang hindi pa ito kumpleto, patuloy ang kontrata nila sa MCWMC na tuloy-tuloy namang hinahakot ang basura sa 'transfer station' at dinadala sa tapunan nito sa Tarlac.



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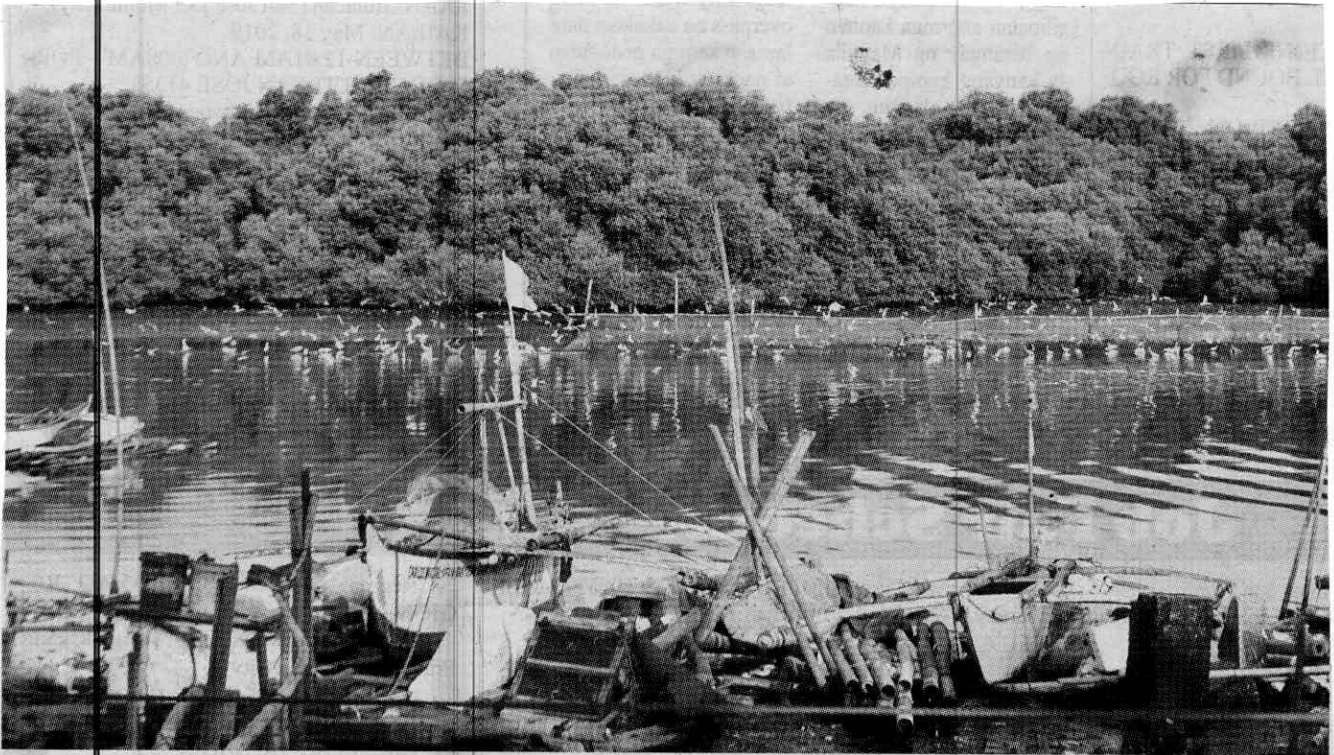
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**KAY** gandang pagmasdan ang tumpukan ng mga ibon sa lawang ito sa coastal area sa Parañaque, subalit makikita rin dito ang sari-saring basura na itinatapon ng mga nakatira sa paligid ng nasabing lawa. Kuha ni **WILFREDO A. CLAMOR**



## Ang aming pananaw...



### LGUs NG MARIKINA AT PASIG DAPAT TUMULONG SA PRRC

**MALAKI** ang problema ng Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) sa mga kompanya at pabrikang ilegal na nagtatapon ng wastewater sa Marikina River at Pasig River.

