



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

097.13.DAW
07.28.2019

BRS 126-2019

19 JUL 2019

DEPARTMENT ORDER)
NO. 85)
Series of 2019)

**SUBJECT: DIRECTING ALL DPWH
IMPLEMENTING OFFICES TO
OPTIMIZE THE UTILIZATION OF
THEIR STAR-RATED MATERIALS
TESTING LABORATORIES AND TO
ISSUE A WAIVER AS A LAST RESORT
WHEN AVAILING THE SERVICES OF
ACCREDITED PRIVATE TESTING
LABORATORIES**

It has been the main thrust of the Department to ensure that all materials to be incorporated into government infrastructure projects should be of the highest quality and satisfactory pass the specifications requirements. In pursuit of this objective, the Department had issued Department Order No. 126, Series of 2016 ("*Star Rating of Regional and District Materials Testing Laboratories*") with the ultimate objective of enhancing the testing capabilities of the MTLs of the sixteen (16) DPWH Regional Offices and their respective District Engineering Offices. The Department is also in the process of application for Certification under ISO 17025 ("*General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*") to improve the testing proficiency of technical personnel involved in the testing of materials.

Notwithstanding the enormous investment made by the Department [through procurement and distribution of numerous basic testing equipment/apparatus to the R/DMTLs as well as the construction of Satellite Materials Testing Laboratories (SMTLs) in various Regions], there are some DPWH Implementing Offices who directly avail of the services of accredited private testing laboratories without the issuance of the required waiver from the concerned DPWH Testing Laboratory per D.O. 203, Series of 2003. This malpractice undermines and defeats the purpose of the Star Rating policy of the Department.

In view hereof, all DPWH Implementing Offices are hereby directed to utilize to the **fullest** their respective Star-Rated Materials Testing Laboratories and should only avail of the services of accredited private testing laboratories as a last resort. Henceforth, all DPWH Implementing Offices are directed to submit a semestral Report of Income Generated from Testing Fees to the Bureau of Research and Standards (BRS) every July of the current year and January of the succeeding Fiscal Year in order to monitor compliance to this Order as well as to monitor the utilization of the equipment/apparatus of the Star-Rated and Satellite MTLs.

For the purpose of uniformity, prescribed is the template of the Waiver to be used by the DPWH Implementing Offices.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall supersede the following issuances:

1. D.O. 29, Series of 1994, re: Utilizing First the Services of the Bureau of Research and Standards (BRS), Regional and District Laboratories of the DPWH in testing of Samples of Construction Materials.
2. D.O. 203, Series of 2003, re: Amendment to D.O. 29, Series of 1994.

For strict compliance.

MARK A. VILLAR
Secretary

14.1 RGT/SMAV

EMIL K. SADAIN, CESO I
Undersecretary for UPMO Operations
and Technical Services
Officer-In-Charge

Department of Public Works and Highways
Office of the Secretary



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Republic of the Philippines
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Manila

(Date)

CERTIFICATION/WAIVER

This is to certify that we cannot accommodate the testing of the construction

material/s submitted by _____
(Name of Supplier/Contractor)

for use in DPWH Project: _____

Implemented by: _____

Materials / Samples

Required Test/s

due to the following reason/s:

Voluminous construction materials being tested. Project implementation will be affected/delayed.

Laboratory Testing Equipment needed is/are not available.

Chemicals/supplies needed to perform the tests required are not available.

Others: _____

This certification is being issued to _____
(Supplier/Contractor)

Which, authorizes them to avail the services of DPWH Accredited Private Testing Laboratories pursuant to the current policies of the Department.

(Regional Director/Project
Director/District Engineer)