



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
Quezon City 1100, Philippines



August 5, 2019

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 19
Series of 2019

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE EXTENSION OF THE VALIDITY OF TEST REPORTS ISSUED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS – AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY TESTING AND EVALUATION CENTER (UPLB-AMTEC) FOR ANOTHER TWO (2) YEARS

WHEREAS, Section 27 of Republic Act No. 10601, otherwise known as the Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization (AFMech) Law states the University of the Philippines Los Baños – Agricultural Machinery Testing and Evaluation Center (UPLB-AMTEC) is the designated premier and reference testing center in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Section 6.1 of the DA Department Circular (D.C.) No. 5, Series of 2017, as amended by D.C. No. 10, Series of 2018, defines AMTEC Testing and Evaluation as an “objective and systematic assessment conducted by the UPLB-AMTEC in accordance to PNS/PAES or other standard procedures to determine the actual characteristics, specifications, and functional performance of the machine under laboratory and/or actual field conditions;

WHEREAS, after the conduct of tests, UPLB-AMTEC issues test report, which shows the description, performance and conditions of the machine, method of test used, result of test as well as photographs of the machine to the applicant;

WHEREAS, Section 6.2.1 of the same Circular states “test report shall be valid for five (5) years”;

WHEREAS, due to the current limitations of AMTEC in terms of manpower and test equipment and facilities and infrastructures, there are delays in the release of test reports which poses constraints to suppliers in joining government bidding;

WHEREAS, there are requests from suppliers to extend the validity of issued test reports as one of the remedial measure to address the limitations of AMTEC;

WHEREAS, there is a need to address the current situation in order to encourage more suppliers to join government procurement and facilitate the efficient implementation of government procurement process;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SECRETARY WILLIAM D. DAR, of the Department of Agriculture, in accordance with the AFMech Law of 2013, hereby issue this Order to implement the following guidelines on the Extension of the Validity of Test Reports issued by the UPLB-AMTEC:

SECTION I. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

This Order shall apply to the Department of Agriculture, its Regional Field Offices, attached agencies, bureaus and GOCCs in the conduct of their procurement of agricultural and fisheries machinery in their respective offices.

Further, this Order shall cover the extension of the validity of AMTEC test reports of agricultural and fisheries machinery.

SECTION II. OBJECTIVES

This Order sets the guidelines on the extension of the validity of AMTEC test reports of agricultural and fisheries machinery. It aims to provide a temporary measure to address the limitations of AMTEC in the testing of agricultural and fisheries machinery.

SECTION III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. **Agricultural and fisheries machinery** - refers to machinery and equipment for the production, post-production, harvesting, processing, storage, manufacture, preserving, transporting and distribution of agricultural and fisheries products and by-products. It includes, but not limited to, tractors and their attachments, power tillers, seeders, transplanters, windmills, harvesting machines, crop protection and maintenance equipment, irrigation equipment and accessories, greenhouses and other thermal conditioning equipment, livestock equipment, fishery equipment, slaughtering equipment, meat/fishery and crop processing equipment, postharvest machines such as milling machines, dryers, threshers and fiber extraction machines.
2. **Procuring entity** - refers to the Department of Agriculture, its Regional Field Offices, attached agencies, bureaus and GOCCs that is purchasing the goods.
3. **Prospective bidder** - refers to a supplier who signified interest in participating in the competitive public bidding as advertised by the procuring entity.
4. **Test Report (TR)** - narrative report showing the description, performance and condition of the machine, method of test used, result of test as well as photographs of the machine.

SECTION IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The procuring entity that intends to procure agricultural and fisheries machinery may accept expired TR at the initial stage of bidding, provided that a certification from AMTEC extending the validity of the TR for two (2) years is submitted by the prospective bidder.

The following are the requirements in securing the certification:

1. A sworn statement stating that the machinery under consideration is the same as the one tested in the previous TR; and
2. The supplier has already applied for the re-testing of the said machinery.

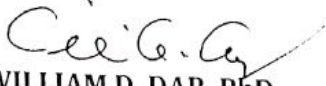
In securing a certification, the following terms and conditions shall be observed:

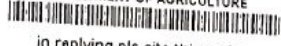
1. AMTEC reserves the right to withdraw the certification once the final test report is released.
2. AMTEC reserves the right to reject applications for certification if the TR of the machinery under consideration is already expired at the time of application for re-testing.

3. The extension will only be a remedial measure to address the limitations of AMTEC in the testing and evaluation of agricultural and fisheries machinery and will be lifted and be back to the five-year validity once AMTEC has normalized its operation.

SECTION V. EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take immediately and shall remain in force and effect until AMTEC has normalized its operations.


WILLIAM D. DAR, PhD.
Acting Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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