

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 441



Introduced by
HON. LEOVIGILDO B. BANAAG (1st District, Agusan del Norte)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This is a refiled Bill from **H.B. 3613 during the Twelfth Congress**, filed on **October 22, 2001** by this Representation.

Potable, clean, and flowing water for domestic use is a basic problem in the upland and lowland areas in the western sections of Butuan City.

Due to the dearth of table water sources, these areas have been **potable water-deficient** since time immemorial. Besides, these areas could **not be effectively served** by the Butuan City Water District (BCWD), even in the near future, **due to prohibitive costs**, as the BCWD draws its water supply from the Northeasternmost area of Butuan City about 50 or more kilometers away.

Through all these years, however, an **existing potent surface water source remains untapped**.

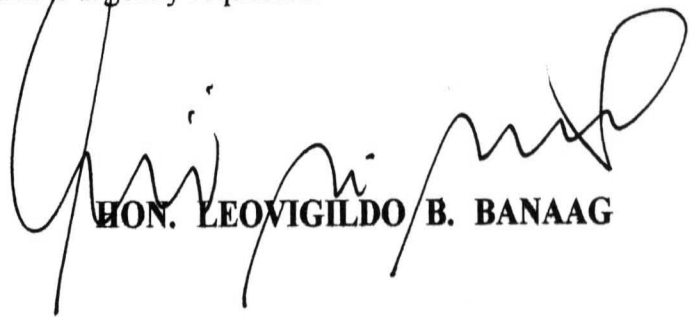
This is the **Manila de Bugabus River** situated in the uplands about 10 kilometers due South of Poblacion, Butuan City.

This river is a tributary of the mighty Pulangi River of Bukidnon Province. It has a winding length of 25 kilometers more or less, sourced from the common boundary of Agusan del Norte/ del Sur and Bukidnon, and empties into the Agusan River in Barangay Manila de Bugabus, Butuan City. This river has never dried up, and remains unaffected by the droughts brought by the El Niño phenomenon.

In May 2000, this Representation caused to be collected water samples derived from five sites of the river from source to mouth, and sought the assistance of the DOST and the LWUA which subjected these to a comprehensive laboratory analysis to ascertain its water quality along bacteriological, chemical, and physical parameters.

The DOST-ITDI analysis revealed that the quality of water of Bugabus River is **potable** though it has to undergo a series of treatment processes prior to its utilization as drinking water. Similarly, the LWUA found that all parameters based on its physical and chemical analysis are within the **permissible** levels of **Philippine National Standards for drinking water**. These findings are documented.

In view of the foregoing considerations, and in the interest of developing a Potable Water System that will improve the level of health, the living conditions, and the general well-being of thousands of people in Butuan City, approval of this Bill is urgently requested.



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HOUSE BILL No. _____

Introduced by **HON. LEOVIGILDO B. BANAAG**
1st District, Agusan del Norte

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POTABLE
WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN BARANGAY MANILA DE BUGABUS,
TO SERVE BARANGAYS MAON, VILLA KANANGA,
PANGABUGAN, SAN VICENTE, KINAMLUTAN, BONBON,
LIBERTAD, BANCASI, DUMALAGAN, PINAMANCULAN, BIT-OS,
NONGNONG, BITAN-AGAN, AMPARO, DULAG, MANILA DE
BUGABUS, M.J. SANTOS, TUNGAO, SAN MATEO, DANKIAS, AND
OTHER NEIGHBORING AREAS IN BUTUAN CITY, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:*

1 **SECTION 1.** There shall be established and maintained, a Potable
2 Waterworks System under the supervision of the Department of Public Works
3 and Highways, and the LWUA, based in Barangay Manila de Bugabus, to
4 serve Barangays Maon, Villa Kananga, Pangabugan, San Vicente,
5 Kinamlutan, Bonbon, Libertad, Bancasi, Dumalagan, Pinamanculan, Bit-Os,
6 Nongnong, Bitan-Agan, Amparo, Dulag, Manila De Bugabus, M.J. Santos,
7 Tungao, San Mateo, Dankias, And other neighboring areas in Butuan City;

8 **SECTION 2.** The DPWH and the LWUA upon completion of the
9 waterworks system shall turn-over the project to the City Government of

1 Butuan, which shall administer, operate, and maintain the waterworks system,
2 as an economic enterprise, and with the authority to formulate rules and
3 regulations, guidelines, and determine minimal water consumption rates for
4 each consumer.

5 **SECTION 3.** The initial amount of Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000.00)
6 or so much as may be necessary, shall be appropriated for the implementation
7 of this Act which shall be charged to the Appropriations of the DPWH under
8 the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter the amount as may be necessary
9 for the operation and maintenance of the waterworks system shall be included
10 in the annual budget of the City of Butuan.

11 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,