

DENR MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 04

SUBJECT: Partial Log and Lumber Transport Ban From the Province of Aurora and Portion of Nueva Ecija and its Environs and Prescribing Guidelines for its Implementation.

Pursuant to the provisions of PD 705 as amended and in consonance with the present thrusts of the Department to conserve the remaining forest resources and curtail illegal cutting and transport of logs, lumber and other forest products from the Province of Aurora, and in order to prevent further deterioration of the national and provincial roads, the following guidelines and regulations are hereby ordered:

1. The transport of logs, lumber, slabs and all other forest products going out of Aurora using the San Luis-Bongabon road passing across the Aurora National Park through Sitio Villa to Bongabon, Nueva Ecija via Barangay Antipolo and the Dingalan-Bongabon-Palayan City road passing through the Municipality of Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija, north of Fort Magsaysay Military Reservation via Barangay Pinto is hereby prohibited. Henceforth, all legitimate TLA holders, permittees and wood processors in the Province of Aurora are only allowed to ship out forest products through the sea. Any shipment of forest products along the above prohibited roads going out of Aurora shall be construed as illegal and therefore, subject for confiscation without prejudice to the filing of appropriate criminal charges against the violators.
2. All timber licensees, permittees and wood processors in Aurora are hereby instructed to specify and register designated loading points along the shoreline with the PENRO of Aurora thru the CENRO concerned. No other loading points shall be allowed unless registered within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this order.
3. The following implementing strategies shall be strictly followed in the monitoring of forest products going out of Aurora.
 - 3.1 The PENRO of Nueva Ecija shall set up Forest Product Check Points on secured sites near the border of Aurora and Nueva Ecija along the banned roads to confiscate all forest products shipped out of the province and file criminal charges against violators. The establishment of check points shall be coordinated with the Military authorities with jurisdiction over the area for necessary support.
 - 3.2 The PENRO of Aurora, together with the Office of the Governor shall organize a Roving Team and periodically check on traffic of forest products along the banned roads.

- 3.3 A Forest Product Monitoring Team shall be created by the Regional Executive Director DENR Region IV on each loading points specified and registered by the TLA holders, permittees and wood processors to be manned 24 hours a day to check on all forest products being shipped out, including proper documentation and scaling. Destination shall also indicate the specific unloading point of said forest products.

Each Forest Product Monitoring Team shall be composed of the following:

- 3.3.1 Two (2) technical men from the PENRO/CENRO concerned;
- 3.3.2 One (1) from the industry representing the timber licensees and wood processors and one (1) from the Office of the Governor concerned.

The Forest Monitoring Teams shall enlist the support of military and/or other civilian authorities, whenever necessary.

- 3.4 The Regional Executive Director of DENR Region IV, in coordination with the Philippine Navy and/or Coast Guards shall set up a sea-based monitoring team to check and monitor movement of forest products from Casiguran Aurora to the farthest unloading points in Quezon Province.
- 3.5 Similarly, the Regional Executive Director of DENR Region IV shall also organize counterpart Forest Product Monitoring Teams in each of the designated unloading points in Quezon Province. Said teams shall be responsible to check on unloaded forest products and issue trans-shipment documents to the final destinations. Composition of said teams shall be the same as in Aurora. The Teams are also to enlist the support of military personnel whenever necessary.
- 3.6 Communications facilities such as Handheld VHF Radio including such other facilities as Repeater Station shall, when necessary, be provided and established for operations.
- 3.7 The PENRO concerned shall be required to immediately disseminate the Order by producing information leaflets for distribution to wood processors, haulers, truck drivers, TLA holders and other entities to be affected by this Order.
4. In order to come up with synchronized and coordinated monitoring activities, the teams created in this Order shall report to the PENRO concerned who shall be responsible to the Regional Technical Director for Forestry, DENR Region IV, who is hereby designated Special Coordinator for the project.

The RTD for Forestry shall likewise be responsible to his Regional Executive Director, but shall also report to the Assistant Secretary for Regional Operations, Luzon every two (2) weeks starting this operation.

5. The implementation of this Order shall be closely coordinated with the Local Government Units (LGUs) concerned, and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) directly working or supporting the operation.
6. Any TLA holder, permittee and wood processor found handling or in possession of illegally-sourced forest products shall be closed, their license/permit cancelled. Conveyances used in the shipment of illegal forest products shall be confiscated in favor of the government.
7. This Order takes effect fifteen (15) days from the date of this Order.

SO ORDERED.

09 May 1989

FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR.
Secretary

Signed on May 16, 1989