



Government of Antigua and Barbuda

Cabinet Secretariat

Office of the Prime Minister

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Our Ref: C.S. 4/2

Yida Zhang
Crabbs Peninsular
St. Peter's
Antigua

Dear Sir,

Yida Development Plan and Authorization to Grant Permission to Facilitate Yida Development

During its deliberation on the captioned matter the Cabinet recognized and agreed that all physical development within the national territory of Antigua and Barbuda shall be done in an environmentally sustainable and responsible way.

Cabinet also recognized that in exceptional circumstances, there may be an unavoidable need to modify some aspects of the natural environment to facilitate development.

Cabinet discussed and agreed that all development within the country must be monitored by the responsible agencies of government to ensure that they are executed not only within the confines of the law but in the interest of preserving and enhancing the natural environment.

Cabinet also noted that in considering whether development projects in environmentally sensitive areas should be approved, the environmental impact must be measured against the economic benefits as well as clearly defined mitigation plans and strategies.

Cabinet further noted that the YIDA Group has met the legal requirements for the submission of environmental impact studies in relation to the development of the Crabbs Peninsula.

Following extensive discussions, Cabinet endorsed the resubmitted design and plan for the Yida Group's development of the Crabbs Peninsula and agreed that the Ministers of Health and the Environment and Fisheries should take immediate steps to facilitate the development to take place under the strict supervision of the Environment and Fisheries Divisions and other relevant government authorities to ensure that any adverse impact on the environment is minimized; that the ecosystem is not only preserved but enhanced; and that building codes and other laws of Antigua and Barbuda are observed and enforced.

Cabinet further agreed that YIDA Group's development of the Crabbs Peninsula proceeds, subject to the following conditions:

- The project is monitored by the Environment and Fisheries Division.
- That the YIDA group agrees to preserve and enhance ecosystem of the area (North East Marine Zone, including mangroves to facilitate sustainable development of the area).

- That the YIDA Development must include the use of alternate/green energy sources for the development.
- YIDA Development shall be responsible for the improved water flow and aeration of water sources within the ecosystem (including protection of fish stocks and breeding grounds).
- YIDA shall maintain at least 52 acres as a mangrove preserve and nursery.

Having considered and accepted the recommendations from the Chief Environment Officer, Cabinet agreed to authorize the Minister responsible for the Environment to grant permission (ex post facto) for the YIDA Group to alter wetlands in the Crabbs Peninsula area.

All alterations shall be subject to the supervision of the Environment and Fisheries Divisions.

Cabinet also authorized the Minister responsible for Fisheries to exercise the powers granted under Section 53 (3) of the Fisheries Act Cap 22 of 2006 to grant permission to the YIDA Group to make specific but limited alteration to the marine reserves within the development in the area of the Crabbs Peninsula.

All alterations shall be subject to the supervision of the Environment and Fisheries Divisions.

For your necessary information and appropriate action.

Sincerely,



Secretary to the Cabinet