

SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 71

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Introduced By Senator Loren Legarda

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE COAL SPILL INCIDENT IN BRGY. WAWA, NASUGBU, BATANGAS AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE ACTION**

*WHEREAS*, Article II Section 16 of the Constitution provides that, "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

*WHEREAS*, on July 14, at the height of Typhoon *Basyang*, a Manila-bound barge, loaded with 8,000 metric tons of coal, broke as it was being towed and drifted to the shallow waters of Brgy. Wawa, Nasugbu, Batangas, spilling 40% of its contents;

*WHEREAS*, the barge was towed due to overloading as its gross tonnage capacity was only 3,233 metric tons;

*WHEREAS*, this incident was preceded by several oil spills this year in Calatagan, Batangas; Rosario, Cavite; Bacolod City, Negros Occidental; and Poro Point, La Union;


*WHEREAS*, the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council of Batangas has been investigating the oil spill and has identified that the barge was owned by Indonesian firm, PT Transpower Marine;

*WHEREAS*, the residents of Nasugbu and its local officials have expressed concern on the possible impacts of the coal spill on Batangas Bay's marine life that could damage coral and sea grass areas;

*WHEREAS*, residents have expressed concern about the possible health implications of the coal spill, as well as its impact on their livelihoods as there is a risk of fish kills in the area due to the amount of carbon disposed within the waters of Batangas Bay which could block the PH level of the water;

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Committee on Public Services to conduct an immediate inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the coal spill incident in Brgy. Wawa, Nasugbu, Batangas and to recommend appropriate action.

Approved,



**LOREN LEGARDA**

Senator