



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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**MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY**

**TO :** All Regional Executive Directors,  
PENROs and CENROs

**SUBJECT :** SUSPENSION ON THE ISSUANCE OF  
WOOD RECOVERY PERMITS

**DATE :** MAY 07 2003

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It has come to the attention of management and through various reliable reports that abuses have been committed in the issuance of the Wood Recovery Permit(s) per DAO No. 2000-78 dated 07 November 2000.

This practice must be stopped as it destroys the credibility of DENR as an institution mandated to protect and manage our environment and natural resources. Moreover, the practice has effectively served as a convenient cover or front for illegal logging activities that contributed significantly to the further diminution of our existing forest cover.

Until further notice and after a comprehensive review and assessment to be conducted on the matter, **all new issuance of Wood Recovery Permit(s) are hereby suspended indefinitely.** For those permits issued prior to this suspension, the appropriate issuing authority shall conduct and validate the remaining volume to be disposed and subject to the clearance of the undersigned. Likewise, you are further instructed **to submit to the Forest Management Bureau through the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations, list and copies of all Wood Recovery Permits issued during the last five years, i.e. from 1998 to 2002.**

As a matter of policy and applying the principle of command responsibility, the respective Regional Executive Directors shall be deemed responsible and accountable for any violation of this instruction. For permits issued to Local Government Units (LGUs) with remaining volume to be disposed, appropriate coordination must be done in order not to jeopardize public infrastructure projects.

For your information and strict compliance.

  
**ELISEA (BEBET) G. GOZUN** 