

DENR Memorandum Circular
No. 29
May 31, 1994

SUBJECT : Applicable Air Quality Standards to All Existing Geothermal and Thermal Electric Power Generating Projects.

Pending rationalization of emission standards and to ensure a balance between environment and development concerns, it is hereby ordered that:

All existing geothermal and thermal power generating projects will only be required to comply with National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Source Specific Air Pollutants from Industrial Sources/Operations as detailed in Table 4, Section 62 of DENR Administrative Order No. 14, Series of 1993, subject to the following conditions:

1. The power plant is located in a non-urban area;
2. The management of the project shall (a) within 30 days commence the conduct of studies on plume dispersion of its emissions, applying appropriate models to pinpoint theoretical maximum ground level concentration sites for ambient air sampling purposes and to determine appropriate buffer zones; and (b) verify such selected sites through actual ambient air sampling activities in coordination with the DENR within a period of one year upon the approval of the plume dispersion studies by the DENR;
3. The management shall provide automatic air sampling instruments for specific air pollutants which shall be determined by the DENR. These instruments shall be installed and operated continuously in at least two (2) verified sampling sites selected by the DENR;

4. The DENR may conduct inspection and quality assurance test on the air sampling activities anytime; and
5. Compliance monitoring shall commence after approval by the DENR of the monitoring program prepared by project management based on the air quality validation studies. Air sampling results shall be sent to the DENR every month. Should the ambient standards be exceeded as verified by DENR, the project's management shall immediately institute measures to reduce emissions such that ambient standards are met.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

ANGEL C. ALCALA
Secretary