



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

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ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR

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SUBJECT : MANDATORY LICENSING OF MEAT ESTABLISHMENTS WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

WHEREAS, the objective of Republic Act (RA) No. 10611 (2013), otherwise known as the "Food Safety Act of 2013", is to strengthen the food and safety regulatory system in the country to protect consumers' health and facilitate market access of local foods and food products;

WHEREAS, Section 28 of the same Act states that appropriate authorization shall be developed and issued in the form of a permit, license and certificate of registration or compliance that would cover establishments, facilities engaged in production, postharvest handling, processing, packing, holding or producing food for consumption in accordance with the mandates of food safety regulatory agencies (FSRAs) issuing such authorizations;

WHEREAS, Section 7.b) of RA No. 10536 (2013), which amended RA No. 9296 (2004), otherwise known as "The Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines", provides that the Accreditation and Registration Division (ARD) shall be responsible for the accreditation of meat establishments, rendering facilities, meat transport vehicles, meat establishment contractors, fabricators, and suppliers and third party service providers and registration and certification;

NOW, THEREFORE, I PROCESO J. ALCALA Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby issue this Circular requiring all operators and or owners of postharvest meat establishments to subject their facilities for evaluation for the issuance of License to Operate (LTO) by the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS).

The NMIS shall issue implementing guidelines for the issuance of the LTO.

This Order shall take effect 15 days after its publication in two newspapers of general circulation and submission of copy to the National Administrative Register (NAR), UP, Diliman, Quezon City.

SO ORDERED


PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary

