



Philippine Economic Zone Authority

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2015-027

FOR : Economic Zone Locator Enterprises
Economic Zone Administrators and Managers

FROM : Director General LILIA B. DE LIMA

SUBJECT : Online Certificates of Non-Coverage (CNC) and
Environmental Compliance Certificates (ECC) applications at the
DENR – Environmental Management Bureau

DATE : 23 October 2015

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB) has established an online system for proponents who would like to secure the following:

- Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) for Category D projects; and,
- Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) for new Category B projects.

Guide to PEZA-registered enterprises

Determining whether an ECC or CNC is applicable. If a new or expansion project will be registered with PEZA, EMB Memorandum Circular (MC) 2014-005 (**Annex 1**) also known as *Guidelines for Coverage Screening* may be used as a guide in determining the category of the proposed project. The coverage is as follows:

- Proponents of Category A and Category B are required to secure ECC; and
- Proponents of Category C and Category D are encouraged to secure CNC.

Using EMB's online resources. The online facility is available at the EMB website through <http://www.emb.gov.ph> for proponents of Category B and Category D projects, the links are as follows:



CNC Online - <http://www.emb.gov.ph/portal/ELIBRARY/CNCads.aspx>

ECC Online - <http://119.98.161.21/live/>


Details for the online application are available at EMB MC 2015-003 (**Annex 2**) for Category D CNC applications and EMB MC 2015-008 (**Annex 3**) for Category B ECC applications of new projects. DENR-EMB will only process IEE Checklist through online submission as prescribed in EMB MC 2015-009 (**Annex 4**)

Reminders

Success of the online application will only be possible if the fields are accomplished properly. If there are clarifications, PEZA-registered enterprises may coordinate with the appropriate PEZA Environment Office for assistance.

Effective immediately, **endorsement of manual CNC and IEE Checklist applications by PEZA to DENR-EMB Regional Office is no longer mandatory and subject to the request of the appropriate EMB Office.** EPRMP Checklist applications shall still follow the usual manual process and will be endorsed by PEZA to the appropriate DENR-EMB Regional Office.

Economic zone enterprises may still avail of assistance from the applicable PEZA Environment office in determining whether CNC or ECC shall be secured. For further inquiries, you may visit the appropriate PEZA Environment office in your zone location or email ensd@peza.gov.ph.

For the guidance of all concerned, []
PEZA - DTS
1519-2015-00301





JUL 07 2014

Annex 1: EMB MC 2014-05
Coverage screening and requirements

EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2014 - 005

SUBJECT: Guidelines for Coverage Screening and Standardized Requirements under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System (PEISS) amending relevant portions of MC 2007-002

WHEREAS, Article III of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 30, series of 2003, provides for "strengthening the implementation of the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) system" under Presidential Decree No. 1586;

WHEREAS, DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2010-14 provides for "standardization of requirements in the implementation of the EIS system",

WHEREAS, Section 2.1 and Annex 2-1a to Annex 2-1c of the Revised Procedural Manual for DAO 2003-30 covered by EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2007-002 provides guidelines on "Screening for coverage and other application requirements under the Philippine EIS system",

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend/update the aforementioned guidelines to cover activities or undertakings, which based on EMB's experience need to be included,

NOW, THEREFORE, this Office with the end in view of achieving the foregoing objectives hereby issues this Memorandum Circular and adopts the accompanying *Guidelines for Coverage Screening and Standardized Requirements under the PEISS*.

Section 1. Screening to determine coverage under the Philippine EIS System (amending Section 2.1 of the Revised Procedural Manual for DAO 2003-30)

Every proposed project or undertaking which is projected to have significant adverse impact to the quality of the environment is covered by the Philippine EIS system. This includes proposed major expansion, rehabilitation, and/or modification of existing projects as well as resumption of projects that have stopped operations for a prolonged period.

- 1.1 To determine coverage, proposed projects or undertakings shall be screened according to the following categories:
 - 1.1.1 **Category A** - projects or undertakings which are classified as environmentally critical projects (ECPs) under Presidential Proclamation No. 2146 (1981), Proclamation No. 803 (1996), and any other projects that may later be declared as such by the President of the Philippines. Proponents of these projects implemented from 1982 onwards are required to secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC).
 - 1.1.2 **Category B** - projects or undertakings which are not classified as ECP under **Category A**, but which are likewise deemed to significantly affect the quality of the environment by virtue of being located in an Environmentally Critical Area (ECA) as declared under Proclamation No. 2146 and according to the parameters set forth in the attached guidelines. Proponents of these projects implemented from 1982 onwards are likewise required to secure an ECC.