Ikinasa ang operasyon nang maingat ang mga opisyal ng PRRC sa Facebook viral video na ipinaskil ni Abdusalla Monakil, isang concerned netizen, kung saan makikitang nagdidiskarga ng kemikal na isang ebidensiya ng liquid waste pollution sa Marikina River.

Dahil pangunahing tributaryo ang Marikina River ng Pasig River, ipinagutos ni PRRC Executive Director Jose Antonio 'Ka Pepeton' E. Goitia ang agarang imbestigasyon sa ilang mga establisimiyento na hinihinalang sanhi ng polusyon sa ilog upang matiyak din kung sumusunod ang mga ito sa mga regulasyon.

Sakit din ng ulo ng taga-PRRC ang hindi pagpayag ng isang food manufacturer na mainspeksiyon ang kanilang pasilidad sa Brgy. Bagong Ilog, Pasig City sa hinalang dumidiretso sa Pasig River ang wastewater ng pabrika.

"Gagawin namin ang lahat ng administratibo at legal na aksiyon upang matiyak nating maipasara ang lahat ng mga establisimiyentong komersiyal at industriyal na sanhi ng polusyon sa ating mga ilog," sabi ni Goitia.

Dapat suportahan ng local government units (LGUs) na nasa tabing ilog ang pagkilos ng pamahalaan upang maprotektahan ang mga daanang tubig dahil hindi titigil ang mga pabrika sa pagtatapon ng kanilang latak na likido sa Ilog Pasig.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
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THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
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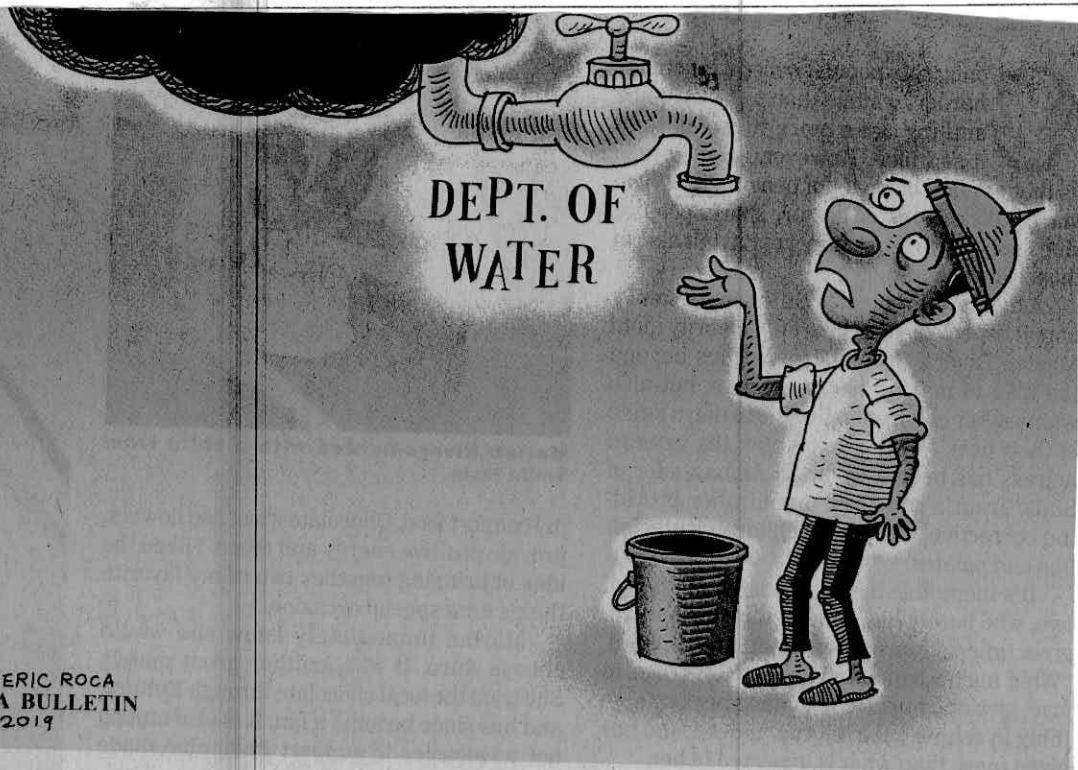
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PAUL ERIC ROCA  
MANILA BULLETIN  
2019

