



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel Nos. (632) 929-66-26 to 29 • (632) 929-62-52
929-66-20 • 929-66-33 to 35
929-70-41 to 43

SEP 12 2003

DENR Memorandum Order

No. 2003 - 09

SUBJECT : Recognizing the Tree for Legacy Program in Nueva Vizcaya and Authorizing the Concerned DENR Regional Field Officials to Issue Appropriate Permits for the Harvesting, Cutting and Transport of Products Under the Program

Pursuant to DENR-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular Nos. 98-01 and 2003-01, the "Tree for Legacy Program" is hereby adopted in Nueva Vizcaya under the partnership of the provincial government and the local DENR.

This "Tree for Legacy Program" is a pilot undertaking between the DENR and Provincial LGU of Nueva Vizcaya to explore the various modes of devolution of forestry functions. As such, it shall be covered by the policies stated herein.

Section 1. Mechanism for Implementation

Under the "Tree for Legacy Program," citizens are mobilized to support the tree planting program of the government by giving them specific areas in the forest lands to plant. Landowners are also encouraged to participate by planting their private lands with tree species. The management and protection of the trees planted are the responsibilities of the tree planters.

In return, these tree planters are given "Certificate of Tree Ownership" or "certificate of usufruct" duly registered with the PENRO Office, Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office (ENRO) and Assessors Office. At the proper time, these tree planters will be allowed to cut and transport their forest products, in the case of the "tree owners" or to enjoy the fruits of their plantations, in the case of those with usufructuary rights. Moreover, these certificates are transferable subject to the rules and regulations to be promulgated by the DENR.

To encourage greater participation in the "Tree for Legacy", the DENR Regional Executive Director of Region 2 is hereby ordered to facilitate the transfer of these certificates to qualified transferees, and granting of the cutting and transport permits in the case of those with "Certificates of Tree Ownership" or harvesting permits in the case of those with "Certificate of Usufruct" as well as assist in the transfer of these certificates to qualified transferees.

Let's Go Green

Sec. 2. Harvesting Permits for those with Certificates of Usufruct

Those with Certificate of Usufruct shall immediately be given the permit to harvest the fruits and the by-products thereof, provided there is no cutting of trees that will be involved. In case of silvicultural treatments, the owner or transferee shall first get the necessary permit to cut and transport from the DENR upon the recommendation of the Provincial ENRO.

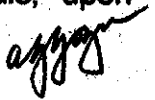
The cutting permit shall be issued by the CENRO upon the recommendation of the Provincial Government ENRO.

Sec. 3. Permit to Cut and Transport for Tree with Certificates of Tree Ownership

Those with Certificate of Tree Ownership shall be given permit to cut and transport upon compliance with the following:

- a. The applicant for the cutting and transport permit is a bonafide participant or transferee under the "Tree for Legacy Program" as shown by proper documents, including the Certificates of Tree Ownership;
- b. The applicant has not violated any of the terms and conditions of the program, nor other forestry laws, rules and regulations;
- c. The tree being applied to be cut and transported is already harvestable, and the area where the trees will be cut is not among those areas where cutting of trees is prohibited;
- d. A one hundred percent inventory has been made prior to the cutting;
- e. In case the cutting will be done in forest lands, an undertaking that the applicant will plant the same number or more seedlings as the trees cut, and that said applicant will likewise care, protect and maintain said seedlings, except where the coppice method of harvesting is used;
- f. In all cases of cutting in production forest lands, the tree planter or transferee shall be allowed to cut the tree in the most appropriate sustainable silvicultural system, provided that, identified mother trees shall not be cut.

The cutting and transport permits shall be issued by the proper DENR Officer duly authorized in accordance with the DENR Manual of Approvals, upon recommendation of the Provincial Government ENRO.



Sec. 4. Creation of Joint DENR-LGU-NGO Verification Teams

The DENR and the LGU at the barangay, municipal and provincial levels together with non-government organizations shall create joint teams to undertake the necessary survey, inventory, verification and other activities to assist the applicants to the program.

Sec. 5. Full Documentation

The DENR Regional Executive Director, in coordination with the LGUs of Nueva Vizcaya is directed to provide full documentation of the program so as to capture the strengths, weaknesses and lessons learned. Said documentation shall be submitted to the office of the Secretary and the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) annually.

Sec. 6. Preparation of Control Maps and Check List

Meanwhile that the Forest Land Use Plans of the different municipalities of Nueva Vizcaya have not yet been completed, the PENRO and CENRO Offices in coordination with the Provincial and Municipal ENROs shall prepare control maps to identify the planting steps of the participants to the program, and to ensure that no cutting permits are granted in areas where cutting is prohibited.

The PENR and CENR Offices in coordination with the LGU ENROs shall likewise prepare a simplified checklist of requirements prior to the issuance of harvest, cutting and transport permits to assist the participants to the program.

Sec. 7. Issuance of Supplemental Guidelines

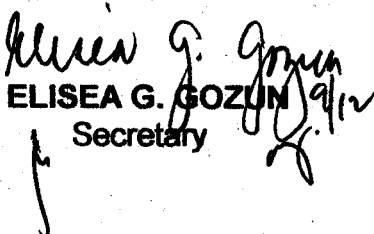
The Regional Executive Director shall issue supplementary guidelines pertaining but not limited to the transfer of tree ownership, silvicultural systems to be used, and IEE checklist to be used as a planning tool in compliance with DAO 96-37.

Sec. 8. Repealing Clause

All previous issuances inconsistent with this Order are deemed revoked or modified accordingly.

Section. 9 Effectivity

This Order shall take effect immediately.


ELISEA G. GOZUN
Secretary