

**DENR Administrative Order
No. 96-38
December 13, 1996**

**SUBJECT : Renaming/ Redefinition of
Functions of Some Divisions/Units
of the Environmental Management
Bureau (EMB)**

In the interest of the service and consistent with the Department's urgent concern to upgrade the EIA-ECC process, the EMB's Legal Division is hereby renamed as **Environmental Impact Assessment Division** and its functions correspondingly redefined.

The new EIA Division shall be headed by a designated Division chief (full-fledged or OIC) and consist of three (3) sections, namely: (a) Energy and Industry Section; (b) Infrastructure Section; and (c) Resource Extraction Section. Each section shall consist of a Section Chief, a Records and Documentation Officer and not more than seven (7) Review Officers.

The EIA Division shall be primarily responsible for the management and coordination of the EIA review process. It shall also receive all applications for Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) and keep all records/documentation pertaining to the EIA-ECC process. The EIA Division shall conduct preliminary review of all ECC applications and, depending on its capability and available competencies, may conduct the complete/full review of the same. It shall also initiate the drafting of all ECC's for issuance by the Secretary.

In addition to the regional/filed offices monitoring activities, monitoring of ECC compliance shall be primarily performed by the

Environmental Quality Division, with assistance from the EIA and other EMB Divisions, whenever necessary.

The EMB Director is hereby authorized to designate the personnel of the EIA Division and define their respective detailed functions, upon proper consultation with the Undersecretary for Environment and Programs Development. He may also hire consultants and constitute a Review Committee whenever necessary and solicit personnel assistance from other DENR Offices particularly the Regional Offices through the Undersecretary for Field Operations, which are hereby instructed to provide necessary assistance for this purpose.

The personnel of the former Legal Division who may not be absorbed in the new EIA Division shall report directly to the Director to constitute the Office of the Director's Legal Staff without diminution of salary, rank and benefits including RATA, if any. The specific tasks and functions of the Legal Staff shall be determined/defined by the EMB Director.

The designated Chief of the EIA Division, if he/she is a full-fledged Division Chief, shall continue to receive his/her corresponding RATA. This Order though shall not cause an increase in the budget and personnel of EMB.

This Order however shall not preclude action on the Department's pending appeal with the Office of the President/DBM for additional budget and personnel for the creation of EIA divisions both in the central and regional offices.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall supersede/amend all Orders inconsistent herewith.

VICTOR O. RAMOS
Secretary