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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Manila

297.13 DPWH
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DEPARTMENT ORDER)
NO. **57**)
Series of 2016)

SUBJECT: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for DPWH Infrastructure Projects and Tree Cutting Permit Application

In compliance with the Presidential Decree 1586, otherwise known as the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System (PEISS) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Administrative Order 30-2003 (DAO 30-2003), that requires all project proponent (*UPMOs, Bureaus, Services, Regional and District Engineering Offices*) to prepare environmental documents (e.g. EIS, IEE Checklist, Project Description Report) necessary to secure Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC)/ Certificate of Non Coverage (CNC) for all DPWH Infrastructure Projects, this Order prescribe the new/revised guidelines for Coverage Screening.

In the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, a Screening Matrix is prescribed to determine what specific environmental document to prepare for a particular project based on its scope. The Project Screening Matrix was updated/revised in July 2014 by the DENR-EMB, hence, Memorandum dated April 10, 2014 with the subject "Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment for All DPWH Infrastructure Projects" is hereby superseded.

In view herewith, be guided on the Revised Guidelines for Coverage Screening and Standard Regulation of EMB Circular 005 dated July 2014 as indicated below.

Projects/ Description	Required to secure ECC			Required to secure CNC	Project Size Parameters / Remarks
	Category A: ECP	Category B: Non-ECP		Category D	
	EIS	EIS	IEE Checklist	PD <i>(Part I only)</i>	
1. ROADS AND BRIDGES					
1.1 Roads (new construction)	NATIONAL ROAD: ≥20.0 km, (length with no critical slope) OR ≥10.0 km (length with critical slope)	PROVINCIAL ROAD and OTHER TYPES OF ROADS: ≥20.0 km, (length with no critical slope) OR ≥10.0 km (length with critical slope)	ALL TYPES OF ROADS: >2 km but <20 km, (length with no critical slope) OR >2 km but <10 km (length with critical slope)	≤ 2 km	

1.2 Roads, (widening, rehabilitation and/or improvement)	None	>50% increase in capacity (or in terms of length/width) AND ≥ 20.0 km (length with no critical slope) OR ≥ 10.0 km (length with critical slope)	>50% increase in capacity (or in terms of length/width) AND > 2 km but < 20 km, (length with no critical slope) OR > 2 km but < 10 km (length with critical slope)	$\leq 50\%$ increase in capacity (or in terms of length/width) but ≤ 2 km increase in length	
1.3 Bridges and viaducts (including elevated roads), new construction	≥ 10.0 km	≥ 5 km but < 10.0 km	> 50 m but < 5.0 km	≤ 50 m Regardless of length for footbridges of for pedestrian only	
1.4 Bridges and viaducts (including elevated roads), rehabilitation and/or improvement	None	$\geq 50\%$ increase in capacity (or in terms of length/width) OR ≥ 10 km	$> 50\%$ increase in capacity (or in terms of length/width) but $<$ total length of 10 km	$\leq 50\%$ increase in capacity (or in terms of length/width) but ≤ 2 km increase in length	
1.5 Roads-flyover/ cloverleaf/ interchanges	None	None	Regardless of length and width	None	
1.6 Pedestrian passages	None	None	All underpass projects	All overpass projects	
1.7 Tunnels and sub-grade roads and railways	≥ 1.0 km	< 1.0 km	None	None	
1.8 On-grade railway system, new	Regardless of length and width	None	None	None	
2. INFRASTRUCTRE PROJECTS (Dams, Water Supply and Flood Control Project)					
2.1 Dams (including those for irrigation, flood control, water resources and hydropower)	≥ 25 hectares OR ≥ 20 million m^3	> 5 hectares but < 25 hectares OR > 5 million m^3 but < 20 million m^3	≤ 5 hectares AND ≤ 5 million m^3	None	Reservoir flooded/ inundated area or/and water storage capacity

projects) including run- of-river type					
2.2 Irrigation projects (distribution system only)	None	≥1000 hectares (service area)	>300 but <1,000 hectares	≤300 hectares	Service Area
2.3 Water Supply Projects (without dam)	None	With water source (e.g infiltration gallery, etc.) and water treatment facilities including desalination, reverse osmosis (RO)	Level III (Distribution System Only)	Level II/ Level I Water refilling station	
3. BUILDINGS INCLUDING HOUSING, STORAGE FACILITIES AND OTHER STRUCTURES					
3.1 All office and residential building such as motels, condominiums , SCHOOLS , etc. including storage facilities with no hazardous or toxic materials	None	≥5.0 hectares	>1 hectare but <5.0 hectare	≤1 hectare	Total/gross floor area including parking, open space and other areas

For projects that falls under Environmental Enhancement Projects (*intended to directly enhance the quality of the environment or directly address existing environmental problems*) is classified under **Category C**. Proponent shall secure CNC, and shall prepare **Project Description Report**. Project that will fall under Category A or B requires the application of an ECC. First level scoping shall be conducted together with the DENR-EMB and some members of the EIA Review Committee to determine the scope of work to be undertaken in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

All Project Proponent (UPMOs, Bureaus, Services, Regional and District Engineering Offices) shall conduct environmental assessment, prepare the necessary environmental document and secure the corresponding environmental clearance whether ECC or CNC **prior to project implementation**. The Project Proponent is directed to comply with the provisions of DO No. 5, series of 2003, Item No. 7 which states that "the ECC shall be secured before the detailed design for all projects". Cost incurred and tasks perform for the preparation of these documents shall be charged against fund of the respective project. The Program of Work of such projects shall include such EIA-related activities and be included in Regional and District Engineering Annual Budget (*please refer to DO 224 series of 2003: Creation of Regional Environmental Impact Assessment Office-Budget*).

Further, please be informed that the submission of documents for IEE Checklist for ECC application, and Project Description Report for CNC application are now on-line at

<http://www.emb.gov.ph/portal/>. The Environmental and Social Safeguards Division, Planning Service shall assist the project proponent in the online submission to the DENR-EMB concerned.


With regards to **Tree Cutting Permit Application**, all Project Proponent shall submit their application to the Office of the Secretary for vetting and endorsement. The said application shall be coursed through the Environmental and Social Safeguards Division (ESSD), Planning Service (PS) for evaluation purposes prior to issuance of endorsement by the undersigned.


For evaluation/vetting purposes, the following are required and shall be submitted to the ESSD, PS:

- 1) In depth review of the feasibility of the project taking into consideration the possible options avoiding tree cutting (per project).
 - a) Provide rationale citing the environmental, social, economic and technical aspects of the project. This Item shall include the; 1) appropriate justification that the tree cutting can no longer be avoided, and 2) provide possible options to minimize the impact/damage to the environment.
 - b) Photographs and detailed inventory of trees to be removed.
- 2) Documented comprehensive consultation with all concerned local government units, civil society organizations and communities/stakeholders, including endorsement of **"NO OBJECTION"** from the LGU concerned with attendance sheet, minutes of meeting and photos.

Projects that have complete documents/ requirements, and have gone through proper vetting processes shall be recommended by the undersigned for submission to the DENR concerned for their review and subsequent issuance of the necessary permit. The Project Proponent shall have the responsibility to submit the application for the permit to the DENR.

This Order supersedes Memorandum dated April 10, 2014 and shall take effect immediately.


ROGELIO L. SINGSON
Secretary

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Office of the Secretary

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