

EMB Policies & Programs on Water Quality Management 2008

MANDATES

A line Bureau by virtue of Section 34 of the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 (or RA 8749) and mandated to implement environmental laws to wit:

- RA 8749 (Clean Air Act of 1999)
- PD 1586 (Environmental Impact Statement System)
- RA 6969 (Toxic Substances and Hazardous Waste Control Act)
- RA 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act)
- **RA 9275 (Philippine Clean Water Act)**



CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)

- **Aims to protect the country's water bodies primarily from land-based pollution sources.**
- **Provides a comprehensive and integrated strategy to prevent and minimize pollution through a multi-sectoral and participatory approach .**
- **DENR is the lead agency.**
- **DAO 10-2005 prescribes the CWA IRR**

Designation of Water Quality Management Areas (WQMAs)

- **Target: Designate 3 WQMAs**
- **Output: Total of 7 WQMAs designated**
- **Significance/ Impact:**
 - Strengthened coordination among NGAs, LGUs and private sector on Water Quality Improvement
 - implementation of water quality management activities, programs, and projects.

Implementation of Wastewater Charge System

- Established on the basis of payment to government for discharging wastewater into the water bodies
- Based on net waste load (diff. of initial load of abstracted water to waste load of discharged effluent),
- Complying industries to be charged minimal reasonable amount

. . Wastewater Charge . . /2

- Wastewater charge = fixed permit fee + variable discharge fee
- **Fixed discharge fee** - As tabulated, based on discharge volume, validity of up to 5 yrs maximum, accrues to NWQMF
- **Variable load-based fee** based on net waste load (for now, only TSS or BOD); paid annually in advance, accrues to AWQMF

Classification of Water Bodies

- **Important component in water quality management as effluent standards are interpreted with respect to it.**
- **Classification of water bodies taking into account, among others:**
 - **Most beneficial use of water bodies**
 - **Existing water quality**
 - **Size, depth, surface area covered, volume, direction, and gradient of stream**

Classification of . . . /2

- **Target: Classify 25 water bodies**
- **Output: 70% of 421 principal rivers/hotspots classified (270 or 64% in 2007)**
- **Significance/ Impact:**
 - **Beneficial use of water body established, ff: DENR AO 34.**

Ambient Water Quality Monitoring

Target: Monitor the water quality of 127 classified water bodies

Output: Determination of levels of improvement in BOD & DO

Significance/ Impact:

- **Determines the present state of the water body, ff: DENR AO 34**
- **Public information of the water quality levels**
- **Implementation/ assessment of measures in improving water quality**

Beach Watch

Target: Assess water quality of 62 priority bathing beaches

Output: 62% of 101 priority beaches assessed & disclosed

Significance/ Impact:

- **Beaches safe and fit for bathing, ff: DENR AO 34**
- **Resort owners and LGUs instituting measures to improve water quality of respective bathing beaches**

Industrial Effluent and Compliance Monitoring

Target: Monitor compliance of 2,587 firms

Output: 62% of 4,202 active firms monitored

Significance/ Impact:

- Wastewater discharges compliant to DENR-AO 35 (Revised Effluent Standards)
- Improved compliance & performance of industry/sector

Industrial Eco Watch

– Firms from priority sectors are assessed in terms of compliance/ environmental performance. Ratings are color coded (DAO 98-51 & DAO 26-03)

- **Gold** – Outstanding
- **Silver** – Excellent
- **Green** – Very Good
- **Blue** – Good
- **Red** – Bad
- **Black** – Very Bad

Performance Indicators

	Broad Category	Color Code
Efforts beyond legal requirements	Excellent	GOLD
	Outstanding	SILVER
Effort level sufficient to comply	Very Good	GREEN
	Good	BLUE
Effort not sufficient for compliance	Bad	RED
No effort to comply	Very Bad	BLACK

Sagip Ilog / Save a River

- **Target: Improve Dissolved Oxygen (DO) & Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) level of 19 priority rivers**
- **Output: improved BOD & DO level by 30% in 19 priority rivers**
- **Significance/ Impact:**
 - Coordinated rehabilitation of rivers
 - Improve aquatic life conditions
 - Prevent fish kills which can result if DO falls below the criteria

Sagip Ilog/ Save a River Activities

- **Mapping out of industries and commercial establishments**
- **Inspection of industries and commercial establishments**
- **Issuance of wastewater discharge permits to different companies to enhance monitoring activities**
- **Intensification of monitoring activities**
- **Issuance of Notice of Violations (NOVs)**
- **Issuance of Cease and Desist Orders**

Policy Review and Program Support

- **Target: Harmonization, integration of all rules, regulations and procedures**
- **Output: Consistent, integrated policies, rules, regulations**
- **Scope - related programs & projects on:**
 - **Water pollution control assessments**
 - **Health and sanitation**
 - **Marine pollution**
 - **Integrated water resources management**
 - **Sewerage and septage management program**
 - **Integrated coastal management**
 - **WQ guidelines and standards review and development**
 - **Environmental Impact Assessments**

Technical Assistance

- **Waste minimization programs**
- **Pollution control trainings**
- **WQ Monitoring support to:**
 - **Tapwatch/ Support to monitoring drinking water**
 - **Oil spills**
 - **Groundwater contamination**
 - **Local government units (LGUs)**
 - **National government agencies (NGAs)**
 - **Pollution Adjudication Board (PAB)**
 - **Industry, public and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)**
- **Secretariat support to WQMA Governing Board**

MARAMING SALAMAT PO !



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