



COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE : April 6, 2026

TO : THE PRESIDING OFFICER

FROM : JOINT COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT and NATURAL RESOURCES and COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND WAYS & MEANS

SUBJECT : A LETTER FROM HON. ANGELES M. PEGOLLO, PUNONG BARANGAY OF PALANGUE 2&3 REQUESTING FOR THE DENIAL OF BUSINESS PERMIT TO A CERTAIN “BATCHING PLANT” OPERATED BY PACIFIC TOWN VENTURES INC., DUE TO AN UNSAFE AND IMPROPER BUSINESS PRACTICES

A joint committee meeting was conducted regarding the complaints filed against the batching plant operated by Pacifictown Ventures Inc., located in Barangay Palangue 2 and 3.

The meeting commenced with the introduction of the attendees. Present during the meeting were Barangay Secretary Carla May Cayas, Punong Barangay Angeles Pegollo of Palangue 2 & 3, Engr. Michael Caesar from the MENRO, Ms. Krizza Paula Nazareno as OIC-BPLO, Mr. Roldan Ramilo as representative of Pacifictown Ventures Inc., several residents of Barangay Palangue 2 & 3, and SB Member Bonifacio M. Atienza Jr.

During the meeting, the committee presented the complaints filed by the residents against the company. The primary complaints were as follows:

- 1. Noise pollution
- 2. Dust pollution
- 3. Harmful effects on crops and plants
- 4. Health concerns, particularly affecting the respiratory system

In the course of the discussion, the committee found that the batching plant does not have the necessary business permit. This was confirmed by the BPLO and admitted by the representative of Pacifictown Ventures Inc. The company explained that the batching plant is not their primary business but merely an auxiliary facility supporting their subdivision projects, which have approved development permits.

They further stated that the batching plant is temporary and is dismantled upon completion of the project. They also clarified that they do not sell concrete materials externally, as these are used solely for their own projects, similar to their operations in Trece Martires City.

It was established that the batching plant began operations in 2025. According to Punong Barangay Pegollo, complaints from residents were already raised within the first week of its operation.

In February 2025, residents observed the emission of cement dust during the loading of mixers. This was immediately addressed by the Punong Barangay through an inspection and by recommending that the company install barriers or use wet cloth to minimize dust dispersion. Although the company promptly complied, these measures were not sufficient to fully resolve the issue.



There was also an incident where a resident's ampalaya crops were damaged, allegedly due to dust from the plant. This resulted in an agreement wherein the company paid PHP 100,000.00 as compensation.

Despite relocating the batching plant closer to the gate and implementing measures to reduce noise and dust, complaints from residents persisted. Discussions between the company and the residents at the barangay level also became difficult. According to the company's representative, they acknowledged the issues that arose during the initial week of operations and implemented measures to address them in accordance with municipal standards. However, due to the continuing complaints and operational interruptions, including a one-month stoppage, the company incurred financial losses. On March 24, 2026, an attempt was made to resume operations, but it was unsuccessful due to obstruction by some residents.

As a result, the company decided to cease operations and dismantle the batching plant after consuming the remaining cement in the silo. The company requested to be granted sufficient time (10–12 days) to exhaust the remaining cement. However, this was strongly opposed by the residents due to its continued impact on their health and the environment. The residents proposed the use of a faster method that could be completed within 2–3 hours and expressed willingness to temporarily evacuate during the process. The company explained that such a method could generate more severe dust emissions and pose additional risks, aside from higher costs and technical difficulty.

A land-related issue being claimed by some residents was also mentioned, but this was considered separate from the main concern.

Some residents also shared personal experiences, including alleged health effects such as skin diseases and respiratory issues. While there were allegations of deaths linked to the plant, these remained unsubstantiated. There was also an incident of community tension, including an attempt to block operations and a resident reportedly carrying a bladed weapon. This was promptly managed by the Punong Barangay to prevent escalation.

A signed agreement by approximately ten residents opposing the resumption of the batching plant's operation was read during the meeting. This was witnessed by the BPLO representative. Pacifictown Ventures Inc. expressed its agreement not to resume operations in the area and instead relocate the batching plant to another project. However, the method and timeline for removing the remaining cement in the silo remain unresolved issues.

In aid of legislation, the committee recommends the following:

1. To elevate the matter to the Sangguniang Bayan for appropriate action;
2. To prioritize the welfare and health of the residents;
3. To encourage Pacifictown Ventures Inc. to demonstrate full understanding and cooperation with the community;
4. To await the final decision of the company's management regarding the residents' request, particularly on the conditions for the removal of the batching plant.

A resident proposed that if Pacifictown Ventures Inc. is to be allowed to resume operations for ten (10) days solely to consume the remaining materials in the silo, this should be matched by an agreement that the company will no longer interfere with the land currently occupied by the residents, even if such land falls under the ownership of Pacifictown.

In response, the representative of Pacifictown Ventures Inc. explained that he does not have sufficient authority to decide on the matter. However, he assured that the residents' proposal will be immediately relayed to the company president for proper consideration.



Furthermore, the representative committed that once a final decision is made by the management of Pacifictown Ventures Inc., it will be promptly communicated to the Punong Barangay and the affected residents to ensure a clear direction and mutual agreement between both parties.

Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources:


Hon. Raymond P. Senia
Vice Chairperson