



April 3, 2000

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 08

Series of 2000

SUBJECT: AMENDING DA AO 37 SERIES OF 1999 TO SIMPLIFY LAND USE CONVERSION EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND REORGANIZE THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE ON LAND USE MATTERS (TECLUM)

In view of the current developments and the need to accelerate and create more efficiency in the processing of various applications for land use conversions, the inter-agency committee created under the AO 37 Series 1999 is hereby reorganized and the corresponding land use procedures is likewise revised.

As the NPAAAD and the SAFDZ have already been identified and mapped, the corresponding evaluation procedures are simplified. As a consequence, the technical inputs from the inter-agency committee shall now be on an on-call referral basis.

I. THE NATIONAL TECLUM

The National TECLUM shall be:

- a. Inter-agency Committee composed one representative each from:

Chair – Director, BSWM

Members

Representative from the National Irrigation Administration

Representative from the Philippine Coconut Authority

- b. Have a Secretariat headed by the BSWM and is composed of the following:

Chairperson – Ms. Cleotilde Nicolas

Co-Chair – Ms. Cristy Perlado

Members: Ms. Natividad Salonga
Ms. Jovette Tenorio
Ms. Jessica Torion
Ms. Catherine Masbang
Ms. Josefina Diloy
Ms. Nelly De Guzman

II. THE REGIONAL TECLUM

The Regional TECLUM shall be headed by the DA-RFU Regional Director and with members from the technical staff of the RFU, National Irrigation Administration, and Philippine Coconut Authority. Other concerned agencies will be on-call basis. The final composition shall be submitted by the Regional Director to the National TECLUM and to the Office of the Secretary for information and proper coordination.

III. PROCEDURES

Briefly, the new land use conversion application procedures are as follows:

1. The Technical Evaluation Committee on Land Use Matters

- ❖ The TECLUM shall have a Regional Committee and a National Committee.
- ❖ The Regional TECLUM shall be primarily responsible in the initial evaluation based on actual field investigation of the sites being applied for land use conversion.
- ❖ The National TECLUM shall be primarily responsible in the final evaluation of the recommendations and field investigations conducted by the Regional TECLUM and submit the same to the Office of the Secretary for final action on the land use conversion application.

2. Filing of Application

- ❖ Applicants file their application with the Regional TECLUM at the DA-RFU Office.
- ❖ The applicants must ensure that all documents and papers required are complete and are submitted with the application.

3. Actions of the Regional TECLUM

- ❖ Regional TECLUM field teams shall review the application for its completeness in requirements and immediately advise the applicant for any lacking on additional requirements.
- ❖ Regional TECLUM conduct field investigation using the approved maps of the NPAAAD and SAFDZ and submit the results of the field investigation to the Regional Director.
- ❖ The Regional Director review and submit the results and initial recommendations to the National TECLUM for final evaluation and submission to the Secretary of Agriculture for final approval.

4. Final Actions and Review by the National TECLUM

- ❖ The National TECLUM shall further review:
 - The application and accompanying documents for its completeness.
 - The results of field investigation and their consistency with SAFDZ and NPAAAD maps
- ❖ When necessary, the National TECLUM may ask for another round of field investigation by the Regional TECLUM defining specific new data requirements needed for their final action.
- ❖ The National TECLUM may conduct its own investigation, if needed to ensure that all appropriate requirements are properly complied with before the application is finally endorsed to the Secretary for final DA approval and endorsement to DAR.
- ❖ In some specific cases, the National TECLUM may call on other agency to assist in the evaluation of results of field investigation of the Regional TECLUM and maybe instructed by the Chairman of National TECLUM to conduct additional verification when necessary.
- ❖ The National TECLUM must see to it that all applicants are properly and promptly notified for any new or additional requirements and for any information on the final actions of the Office of the Secretary.

5. Preparation of a More Detailed Procedures for Land Use Conversion Evaluation

- ❖ The National TECLUM is required to prepare and distribute to all concerned office a more detail procedure to reflect all technical and administrative requirements for land use conversion application.

6. Final Action of the Secretary of Agriculture

- ❖ The Secretary shall finally act on the application and/or instruct the National TECLUM for any additional actions required for the final approval or disapproval of the application.
- ❖ All approved applications shall be sent to the office of the Secretary for final endorsement to DAR.
- ❖ All disapproved applications shall be immediately returned to the applicants.

For immediate implementation

EDGARDO J. ANGARA
Secretary