



February 10, 2015

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 04
SERIES of 2015

SUBJECT: SPECIAL RULES ON THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR RECLASSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS FOR SOCIALIZED HOUSING AND RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS IN YOLANDA-AFFECTED AREAS, DIRECTING ALL REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONCERNED TO OBSERVE THE SAME

WHEREAS, Typhoon Yolanda caused widespread destruction, substantial damage and death in several areas, including the provinces of Leyte, Southern Leyte, Samar, Eastern Samar, Biliran, Cebu, Negros Occidental, Capiz, Aklan, Antique, Iloilo, Masbate, Palawan and Dinagat Islands, leaving many Filipinos homeless.

WHEREAS, in line with the provision of the Government to provide safe shelter as a basic human need, the need to develop housing and resettlement sites for affected families is thus ensured.

WHEREAS, The Certificate of Eligibility for Reclassification of Agricultural Lands from the Department of Agriculture is a requirement of the Department of Agrarian Reform in Land Use Conversion. There is therefore a need to simplify the processing of applications for Land Use Reclassification (LUR) to serve this purpose.

WHEREAS, the Office of the President issued Administrative Order (A.O) No. 44 Series of 2014, directing this Department to dispose housing-related certification within ten (10) days.

SECTION 1. Applicability – This Administrative Order (A.O.) shall apply only to land use reclassification necessary for those areas affected by Typhoon Yolanda.

SECTION 2. Territorial Application – This A.O. shall apply only to the provinces of Leyte, Southern Leyte, Samar, Eastern Samar and Biliran (Region VIII), Cebu (Region VII), Negros Occidental, Capiz, Aklan, Antique and Iloilo (Region VI), Masbate (Region V), Palawan (Region IVB) and Dinagat Islands (Region XIII).

SECTION 3. Documentary Requirements – the applicants shall submit to the concerned regions the documentary requirements as required under DA A.O. 25, Series of 2012 except no. 5 and 6 of Section 7.

SECTION 4. Endorsement from Regional Executive Director of Concerned Regions – In order for this A.O. to apply to applications for Land Use Reclassification, endorsement from Regional Executive Director (RED) stating that the development is within the 50 kilometres radius from Yolanda Affected Areas (based on PARR Certification) and that the development is necessary for the construction of socialized housing or resettlement areas for Typhoon Yolanda affected victims (based on NHA Certification), shall be submitted together with the PARR and NHA certificates, application form and

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required documents. Regular rules for LUR Application shall be applied in the absence of NHA Certificate.

SECTION 5. Coverage of Regional Executive Director's Authority to endorse Socialized Housing or Resettlement Projects in the Yolanda Affected Areas to Department of Agriculture - Office of the Secretary – The authority of the REDs concerned to fast-track endorsement of the same is up to fifty (50) hectares. Beyond this, regular process of application shall apply.

SECTION 6. Prioritization – the concerned Regions shall prioritize the applications for socialized housing or resettlement projects of those Affected Areas from Typhoon Yolanda.

The processing of the applications must be completed within ten (10) working days from the submission by the applicant of all the required documents

SECTION 7. Approving Authority – the Secretary or his authorized signatory shall sign and issue the Certificate of Eligibility for reclassification of agricultural lands.

SECTION 8. Monthly Report – The RED's concerned shall submit monthly reports indicating the following:

1. Name of Applicant/Authorized Representative
2. Contact numbers
3. Location
4. Area Applied (in hectares)
5. Present Land Use (Dominant) of Area Applied
6. Purpose (Socialized housing or Resettlement)

SECTION 9. Funding – The concerned Regions, to implement this Order, are authorized to charge against their current appropriations for the purpose, subject to the availability of funds and usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 10. Waiver of Fees - The filing and inspection fees are hereby waived pursuant to DA A.O. No. 25, Series of 2012.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause – All order, circular, rules and regulations that are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

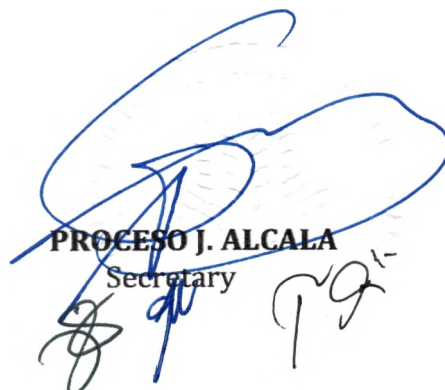
SECTION 12. Effectivity Clause – This A.O. shall take effect immediately after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Its effectivity shall cease on 30 June 2016 provided that the A.O. shall still apply to those applications filed prior to 30 June 2016 but remain pending thereafter.

26 February 2015 Diliman, Quezon City

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary

