

LETTER OF INSTRUCTION NO. 962, November 23, 1979

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TO:

ALL Government Ministries, Agencies and Instrumentalities, Including the Concerned Local Government Units:

SUBJECT: Accelerating the Development of the Isabel, Leyte Industrial Site

WHEREAS, it is the declared policy of the Government to enhance and enhance and encourage the diversification of industries;

WHEREAS, the government, in its effort to diversify industries, has established and developed the geothermal project at Tongonan, Ormoc City, in order to hasten regional development, specially of depressed areas of the country;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to integrate the economic and industrial development plan for the Eastern Visayan region by establishing, therein an industrial estate where power-intensive industries may be set up and avail of the indigenous power from the Tongonan geothermal plant;

WHEREAS, the government has decided to set up the copper smelter, phosphatic fertilizer, and aluminum smelter plants in the industrial estate so as to encourage and invite industrial, commercial, agricultural, and mining ventures into the industrial zone;

WHEREAS, in order to implement and hasten the establishment of the aforementioned projects in the province of Leyte, and to promote the eventual economic, social, and political development and industrialization of the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution do hereby declare, order, direct and instruct the following:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established in the town of Isabel, province of Leyte, the Leyte Industrial Estate hereinafter referred to as Industrial Estate. It shall comprise those areas in the vicinity of Isabel and such other additional areas which the Government of the province of Leyte, in consultation with the Ministry of Industry, may determine.

SEC. 2. The Leyte Sab-A Basin Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as the Authority, which was created under Presidential Decree 625, shall have overall responsibility for the development of the Industrial Estate, and for that purpose, the Authority shall exercise its powers and functions and the Industrial Estate shall enjoy the privileges and benefits granted under said Decree.

SEC. 3. The Bureau of Lands, Bureau of Forestry, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, and the Bureau of Mines shall immediately turn over and transfer to the Authority all public and mining lands and forests within the

industrial estate, including foreshore areas required by the Industrial Estate.

SEC. 4. The Authority is hereby empowered and instructed to acquire privately-owned lands circumscribed in the Industrial Estate by way of negotiated sales with the landowners. The acquisition cost of raw or uncultivated lands shall be P5,000.00 per hectare or P0.50 per square meter. In addition to the cost of the land, the Authority shall pay the landowners P25.00 for each fruit-bearing coconut tree, and, in case the tree is not fruit-bearing, one peso for each year of the age of the tree but not to exceed P20.00 per tree. Other existing crops or semi-permanent buildings shall be compensated in accordance with their market value as fixed by the Provincial Assessor of Leyte, the provisions of Presidential Decree Nos 76 and 464 notwithstanding.

SEC. 5. The Authority shall deputize the National Development Company (NDC), as reorganized under Presidential Decree No. 1648, to organize and manage the development of facilities required to accelerate to the implementation of major industrial projects in the Industrial Estate, particularly the three priority projects, namely, the Copper Smelter, Phosphatic Fertilizer, and Aluminum Smelter projects, and other industrial projects as may be agreed upon between the Governor of the Province of Leyte and the Minister of Industry Towards this end, the NDC shall advance to the Authority the funds needed to pay for the cost and other expenses of acquisition of the private lands and their improvements required for such projects. The Authority shall thereafter assigns and cede to NDC the sites for which the advances have been made.

SEC. 6. The Minister of Public Works, in coordination with the Philippine Ports Authority, shall immediately undertake the construction of a general public wharf at the Industrial Estate. He shall coordinate with the Chairman of the NDC to that the needs and requirements for port facilities three priority projects are provided.

SEC. 7. The Minister of Public Highways is hereby instructed to immediately improve the road network to the industrial estate and construct access roads to the copper smelter, phosphatic fertilizer, and aluminum smelter projects and within the Industrial Estate, as development needs may require.

SEC. 8. The Minister of Health and Minister of Education and Culture shall immediately undertake measures to provide health services and education to the members of the community which will be established in the Industrial Estate. In coordination with the Minister of Public Works, they shall construct hospitals, clinics, schools and other public service facilities o infrastructure as the needs of the community may require.

SEC. 9. The Minister of the Budget is hereby directed to immediately release to the Authority or to the National Development Company in case of the allocated sites for the copper, fertilizer and aluminum projects, such sums of money from the National Treasury, which have not otherwise been appropriated, for the improvement of existing roads and the construction of new roads, the general public wharf, hospitals, clinics, schools, access roads to and within the Industrial Estate, and such other infrastructure, utilities, and facilities for the development of the Industrial Estate.

SEC. 10. The National Water Resources Council shall permit the diversion or appropriation of water from any public water source to the Authority for use by the Industrial Estate, free from all kinds of fees and charges under Presidential Decree

SEC. 11. The provincial officials of Leyte and the mayors, barangay officials, and other local officials of Isabel, and other towns and cities of Leyte, are hereby directed and instructed to provide assistance to the Authority and the National Development Company in carrying out their functions and instructions.

SEC. 12. The environmental protection policies shall be observed in the development of the Industrial Estate. However, industrial projects to be located in the Industrial Estate snail be exempted from preparing and filing the Environmental Impact Statement required under Section 4 of Presidential Decree No. 1151.

SEC. 13. Owners of the lands or bonafide tenants thereof who may be dispossessed as a result of the acquisition of their lands by the Authority shall be resettled in appropriate housing sites which the Authority shall set aside for them.

SEC. 14. This Letter of Instruction shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, Metro Manila, Philippines, this 23rd day of November, in the Year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-nine.

(Sgd.) FERDINAND E. MARCOS
President of the Philippines

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