

SECOND DIVISION

[G.R. NO. 150454, July 14, 2006]

**GSP MANUFACTURING CORPORATION AND CHARO APACIBLE,
PETITIONERS, VS. PAULINA CABANBAN, RESPONDENT.**

DECISION

CORONA, J.:

This is a petition for review on certiorari from a decision^[1] and a resolution^[2] of the Court of Appeals.

In brief, the facts of the case follow.^[3]

Respondent Paulina Cabanban worked with petitioner GSP Manufacturing Corporation (GSP) as a sewer from February 7, 1985 until her alleged termination on March 1, 1992.

On June 16, 1992, respondent filed with the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC), National Capital Region Arbitration Branch, a complaint against petitioners for illegal dismissal, non-payment of holiday pay, service incentive leave pay and 13th month pay.

Respondent claimed she was terminated by petitioners because she failed to dissuade her daughter from continuing her employment at the Sylvia Santos Company, a business competitor of petitioners.

In their defense, petitioners argued that respondent abandoned her work on March 14, 1992 and that they reported this to the Department of Labor and Employment on May 15, 1992.

On May 7, 1993, labor arbiter Melquiades Sol D. del Rosario found petitioners guilty of illegal dismissal. Petitioners appealed to the NLRC.

On August 10, 1995, the NLRC issued a resolution affirming *in toto* the decision of the labor arbiter. Hence, this petition.

Petitioners vigorously assail the findings of fact of the Court of Appeals which affirmed those of the labor arbiter. They claim that these findings, based solely on statements made by respondent in the affidavit attached to her position paper, were arrived at arbitrarily.

The petition is without merit.

As petitioners are well aware of, factual findings of the NLRC, particularly when they are in agreement with those of the labor arbiter, are deemed binding and conclusive