Protect the environment Protect life.

- 1.1.3. **Category C** – projects or undertakings not falling under **Category A** or **B** which are intended to directly enhance the quality of the environment or directly address existing environmental problems.
- 1.1.4. **Category D** – projects or undertakings that are deemed unlikely to cause significant adverse impact on the quality of the environment according to the parameters set forth in the Screening Guidelines. These projects are not covered by the Philippine EIS system and are not required to secure an ECC. However, such non-coverage shall not be construed as an exemption from compliance with other environmental laws and government permitting requirements.
- 1.2. To expediently screen proposed projects/undertakings that may be covered by the EIS system, thus required to secure ECC, a ready matrix for determining the category in which proposed projects fall is attached as *Annex A* of the PEISS Coverage Screening Guidelines, revising Annex 2-1b of the 2007 Revised Procedural Manual for DAO 2003-30 and the thresholds as specified in pages 18-20 of the EIA DRR/CCA Technical Guidelines implemented under MC 2011-005.
- 1.3. Proposed major expansion, rehabilitation, and/or modification of existing projects, including proposed resumption of projects that have stopped operations for more than five (5) years, shall be categorized according to the parameters set forth in Annex B of the Screening Guidelines.
- 1.4. Projects which may be classified in different categories shall be considered under the category with the most stringent requirements.
- 1.5. The EMB shall implement a web-based system for increased transparency in screening project for coverage under the Philippine EIS System.

Section 2. Standardized Requirements

- 2.1 All ECC applications shall be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report in the form of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) Checklist Report, an Environmental Performance Report and Management Plan (EPRMP), Programmatic EIS or Programmatic EPRMP.
- 2.2 Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) applications shall be accompanied by a pro-forma project description as prescribed in Annex C of the attached guidelines.
- 2.3 The following is a summary of the documentary requirements for proponents as well as the processing and deciding authority based on the category, type and status of implementation of the project.

CATEGORY		APPLIED TO	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR ECC/CNC APPLICATION	Office to process and decide
A: Environmentally Critical Projects	A-1: New	Co-located projects	Programmatic EIS*	EMB Central Office
		Single Project	EIS	EMB Central Office
	A-2: Existing and to be expanded, modified and/or rehabilitated	Co-located projects	Programmatic EPRMP*	EMB Central Office
		Single Project	EPRMP in case monitoring data are available EIS if no monitoring data are available	EMB Central Office
	A-3: Operating without ECC			
	B: Non-Environmentally Critical Projects	B-1: New	Co-located projects	Programmatic EIS
Single Project			EIS IEE Checklist	



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JAN 20 2015

EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2015- 003

SUBJECT: Implementation of Online Processing of Certificate on Non-Coverage (CNC) Applications for Category D Projects under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System (PEISS)

WHEREAS, Article III of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 30, Series of 2003, provides for "strengthening the implementation of the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System" under Presidential Decree No. 1586;

WHEREAS, DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2010-14 provides for "standardization of requirements in the implementation of the EIS System",

WHEREAS, DENR Administrative Order No. 2009-15 allows for the use of an automated processing System for Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) applications;

WHEREAS, EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2014-005 provides for an updated listing of project types that are not covered by the requirement to secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC), classified as Category D; and

NOW, THEREFORE, with the end in view of achieving the foregoing objectives, Certificates of Non-Coverage (CNC) applications for Category D Projects shall be processed and issued online.

Section 1. CNC Online Application Procedures

Proponents for Category D projects which are not required to secure an ECC, may apply for a CNC. All CNC applications for Category D projects involving not more than one (1) hectare land development and has not been issued ECC shall be processed through the following procedures:

1. Log-on to the EMB-EIA Website to determine if the proposed project falls under Category D;
2. Category D Projects are not required an ECC but if the proponent opts to secure a CNC, a pro-forma Project Description (PD) shall be accomplished and submitted online if it does not involve one (1) hectare land development and has not been issued an ECC;
3. Upon online submission of the PD, an Order of Payment shall be generated together with instructions regarding payment at any Landbank Branch nationwide;
4. After payment of fees, enter the tracking and bank transaction sequence numbers and the Landbank Branch where the payment was made then submit online together with a scanned copy of any

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government ID issued to the project proponent/applicant and scanned copy of the bank transaction slip; and

5. After validation of the payment and project information by the EMB, the CNC can be printed online.

All other CNC applications including those for projects implemented prior 1982 as well as environmental enhancement projects may be filed with the regional office having jurisdiction over the proposed project area.

