



PH HAIYAN ADVOCACY INC.

*"An Advocacy on Climate Resilience and Mitigation"*

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26 August 2025

**HON. RAPHAEL P. M. LOTILLA**

Secretary

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City



Thru. : **HON. ARTURO N. SALAZAR, DM., CESO IV**  
OIC-Regional Executive Director

Subject: **Appeal for Strengthened Inter-Agency Coordination and the Immediate Withdrawal of DPWH Department Order No. 73, s. 2014**

Dear Secretary Lotilla,

At the outset, please allow us to extend our **warmest congratulations on your new appointment as Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources**. We are confident that your leadership, experience, and dedication to public service will bring renewed direction in advancing sustainable development and environmental stewardship in our country.

We respectfully submit our **Position Paper** entitled **"Appeal for Strengthened Inter-Agency Coordination and the Immediate Withdrawal of DPWH Department Order No. 73 Series of 2014"**.

Our Position Paper highlights the critical role of inter-agency cooperation—particularly among DENR, DPWH, DILG, DOT, DOTr, and OCD—in ensuring that infrastructure projects, especially national road works, are implemented in harmony with environmental protection, community welfare, and sustainable development.

In this regard, we also respectfully **pray for the immediate withdrawal of DPWH Department Order No. 73, Series of 2014 ("Prohibited Uses within the Right-of-Way of National Roads")**, as its continued enforcement risks undermining climate resilience initiatives, green programs, and community livelihood efforts in vulnerable localities such as Tacloban City.

We believe that the DENR, under your leadership, plays a crucial role in ensuring that infrastructure development complements, rather than contradicts, environmental conservation and disaster risk reduction. We therefore hope for your support in addressing this urgent concern.

Thank you for your kind attention. We trust that with your guidance, our collective efforts will lead to more climate-resilient and people-centered development.

Very truly yours,

**PETRONILO "PETE" L. ILAGAN**

Chairman and CEO