



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
MANILA

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DPWH
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DEPARTMENT ORDER)
No. **224**)
Series of 2003 (08-18-03)

SUBJECT: **CREATION OF REGIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT OFFICES
(REIAOs)**

Pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No.1586, series of 1978, establishing the Environmental Impact Statement System, and Executive Order No. 291, dated 12 January 1996, mandating government agencies to create their own environmental impact assessment units, there is hereby created a Regional Environmental Impact Assessment Office (REIAO) in each of the Regional Offices of the Department.

1. Objective:

The creation of the REIAOs aims to strengthen the capability of the regional offices in carrying out the Department's environmental and social commitments.

2. Scope of Responsibility of the REIAOs:

The REIAOs shall be responsible for implementing the DPWH social and environmental policies in the regional offices, in coordination with the Environmental Impact Assessment Project Office (EIAPO) in the Central Office and under the direct supervision of the Chief, Planning and Design Division, Regional Office.

3. Functions of the REIAOs:

- 3.1 Conduct assessments for environmental and social impact.
- 3.2 Prepare Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs), including Environmental Management Plans and Environmental Monitoring Plans.
- 3.3 Assist the EIAPO in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements and other similar reports.
- 3.4 Conduct consultations and information dissemination programs to project affected persons (PAPs) and other stakeholders.
- 3.5 Conduct environmental monitoring and post-implementation evaluation, and monitor Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) implementation.
- 3.6 Coordinate with Regional DENR-EMB offices regarding the issuance of Environmental Compliance Certificates (ECCs) and compliance with ECC provisions.
- 3.7 Initiate the creation of Multipartite Monitoring Teams (MMTs) in coordination with the Implementing Office and the Municipal RAP Implementation Committees (MRICs).
- 3.8 Act as Coordinator of MRICs.
- 3.9 Represent the Regional Office in the MMTs and participate in their activities.

- 3.10 Act as liaison between the Central Office and District Offices regarding Land Acquisition Plan and Resettlement Action Plans (LAPRAPs).
- 3.11 Provide guidance to DPWH staff at the Regional and District levels and coordinate with local government units in carrying out the above studies by preparing required reports and documents, and LAPRAP implementation.
- 3.12 Maintain a collection of reports, books, publications, maps and other reference materials related to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
- 3.13 Enhance regional capacity in EIA through participation in social and environmental training programs of the Department and other agencies.
- 3.14 Coordinate with other DPWH offices, government agencies, local government units, and non-government organizations regarding environmental and social concerns in the region.

4. REIAO Organization and Staff:

The REIAO shall be directly under the supervision of the Chief of the Planning and Design Division of the Regional Office. The existing staff organized for the purpose prior to this Order shall remain within the REIAO. Any required additional staff shall be selected from among those personnel within the region who have undertaken appropriate training or possess relevant background for environmental and social assessment.

5. REIAO Budget:

The REIAO shall prepare an annual budget based on its projected operating expenses, to be included in the overall budget of the Regional Office. In addition, funds needed to perform tasks for specific projects shall be charged against funds of the respective projects. The Programs of Work for such project shall include such EIA-related activities that may be necessary and the corresponding funds needed to carry out the tasks.

This Order shall take effect immediately.


FLORANTE SORIQUEZ
Acting Secretary