# A dep't to coordinate disparate water efforts

**I**T has begun to rain every day in many parts of the country but it isn't yet the rainy season, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said. The rains are the result of warm moist air rising in the air where it condenses and then falls back to earth, mostly in the afternoon and evening.

The real rainy season begins when warm winds — the “habagat” — bearing water vapor evaporating from the equatorial waters start blowing in from the southwest. As the winds reach the western islands of our country, they rise to cooler air levels where the water vapor condenses into rain. These truly heavy rains start late in May or early in June.

We thus have two to three more weeks of the present hot season. Then the heavy rains begin and we face our next problem—floods and landslides.

Early this year, around March, some officials had already been thinking ahead of the coming summer months when our dams dry up for lack of rains and faucets dry up in Metro Manila households.

“We utterly lack an apex body, a Department of Water, to ensure water supply and distribution, an indispensable vital need,” said Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia. There are now about 30 water agencies involved in the water sector, but each one works without coordination

with the others.

In 2016, Pernia said, there was a proposal for a Water Resources Department or Water Resources Authority to unify various efforts to face the country's water problem. A 2015 survey showed that only 55.3 percent of the country's population was served by community-level piped systems. For the rest, 35.4 percent got their water from wells, 6.8 percent from springs, rivers, and lakes, and 2.5 percent from water peddlers and other sources.

Even the well organized water systems, such as that of Metro Manila with its two concessionaires, have annual problems of supply. Metro Manila's East concessioner, Manila Water, was unable to supply water to thousands of households some weeks ago, forcing President Duterte himself to step in.

Various proposals to save the country's abundant rainwater during the rainy season were made, including one compelling land developers to set aside part of their project to store rainwater for use in times of shortage.

But all these are separate proposals, plans, and initiatives, pursued in times of need, but set aside when the urgency passes. We need consistency, coordination, and persistence in this effort. This could be provided by the proposed Water Resources Authority or Water Resources Department which, Secretary Pernia said, had been proposed as early as 2016.



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## 180 nations agree on UN deal to regulate export of plastic waste

GENEVA (AFP) – Around 180 governments on Friday agreed on a new UN accord to regulate the export of plastic waste, some eight million tons of which ends up in the oceans each year, organizers said.

The 1,400 representatives, meeting in Geneva, reached the agreement after 12 days' discussion on what Rolph Payet, Executive

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Secretary of the UN Environment Program (UNEP) called "one of the world's most pressing environmental issues".

The Geneva meeting amended the 1989 Basel Convention on the control of hazardous wastes to include plastic waste in a legally-binding framework.

"I'm proud that this week in Geneva, Parties to the Basel Convention have reached agreement on a legally-binding, globally-reaching mechanism for managing plastic waste," said Payet.

The IPEN umbrella group seeking to eliminate hazardous, toxic chemicals said the new amendment would empower developing countries to refuse plastic waste dumping".

"For far too long developed countries like the US and Canada have been exporting their mixed toxic plastic wastes to developing Asian countries claiming it would be recycled in the receiving country

"Instead, much of this contaminated mixed waste cannot be recycled and is instead dumped or burned, or finds its way into the ocean," said IPEN science advisor Sara Brosche.

Plastic waste pollution has reached "epidemic proportions" with an estimated 100 million tonnes of plastic now found in the oceans.

The Geneva meeting also undertook to eliminate two toxic chemical groups – Dicofol and Perfluorooctanoic Acid,

plus related compounds. The latter has been used in a wide variety of industrial and domestic applications including non-stick cookware and food processing equipment, as well as carpets, paper and paints.

The European Union coordinates and directs environmental protection for its members, through the regulation of industry and the setting of green policy goals.