

**Administrative Order  
No. 17  
April 27, 1992**

**SUBJECT : Conduct and Submission of Aerial  
Photography by Holders of Timber Licence  
Agreements and the Different Programs and  
Projects of the DENR.**

In the interest of the service and in order to effect coordination, standardization, and efficiency among 1) several aerial photographic programs and projects of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other agencies of the Government of the Philippines and 2) the specific requirement that existing holders of Timber License Agreements (TLA) or Timber Production Sharing Agreements (TPSA) submit aerial photography or satellite data as requirements for the continuance of the TLAs or TPSA, the following guidelines are hereby promulgated:

**Sec. 1.** In order to establish a true and reliable picture of the vegetative cover of the areas covered by existing Timber License Agreements (TLA) and as an additional requirement for the continuance of each TLA, a complete aerial photographic coverage of the license area shall be submitted by holders of such license agreement to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) not later than 31 May 1992 and every five (5) years thereafter. Map controlled photographic mosaics of the TLA and/or TPSA area shall be submitted not more than 30 days later. Holders of Timber Production Sharing Agreements (TPSA) which may hereafter be issued shall likewise submit aerial photographs of the entire area covered by the TPSA within five (5) years from the date of the grant of the agreement and every five (5) years thereafter. After the first submission which shall be aerial photographs as hereinafter specified, each TLA/TPSA holder may opt to submit in lieu of aerial photographs Landsat TM or SPOT images taken not more than six (6) months prior to the date of submission showing the complete area covered by the agreement in transparency and corresponding computer compatible tape. The licensee's option shall be registered with the Standards and Acceptance Committee which is established below and may only be changed after six (6) years.

**Sec. 2.** The following are the technical requirement for the required aerial photography and controlled photographic mosaics required under this Order:

- 2.1 The aerial photographs shall have an average scale of 1:25,000 with a maximum deviation of + 20 percent allowance for flying hazards for the plane and crew;
- 2.2 Panchromatic black and white aerial photographic films shall be used for all photography;

- 2.3 Aerial photographs shall be contact printed on 23 cm by 23 cm (9 inches by 9 inches) single weight paper with semi-matte finish;
- 2.4 Aerial prints shall have an average forelap of 60 percent and sidelap of 30 percent. The minimum sidelap is 15 percent and maximum sidelap is 40 percent.
- 2.5 Aerial photographs shall be free from cloud cover except that a maximum cloud cover of ten (10) percent of the area of a photographic frame may be allowed provided that no cloud cover shall be located within the center coverage of the photographic frame;
- 2.6 Camera tilt and tip shall be kept to a minimum and not case shall exceed two (2) percent;
- 2.7 Flight crabbing or deviation from the prescribed flight direction shall not exceed five (5) percent;
- 2.8 Aerial photography shall be taken between 10:00 and 15:00 to avoid long and obscuring shadows of mountain peaks and ridges; and
- 2.9 Photographic mosaics shall be made by matching the center areas of the prints of the photographs so the images form a continuous representation of what is pictured and shall be controlled by reference to points and coordinates found on the 1:50,000 scale topographic maps of the country.

**Sec. 3.** The Philippine Wood Products Association (PWPA) is made the coordinating body for all TLA and TPSA holders of record on the effective date of this Order and those that may be granted TPSA license agreements thereafter. The officers of the PWPA shall allocate to the holders of TLA and TPSA on an area basis or such other equitable basis determined by the said officers, the total cost of the production of the required aerial photographs and photographic mosaics including costs for aerial photo interpretation and mapping. PWPA may secure the services of competent consulting services in order to obtain those photographs and photographic mosaics that will meet the standards set forth above.

**Sec. 4.** There is created within DENR a Standards and Acceptance Committee. The committee shall ensure compliance by TLA and TPSA licensees, coordinate the taking and use of the initial aerial photographs and photographic mosaics by various DENR programs, bureaus, and offices. The members of the Standards and Acceptance Committee shall consist of the following:

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| a. | Undersecretary for Field Operations               | - | Chairman |
| b. | Undersecretary for Resource Management            | - | Vice Ch. |
| c. | Director, Forest Management Bureau                | - | Member   |
| d. | Director, Protected Area & Wildlife Bu.           | - | Member   |
| e. | Director, Remote Sensing & Resource Data Analysis | - | Member   |

The Chairman, as deemed necessary, may invite the Director of the Soil and Water Conservation Bureau of the Department of Agriculture to sit in the committee.

The Committee shall, by majority vote, accept or reject aerial photographs and/or photographic mosaics submitted by license holders in compliance with this Order, and determine the acceptability of remotely sensed images in lieu of aerial photographs.

**Sec. 5.** All programs and projects of DENR or other agencies of the Government of the Philippines with an interest in obtaining and using aerial photographs of the scale and resolution required from the holders of TLA and or TPSA are invited to contribute technical and financial resources so as to obtain maximum efficiencies to scale whenever the aerial photographic missions are flown.

**Sec. 6.** Non-submission of the required aerial photographs/satellite images within the periods shall be valid cause for the suspension of the TLA and/or TPSA.

**Sec. 7.** Forestry Administrative Order No. 11-1, Series of 1990, DAO 69 and 88, both series of 1990, all Orders, Circulars, or directives inconsistent with this Order are hereby revoked or amended accordingly.

**Sec. 8.** This Order shall take effect immediately.

**FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR.**  
**Secretary**