



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN



MAR 19 2026

DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2026 - 22

SUBJECT : AMENDING SECTIONS 16.1 AND 16.3 OF DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER (DAO) NO. 2017-15, GUIDELINES ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UNDER THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) SYSTEM

Consistent with the continuing efforts of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to strengthen the implementation of the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System (PEISS) under Presidential Decree No. 1586, and in recognition of the increasing and compounding impacts of climate change on environmental systems and communities, as well as the critical role of meaningful public participation in promoting transparency and multi-sectoral engagement in the monitoring of project in compliance with Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) conditions and the implementation of Environmental Management Plan (EMP) commitments, Sections 16.1 and 16.3 of the DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2017-15, entitled "Guidelines on Public Participation under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System," is hereby amended to read as follows:

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16.1 *Multipartite Monitoring Teams (MMTs) shall be required for all Environmentally Critical Projects (ECPs) and for selected Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)-based Non-Environmentally Critical Projects (Non-ECPs) that, due to their nature, scale, location, or operations, have the potential of significantly affecting the environment or adversely affected by climate change, specifically, greenhouse gas emissions, resource-intensive processes, land-use change, and increased community and environmental vulnerability to climate-related hazards.*

For the purpose of this Section, the following EIS-based Non-ECPs¹ shall be considered Priority Projects and shall require the establishment of an MMT:

A. Heavy Industries

1. *Petroleum and Petrochemical Industries*
 - a. *Petrochemical or petroleum-based projects*
 - b. *Refineries*

¹ Project Categorization was based on Presidential Proclamation No. 2146, series of 1981 and EMB Memorandum Circular 2014-005



B. Resource Extractive Industries

1. Mining and Quarrying Projects
2. Coal mining project
3. Livestock Animal Industries
 - a. Livestock/piggery Projects
 - b. Livestock/poultry Projects

C. Infrastructure Projects

1. Flood Control Projects
2. Dam Projects
3. Power Plants
 - a. Gas-fired thermal power plants
 - b. Other Thermal Power Plants (e.g. coal, diesel, bunker, etc.)
4. Waste to Energy Projects
5. Reclamation and Other Land Restoration Projects
6. Road Projects (Length with Critical Slopes)
 - a. Roads, new construction
 - b. Roads, widening rehabilitation and/or improvement
7. Subdivision and other housing projects in areas with critical slopes
8. Waste Management Projects
 - a. Sanitary Landfill for industrial and other wastes
 - b. Sanitary landfill for domestic wastes only

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16.3 The composition of MMT for both ECP and Priority Projects listed under 16.1 shall be composed of the following members:

1. LGU Representatives
 - a. Municipal/City Environmental and Natural Resources Officer (MENRO)/ City ENRO or Provincial Government ENRO for projects whose direct impact area covers more than two (2) Municipalities. In case where there is no PG ENRO, MENRO/ City ENRO, the Municipal/Provincial Planning and Development Officer (MPDO/PPDO) or the Chairman of the Sangguniang Bayan may be designated as representative to the MMT;
 - b. The Rural Health Unit Chief; and
 - c. Concerned Barangay Captain
2. One (1) representative from the LGU - accredited local NGOs with mission/s specifically related to environmental management and one (1) representative from the academe may be included as member in addition to the LGU-accredited NGO.
3. Two (2) representatives from locally-recognized community leaders who can represent vulnerable sectors i.e. including indigenous people, women, and senior citizen.

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4. *Maximum of three (3) representatives from government agencies with a related mandate on the type of project and impacts during implementation.*
5. *DENR – Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (DENR – CENRO) or the DENR - Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (DENR - PENRO) if the project is located within the jurisdiction of two (2) or more CENROs.*

The MMT shall not exceed eleven (11) members except in cases where the location of project facilities covers more than one (1) Barangay. For mining projects, the foregoing members shall complement the MMT composition prescribed under DAO 2010-21².

EIS-based Non-ECPs identified as Priority Projects under Section 16.1 that have already been issued Environmental Compliance Certificates (ECCs) shall automatically incorporate the following additional condition into their respective ECCs, which shall take effect fifteen (15) calendar days after the approval of this Order:

The Project Proponent shall submit to the concerned EMB Regional Office within thirty (30) calendar days, for review and approval, an EMB-prescribed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the establishment and operationalization of its Multipartite Monitoring Team (MMT), consistent with DAO No. 2017-15, DAO No. 2003-30, and their subsequent amendments. The MOA shall include the establishment and maintenance of the following funds:

1. *Environmental Monitoring Fund (EMF) — a replenishable fund to be established by the Project Proponent to finance the operational expenses of the MMT and support the conduct of its monitoring activities, including but not limited to capability-building activities, meetings, and documentation necessary for the effective monitoring of compliance with ECC conditions and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP);*
2. *Environmental Guarantee Fund (EGF) — a readily available and replenishable fund intended to cover damages to life, health, property, and the environment arising from project implementation, including expenses for emergency response, rehabilitation, and restoration of affected areas, and such other environmental management measures as may be necessary in accordance with DAO No. 2003-30.*

The amount, allocation, and operational mechanisms of the EMF and EGF, including fund management and replenishment arrangements, shall be determined by the Project Proponent in consultation with, and subject to approval by, the concerned EMB Regional Office,

² Providing for a Consolidated Department of Environment and Natural Resources Administrative Order for Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7942, otherwise known as the "Philippine Mining Act of 1995"

DENR Administrative Order
Amending Sections 16.1 and 16.3 of
DAO No. 2017-15, Guidelines on Public Participation under
the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System

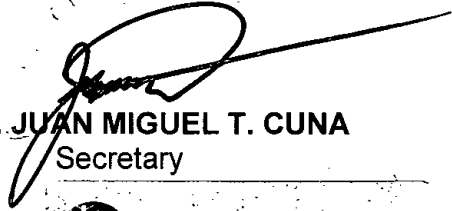
*consistent with existing Philippines Environmental Impact System
guidelines.*

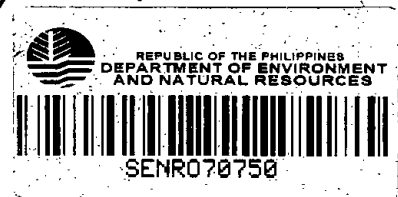
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The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) shall continue to undertake regular compliance monitoring in accordance with the conditions of the ECC and other commitments and requirements under the Philippine EIS System, separate and distinct from the monitoring functions of the MMTs.

All orders, memoranda, circulars, and other issuances or portions thereof inconsistent with this Administrative Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

This Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon filing of three (3) certified copies hereof with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), University of the Philippines Law Center.


ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA
Secretary



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April 13, 2026

Acknowledgement: ONAR, UP Law Center
April 14, 2026