



PAMBANSANG KOMISYON PARA SA KULTURA AT MGA SINING

16 August 2018

NESTOR P. PASION

District Engineer

Ilocos Norte 1st District Engineering Office

Department of Public Works and Highways

Airport Avenue, Cavit, Laoag City, Ilocos Norte

Dear **Mr. Pasion**,

Greetings from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)!

We are writing in reference to the proposed widening of Barit Bridge along Bacarra Road in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte, a presumed Important Cultural Property (ICP) under Section 5 of R.A. 10066, the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009.

Last 15 August 2018 the NCCA-Technical Working Council (TWC), consisting of this Commission, the National Museum (NM), the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) convened a meeting and one of the agenda is the Barit Bridge. In consonance with this, we would like to formally inform you that the TWC is firm on its stand for the preservation of the said bridge and urge you to suspend your plans to incorporate additional traffic lanes. Moreover, we advise your good office to repair and retrofit the bridge by strengthening its walls or adding new columns as needed.

For further coordination you may direct all communications to the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP).

We hope for your compliance and coordination.

With assurance of our highest esteem and warmest regards.

Very truly yours,

VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO

National Artist

Chairman

Copy Furnished:

Dr. RENE ESCALANTE, *Chairman*, NHCP

JEREMY BARNES, *Director*, NM

Hon. MARIA IMELDA JOSEFA MARCOS, *Provincial Governor of Ilocos Norte*, Provincial Capitol, J.P. Rizal St., Laoag City

Hon. CHEVYLLE FARIÑAS, *City Mayor of Laoag*, Laoag City Hall, Aurora Park, Laoag City

Cong. ROLDOLFO FARIÑAS, *1st District Representative of Ilocos Norte*, House of Representative, Quezon City

Hon. MARK VILLAR, *Secretary*, DPWH, Bonifacio Dr., Port Area South Harbor, Manila