

RESOLUTION NO. 05-0501
May 28, 2001 – 306th Board Meeting
MORATORIUM ON DRILLING AND DIGGING OF NEW WELLS IN BORACAY
ISLAND

WHEREAS, based on the Study conducted by the University of San Carlos Water Resources Center in Boracay Island it was found out that available groundwater resources in the island is already exceeded by actual groundwater withdrawal by numerous shallow wells and dugwells;

WHEREAS, abnormal high content of chloride in groundwater samples taken indicates sea water contamination;

WHEREAS, bacteriological analysis shows that almost all water sources are contaminated with fecal pollution due to the existing on-site septic tank and waste water disposal system;

WHEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to impose a moratorium on the drilling and digging of new wells (shallow and dugwells) in Boracay Island, using the following guidelines:

1. All shallow wells/dugwells in the mid-section area of the island where the concentration of resorts, commercial establishments and residents are located shall be phased out gradually as soon as piped water system authorized by the government to operate and sell water is in placed. Likewise the area shall be declared as control area whereby NWRB shall issue a moratorium on the drilling or digging of new shallow and dugwells. This is necessary to protect freshwater reserve in the island, prevent encroachment of the sea water in the sandy aquifer.
2. In consideration of the plight of the poor residents living outside the critical area or control area existing shallow wells/dugwells commonly shared by the residents shall be allowed provided that such will be registered with NWRB.
3. For the maintenance of public health and for the sustainability of Boracay as tourist destination, the full implementation of the piped water system and provision of sewerage/waste water treatment plant/system is recommended in the high density population area.