Section 2. Validation of CNC Issued

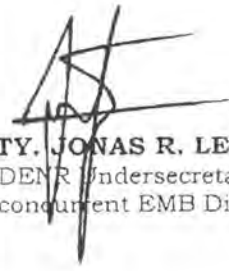
All CNCs issued can be validated online through the EMB-EIA Website or Certified True Copies thereof can be obtained from the EMB-EIA Central Office.

Section 3. Repealing Clause

All provisions in the MC 2007-002 or the *Revised Procedural Manual of DAO 2003-30* and other issuance inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed, superseded and/or modified accordingly.

Section 4. Effectivity

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect five (5) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.



ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES
DENR Undersecretary
and concurrent EMB Director

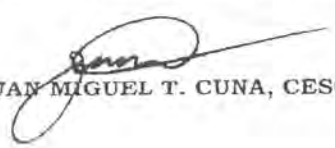
CATEGORY		APPLIED TO	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR ECC/CNC APPLICATION	Office to process and decide
	B-2: Existing and to be expanded, modified and/or rehabilitated	Single Project	EPRMP EPRMP Checklist	EMB Regional Office in the region where the proposed project is located
	B-3: Operating without ECC	Co-located Project	PEPRMP (in case programmatic monitoring data are available)*	EMB Regional Office in the region where the proposed project is located
C: Environmental Enhancement or Direct Mitigation		Co-located or Single Projects	Project Description (Parts I and II) (to confirm non-coverage or further classify as either Category A or B)	EMB Regional Office in the region where the proposed project is located
D: Not Covered			Project Description (Part I only) Project prior to 1982 - Project Description (Part I only) and Proof of Project Implementation prior to 1982 without expansion/alteration/modification (if applying for CNC)	EMB Regional Office in the region where the proposed project is located

- 2.4 Proponents of **Category D** projects shall not be required to submit any document to the EMB. Proponents of these projects may, however, still opt to secure a Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) from the EMB. A pro-forma project description as prescribed in Annex C of the attached guidelines shall be accomplished and submitted for the CNC application.
- 2.5 Proponents of projects which are intended to directly enhance the quality of the environment or directly address existing environmental problems shall submit a Project Description (PD) to the EMB Regional Office having jurisdiction over the area where the proposed project will be located following the format attached as Annex C of the attached Guidelines to confirm that it falls within **Category C**.
- 2.6 The issuance of an ECC or CNC shall not, in any manner, exempt the proponent from securing other government permits and clearances required by other laws, nor shall it be construed as resolving issues within the mandate of other government agencies.
- 2.7 ECC applications for the proposed expansion, rehabilitation, or modification of an existing project/undertaking, including proposed resumption of projects that have stopped operations for a prolonged period, shall be reviewed in the Office that originally issued the ECC. Provided that, for projects originally classified as **Category B** but are re-classified as **Category A** based on the total/ revised capacity shall be reviewed at the EMB Central Office.

Section 3. Repealing Clause

All provisions in the MC 2007-002 or the *Revised Procedural Manual of DAO 2003-30* and other issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed, superseded and/or modified accordingly.

If any provision of this Memorandum Circular is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and in effect as if the provisions/sections so cancelled had never been incorporated herein.


ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, CESO IV
 Director



JUN 09 2015

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Annex 3: EMB MC 2015-008
Online ECC applications

EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2015 - 008

SUBJECT: Implementation of Online Processing of Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) Applications for Category B projects requiring Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) Checklist Report Forms under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System (PEISS)

WHEREAS, the President of the Philippines issued Administrative Order No. 42 with the primary objective of simplifying the requirements and streamlining the processing of ECC applications.

WHEREAS, in order to achieve the foregoing objective, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 30, Series of 2003 intended among others to standardize requirements to ensure focus on the critical environmental parameters as well as to simplify the procedures for processing ECC application;

WHEREAS, the DENR through the Environmental Management Bureau in the pursuit of achieving the foregoing objectives, promulgated Memorandum Circular No. 2011-005 governing the use of IEE Checklist Report Forms for project under Category B (Non-Environmentally Critical Projects);

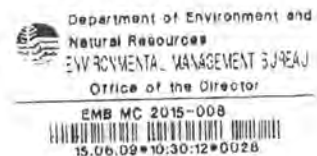
WHEREAS, screening guidelines established under EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2014-005 provide guidelines for screening and updated project thresholds;

WHEREAS, in line with RA 8792, Philippine E-Commerce Law, the Environmental Management Bureau saw the need to implement an online processing system of ECC applications for projects having the IEE checklist report form as a requirement under Category B;

NOW, THEREFORE, with the continuous effort of the Bureau to improve the EIS System, all applications for Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) for Category B projects requiring IEE Checklists shall be processed and issued online.

