



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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DEC 03 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO : All Regional Executive Directors
Regions 1 to 13, CAR and NCR

FROM : The Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment

SUBJECT : **PROCESSING OF SPECIAL USE AGREEMENT IN PROTECTED AREAS (SAPA)**

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11234 or "An Act Establishing the Energy Virtual One-Shop (EVOSS) for the Purpose of Streamlining the Permitting Process of Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Projects" and its Implementing Rules and Regulations giving the DENR including the Central Office, Bureaus, attached agencies and field offices a combined One Hundred Twenty (120) days' timeframe for the processing and issuance of permits including tenurial instruments, all Regional Offices, PENROs, CENROs and PAMOs are hereby advised of the following:

- 1) The processing of SAPA applications, regardless of the nature of project, should be given utmost priority to ensure that necessary clearances and permits are issued on time and to ensure that needed safety measures are already in place before projects are started;
- 2) Pending submission of the ECC and Rehabilitation plan, all SAPA applications involving Energy Projects of National Significance (EPNS) as certified by the Department of Energy (DOE) should be processed right away, provided that all the requirements prescribed under DAO 2007-17 or the Rules and Regulations Governing SAPA, and the NIPAS Act, as amended and its IRR are submitted. Only applications with complete requirements should be accepted for processing. Submissions with incomplete requirements should be returned to the proponent at once;
- 3) The ECC and the Rehabilitation Plan should be submitted within 30 days after the issuance of SAPA, but before the commencement of project development. This should be included in the terms and conditions of the SAPA;
- 4) The PAMO through the PASus should extend technical assistance and facilitate the processing of SAPA applications by closely coordinating with project proponents.

FOR YOUR GUIDANCE AND COMPLIANCE.


ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, CESO I

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