



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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1100 Quezon City

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

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**TO : ALL UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, OSEC
SERVICE DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS/DIRECTORS OF
BANNER PROGRAMS**

**HEADS OF BUREAUS, ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS
AND REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES**

HEADS OF LOCALLY AND FOREIGN ASSISTED PROJECT OFFICES

**SUBJECT : DA AND DOE COLLABORATION ON RENEWABLE ENERGY
PROGRAM FOR THE AGRI-FISHERY SECTOR**

The use of renewable energy (RE), such as solar, wind, hydro, small-scale geothermal, and biomass sources for fuel and power generation in agriculture and fisheries will greatly help in reducing the cost of production, at the same time facilitate and accelerate the modernization, mechanization and agro-industrialization of the Philippine agri-fishery sector.

In view of this and pursuant to the mandates of DA under Section 53 of Republic Act (RA) No. 8435 or "Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997", and Section 23, RA No. 10601 or Agricultural and Fishery Mechanization (AFMech) Law" in relation to RA No. 9513 (Renewable Energy Act of 2008), the DA entered a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Energy (DOE) for the formulation and implementation of a Renewable Energy Program for the Agriculture and Fishery Sector (REP-AFS) as one of the components of the National Renewable Energy Program (NREP) with the following goals and objectives:

- 1) Strengthen and/or expand the implementation of existing RE programs, projects and technologies for the agri-fishery sector in all feasible sites all over the country such as but not limited to solar-powered irrigation system (SPIS); biomass gasifiers; and small-scale geothermal energy to supply heat, mechanical and electrical power for farm machinery, post-harvest facilities, and greenhouses;
- 2) Promote the use of RE such as solar, wind, hydro, biomass, small-scale geothermal and other farm-based energy resources for agriculture and fisheries to reduce the cost of production of agri-fishery products;

- 3) Develop new and emerging RE technologies for the agri-fishery sector in collaboration with research and development institutions (RDIs), state colleges and universities and the private sector;
- 4) Promote human resource/manpower development of RE for agri-fisheries sector through capacity development, and deployment of agricultural and biosystems engineers, technicians, farmers, fishermen, farm workers and other concerned stakeholders in collaboration with TESDA, CHED, DOLE and DepEd;
- 5) Encourage and promote the development and implementation of standards on design and construction of RE equipment and facilities for agri-fishery sector; and
- 6) Provide technical and other support services to local manufacturers, fabricators and suppliers of locally-produced equipment and components of RE-powered agri-fishery systems, and encourage the continuing technology innovation through public private partnerships, joint venture arrangements, technology business incubation, contract research, management contract and other relevant and related legal instruments.

In the pursuit of this collaborative program, the DA shall:

- 1) Integrate the use of cost-efficient RE for power and non-power application in the planning and implementation of agri-fishery mechanization and other relevant plans, programs, projects and activities.
- 2) Spearhead in the formulation of the REP-AFS for the agri-fishery sector in collaboration with DOE and other concerned government agencies and private sector.
- 3) Regularly assess/account and submit to the DOE the contribution of RE in both non-power and power applications in the agriculture and fishery industry; and
- 4) Support the commercial plantation of biomass feedstock for small scale and industrial application of RE through Farmers' Cooperatives and Associations.
- 5) Through the Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE), as the DA focal bureau on Renewable Energy (RE) for agri-fishery sector, shall coordinate and monitor the planning and implementation of the REP-AFS plans, programs, projects and activities and the monitoring and evaluation of the manufacturing/fabrication/supply and use of RE powered agricultural and fishery machinery and equipment;



Moreover, a Joint Technical Working Group (TWG) shall be immediately constituted from DA and DOE to discuss and address policy, technical requirements and related concerns, and develop implementing guidelines on the collaborative undertaking which shall be composed of the following:


Department of Agriculture:

- 1) Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (Lead);
- 2) Philippine Rice Research Institute;
- 3) Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization;
- 4) Sugar Regulatory Administration;
- 5) Philippine Coconut Authority; and
- 6) Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Department of Energy:

- 1) Renewable Energy Management Bureau

The support and participation of all concerned DA offices, bureaus, attached agencies/corporations, regional field offices and banner programs in the implementation of this collaborative undertaking with DOE is hereby enjoined.



WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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