



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU

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MGB MEMORANDUM ORDER
NO. 2022- 007

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OFFICE HEAD

Pursuant to Section 9 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7942, the "*Philippine Mining Act of 1995*," Section 7 of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2010-21, the "*Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 7942*," and Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, pertaining to the power of the Director of a line bureau to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out objectives, policies, and functions, and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations, the following guidelines for the designation of Mine Environmental Protection and Enhancement Office (MEPEO) head are hereby issued in support to Section 173 of DAO No. 2010-21:

SECTION 1. OBJECTIVE

This Order intends to ensure the proper and effective implementation of Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programs (EPEPs) and Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plans (FMR/DPs) of Contractors/Permit Holders by providing specific qualifications and functions of the MEPEO Head.

SECTION 2. COVERAGE

This Order shall cover all Contractors/Permit Holders under operating or final mine rehabilitation and/or decommissioning stage including those with Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Regional Office (RO) – issued permits.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE MEPEO HEAD

The following shall qualify as MEPEO Head:

- a. CATEGORY I – Licensed Mining Engineer, Geologist, or Metallurgical Engineer or Environmental Engineer with at least five (5) years of experience in actual mining/mineral processing environment work and Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) - accredited as Managing Head/Pollution Control Officer (PCO).



**"MINING SHALL BE PRO-PEOPLE AND PRO-ENVIRONMENT
IN SUSTAINING WEALTH CREATION AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE."**

- b. CATEGORY IIA – Licensed engineers under any of the following fields with at least eight (8) years of experience in actual mining/mineral processing environmental work and EMB-accredited as Managing Head/PCO:
- i. Agricultural and/or Biosystems Engineering
 - ii. Chemical Engineering
 - iii. Civil Engineering
 - iv. Electrical Engineering
 - v. Geodetic Engineering
 - vi. Mechanical Engineering
 - vii. Sanitary Engineering
- c. CATEGORY IIB – Licensed natural science professionals under any of the following fields with at least eight (8) years of experience in actual mining/mineral processing environmental work and EMB-accredited as Managing Head/PCO:
- i. Agriculture
 - ii. Chemistry
 - iii. Environmental Planning
 - iv. Forestry
 - v. Landscape Architecture
- d. CATEGORY IIIA- A graduate of any of the following courses with at least ten (10) years of experience in actual mining/mineral processing environmental works and is EMB-accredited as Managing Head/PCO:
- i. Analytical Chemistry
 - ii. Bachelor of Science (BS) in Applied Physics
 - iii. BS in Biology
 - iv. BS in Chemical Engineering
 - v. BS in Chemistry
 - vi. BS in Environmental Science
 - vii. BS in Forestry
 - viii. BS in Geology
 - ix. BS in Industrial Engineering
 - x. BS in Marine/Aquatic Biology
 - xi. BS in Materials Engineering
 - xii. BS in Metallurgical Engineering
 - xiii. BS in Mining Engineering
 - xiv. BS in Molecular Biology
 - xv. BS in Petroleum Engineering
 - xvi. BS in Physics
- e. CATEGORY IIIB –A graduate of any course other than those enumerated under Category IIIA but with any of the following master's degree, and with at least ten (10) years of experience in actual mining/mineral



processing environmental works and is EMB-accredited as Managing Head/PCO:

- i. Master of Science (MS) in Biology
 - ii. MS in Biochemistry
 - iii. MS in Chemical Engineering
 - iv. MS in Chemistry
 - v. MS in Environmental Science
 - vi. MS in Geology
 - vii. MS in Geomatics Engineering
 - viii. MS in Industrial Engineering
 - ix. MS in Metallurgical Engineering
 - x. MS in Molecular Biology/Biotechnology
 - xi. MS in Marine Science/Biology
 - xii. MS in Material Science/Engineering
 - xiii. MS in Physics
 - xiv. Other master's degree in natural science and engineering fields.
- f. CATEGORY IV – Any person who, on the date of effectivity of this Order, holds the position of MEPEO Head for at least fifteen (15) years.

SECTION 4. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEPEO HEAD

The MEPEO Head shall be reporting directly to the highest company official onsite and shall not hold other positions to effectively address the environmental concerns of the Contractor/Permit Holder through adequate and sustainable programs.

The MEPEO Head shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Spearhead the implementation of the mitigating measures and monitoring program prescribed in the Environmental Impact Statement, EPEP/Annual EPEP (AEPEP), and FMR/DP;
- b. Ensure the updating of the EPEP/AEPEP and/or FMR/DP, if the declared measures and monitoring protocols are observed to be ineffective/inefficient and/or if major changes in the process/operation occurred that leads to the possible change of perceived impacts; and
- c. Ensure the timely preparation and submission of the following environmental reports:
 - i. Compliance Monitoring Reports and Self-Monitoring Reports pursuant to item b, Section 5, "Requirements for Mining Companies," of DAO No. 2015-02, *HARMONIZATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT SYSTEM AND THE PHILIPPINE MINING ACT OF 1995 IN RELATION TO MINING PROJECTS*;



- ii. Sworn Semi-Annual Report on Mine Waste and Mill Tailings Produced, Contained, and/or Utilized;
 - iii. Semi-Annual Report on Mining Forest Program;
 - iv. Quarterly Report on National Greening Program Accomplishment;
 - v. AEPEP accomplishment report; and
 - vi. Reportorial requirements during FMR/DP implementation.
- d. Ensure compliance with DAO No. 2015-07, *Mandating Mining Contractors to Secure ISO 14001 Certification*.

SECTION 5. REGISTRATION OF MEPEO HEAD

All MEPEO Head of mining/mineral processing operation/s shall be duly registered with the MGB RO concerned.

The Contractor/Permit Holder shall register its MEPEO Head to the MGB RO concerned by forwarding a Letter of Designation of the MEPEO Head through the official email address of the MGB RO. A centralized database of all registered MEPEO Heads shall be maintained by the MGB RO.

In case of replacement, resignation, or termination of the MEPEO Head, the Contractor/Permit Holder shall inform, in writing, the MGB RO concerned within fifteen (15) calendar days and register the new MEPEO Head within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of replacement, resignation, or termination.

SECTION 6. MEPEO HEAD FOR INDUSTRIAL SAND AND GRAVEL PERMIT HOLDERS AND MGB RO-ISSUED MINERAL PROCESSING PERMIT HOLDERS

For Industrial Sand and Gravel Permit Holders and/or MGB RO-issued Mineral Processing Permit Holders, the MEPEO shall be supervised by at least a part-time MEPE Officer.

SECTION 7. TRANSITORY PROVISION

Contractors/Permit Holders shall comply with the provisions of this Order within one (1) year from the date of its effectivity.

SECTION 8. PENALTIES

Non-compliance of a Contractor/Permit Holder with the provisions in this Order warrants the cancellation/revocation/ termination of the Mining Contract/Permit.



SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

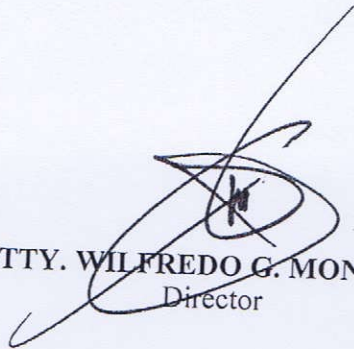
If any provision of this Order shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other portions or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE

All Orders and other similar issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY

This Order takes effect immediately.


ATTY. WILFREDO G. MONCANO
Director