Section 1. Applicability

The processing and issuance of ECC applications under the online system shall be limited to new and single component Category B projects. All other proposed projects requiring Environmental Impact Statement and non-environmentally critical projects with multiple components and/or



proposed expansion or modification shall be filed and processed manually at the respective EMB Regional Office having jurisdiction over the proposed project area.

Section 2. ECC Online Application Procedures

The ECC online system procedure shall be as follows:

1. Visit the EMB-EIA Website and register to have an ECC Online account by filling up forms providing proponent information;
2. Encode the project information in the ECC Online system to verify if the proposed project will qualify in the online application process;
3. Once qualified, the system will prompt the proponent to fill up the online Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) checklist form;
4. After filling up completely the required fields, an Order of Payment will be generated by the system for printing together with instruction to proceed with the payment at any Landbank Branch nationwide;
5. The accomplished IEE checklist with accountability statement of proponent will be printed for notarization;
6. After payment of fees, submit a scanned copy of the deposit transaction slip and IEE checklist with duly notarized accountability statement of proponent online, attaching the electronic/PDF file of the following documentary requirements:
 - Geo-tagged photographs of proposed project site
 - Maps of impact/affected areas (showing at least 1km from the project boundaries)
 - Certification from Local Government Unit (LGU) proving the compatibility of proposed project with existing land use plan
 - Site development plan/ Vicinity map signed by registered professionals
 - Project/Plant layout signed by registered professionals
 - Schematic diagram of wastewater treatment facility (if applicable)
 - Schematic diagram of air pollution control facility (if applicable)
 - Organizational Chart in charge of environmental concerns
 - Proof of authority over the project site (e.g. land title, lease contract, deed of absolute sale, etc.)
 - Duly accomplished project environmental monitoring and audit prioritization scheme (PEMAPS) questionnaire

7. The EMB Regional Office will evaluate the online applications with the complete documentary requirements and deposit transaction slip, the same will be acted upon within the time frame established under existing rules and regulations.
8. The result of evaluation, which is either an approval or a need to submit additional information (AI) will be forwarded to proponent through its online account;
9. EMB Regional Office may deny or approve the ECC application, and issuance thereof can be printed online and/or through proponents ECC online account.

Section 3. Validation of ECC Issued

All ECCs issued can be validated online through the EMB Website. Certified True Copies thereof at the option of the proponent can be obtained from the concerned EMB Regional Office.

Section 4. Repealing Clause

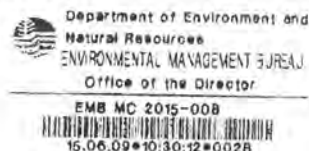
All provisions in the MC 2007-002 or the *Revised Procedural Manual of DAO 2003-30* and other issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed, superseded and/or modified accordingly.

If any provision of this Memorandum Circular is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect as if the provisions/sections so cancelled had never been incorporated herein.

Section 5. Effectivity

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect five (5) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES
DENR Undersecretary and
concurrent Director





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Annex 4: EMB MC 2015-009
Processing of new and single component Category B

AUG 04 2015

EMB MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
No. 2015 - 009

SUBJECT: PROCESSING AND ISSUANCE OF ECC FOR CATEGORY B PROJECTS

WHEREAS, EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2015-008, mandated that all applications for Environmental Compliance Certificate for new and single component Category B projects requiring IEE Checklists shall be processed and issued online while all other proposed projects requiring an EIS and IEE for multiple projects and projects with modification shall be filed and processed manually;

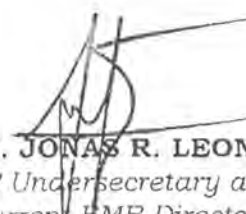
WHEREAS, the effective implementation of the ECC online System rests on full disclosure of all ECCs issued in the interest of the public in general;



WHEREAS, in order to effectively establish authenticity of ECCs issued would be, to among others, mandatorily post all ECCs for Category B projects online;

NOW THEREFORE, in order to achieve the foregoing objectives, henceforth, all ECC applications for new and single component Category B shall be processed, issued and posted online otherwise, the same shall be considered null and void;

PROVIDED, that for projects with multiple component and expansion, the application shall be coursed through EMB-EIA Central Office for encoding in the EIA Information System and manual processing otherwise, the same shall likewise be null and void.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately within forty-eight (48) hours after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES
DENR Undersecretary and
Concurrent EMB Director

 Department of Environment and
Natural Resources
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Office of the Director
EMB MC 2015-009

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