A. Social and Environmental Assessment

2.1 Social Safeguard Aspects

2.1.1 Project Beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries of the project are the farmers of the influence areas of S an Isidro, Villafranca and Villaflor. With the project, agricultural products can now be easily transported to the market with minimal loss and lower transportation cost.

Other to benefit the project directly are the school children of the San Isidro Elementary School. There are at present 612 elementary school going age population in the barangay and are all in school. Approximately 50 % of this elementary school going age population travel through this road to school.

The existing dirt road that leads to the existing Elementary School used to be flooded to a maximum of 0.30 meters during the months of November up to the months of January and February. School children used to wade through floodwaters and are also in danger of contacting schistosomiasis since the area was declared a **schisto** endemic area by the DOH.

The proposed road will have a concrete pavement of approximately 400 m.starting from sta. 00.000 to sta. 00.400 meters up to the Barangay Elementary School and will be at an elevation that cannot be submerged by floodwaters during rainy days.

6.1.2 Indigenous Cultural Community/Indigenous Peoples (ICC/IP)

There are no Cultural community or indigenous people living within the influence area and since the project area is within the alienable and disposable lands (A & D) and no existing application for certificate of ancestral domain claim (CADC) nor certificate of ancestral domain title (CADT) no Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) is necessary and not covered by section 59 of RA 8371 otherwise known as IPRA Law of 1997.

6.1.3 Site and Right of Way Acquisition

After the project was identified and proposed for funding, farmers in the influence area whose farms can be affected during construction were identified and made to execute an affidavit of Road Right of Way. (Road Right of Way Agreement attached as Annex).

6.1.4 Damage to standing crops, houses and/or properties

Coconuts are the only standing crops that can be affected by this project and a portion of the perimeter fence of the San Isidro Elementary School will be demolished.

6.1.5 Project Affected Persons (PAP)

There are no persons who would be affected during the implementation of the sub-project. The project site is free from anyone who could cause delay because of displacement.

6.2 Project Social Impact

The project aims to increase farmers' income by reducing cost of transportation of both farm products outputs, inputs and commuters and also reduce travel time. It will improve road condition even in rainy days. Reduce spoilage of marketable farm products. It will also increases economic activities and provide better access to social services, provide safe and dry access for the school children and reduce the risk of schistosomiasis.

When this project will be implemented, access to other services will be improved. It will also increase land value and real property taxes and fees will also increase accordingly.

B. Environmental Safeguard Aspects

7.1 Natural Habitat

The road proposed for concreting is within and traverses an agricultural land where no known wildlife, water ecosystem and endangered important species are present. The only vegetation present are shrubs and coconuts.

7.2 Physical Cultural Resources

The project site is free from any structures of physical cultural resources.

7.3 Terrain, Soil Types and Rainfall

The area is totally flat with a combination of silt clay and river wash type of soil suitable for rice, corn and coconut crops. There is no threat of erosion since the area is flat but the area is prone to flooding during rainy moths of November to March of the following year.

7.4 Impacts during Construction

Soil Erosion

Temporary sedimentation of natural drainage ways, concentrated outflows from drains.

Mitigations:

- Careful planning of cut & fill of earth surfaces
    - Placement of adequate drain outlets and turn outs.
    - Lining of receiving surface of outflow drains stones and/or concrete
    - Re use of cut soil for backfilling and other land leveling activities
    - Seeding and planting of erodible surfaces

Vegetation

There is an existing earth road in the projects site and it crosses on both sidesriceland and cocoland. There are no vegetation existing rather than grasses and shrubs.

Solid Waste

Improper disposal of construction waste materials, workers garbage and construction toilet.

Mitigations:

- Efficient housekeeping practices
- Proper collection and disposal of waste

Noise

Short-term in nature, noise generation may be at its peak during certain phases.

Mitigating measures:

- Intermittent use of heavy equipment;

Landscape

Scarred from road cuts, erosion, etc.

Mitigations:

- Maintenance and restoration of roadside vegetation;
- Construction spoils and other waste materials properly disposed

Siltation

Stock files of soil and rock could be eroded during heavy rains and silt up creeks and streams.

Mitigations:

- Susceptible soil surfaces should be protected with sandbags at segments near waterways to serve as soil barriers.

Accidents

Workers are potentially exposed to work related hazards such as falls, tripping, slippages that may result to injuries and even loss of life.

Mitigating measures:

- Sealing-off of construction site;
- Placement of **WARNING** signboards;
- Use of protective equipment by laborers.

Responsible Unit

The LGU of Gigaquit which is the implementing unit is also responsible that all the mitigating measures should be properly implemented and monitored
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Status of ECC application, tree cutting permit

This application has yet to be filed at the Environment and Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Philippine Coconut Authority for permit on the cutting of coconut trees.

Previous Farm to Market Road Project with the same complexity of the proposed sub-project implemented by the LGU has secured with Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) by the