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From: Dir. H. A. Ariola To:	✓ Appropriate action, pls For handling, pls. Let's discuss, pls. Initiate, pls. Call me ASAP, Pls. Pls. reply directly, thru /cc HAA Pls. file Pls. CSW with Pls. Attend
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02-134

MEMORANDUM

14 February 2017

For

H. A. Ariola

Director, ITMS

From:

M. C. Capongcol

Director, EPIMB

Cc

J. P. Ritual

Chief, ITD-ITMS

Re

Posting of the draft Department Circular providing implementing guidelines on the preparation and development of the Annual Work Program pursuant to Section 6(a), Rule 29 Part A of the EPIRA-IRR in the

DOE website

We would like to request a fifteen (15)-day extension on the posting of the attached copy of the draft Department Circular in the DOE portal to solicit more inputs and comments from the concerned public and the relevant stakeholders.

We further request to include in the posting as advisory that "Should there be no inputs or comments received, the REAMD-EPIMB shall assume your concurrence with the draft Circular".

Our staff from the Rural Electrification Administration and Management Division, Mr. Vernon Ray N. Vinluan, shall coordinate with your office on the matter.

Thank you.

M. C. Capongcol

JBB/VRNV

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DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO.

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES ON THE PREPARATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM UNDER SECTION 6(a), RULE 29 (A) OF THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9136, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY REFORM ACT OF 2001"

WHEREAS, Energy Regulations ("E.R.") No. 1-94 implementing Section 5(i) of R. A. No. 7638, otherwise known as the "Department of Energy Act of 1992", grant financial benefits to the host communities of the energy-generation company and/or energy resources;

WHEREAS, Section 66 of R. A. No. 9136, otherwise known as the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001" and Rule 29(A) of its Implementing Rules and Regulations or EPIRA-IRR which requires all energy generation companies and/or energy resource developers to provide financial benefits equivalent to one centavo per kilowatt-hour (P0.01/kWh) of the total electricity sales of the generation facility to the region, province, city or municipality and barangay that host the generation facility as well as the establishment of corresponding trust accounts and the administration thereof by the DOE;

WHEREAS, there is a need to strengthen the cooperation among the energy resource developers and/or power producers and the host LGUs/Region/s through direct involvement that will expedite and streamline the processes of the project submission, evaluation, approval and realization of benefits to the communities/people affected through simplified implementation procedures;

WHEREAS, the Department has issued an advisory letter to the host and non-host communities on the process flow in availing of the financial benefits under the E.R. No. 1-94 (Benefits to Host Communities) Program;

WHEREAS, there is a need to enforce strict compliance of Section 6(a), Rule 29 (A) of EPIRA-IRR by the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer on the submission of the Annual Work Program (AWP) to the DOE not later than 15 March of every year to ensure the equitable share of resources among host LGUs and Region Share even for non-host LGUs by integrating the local development plan of host communities to AWP;

WHEREAS, the Department deemed it imperative to issue an implementing guidelines on the preparation and development of the AWP to guide the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer for endorsement to the DOE as well define the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved;

WHEREFORE, premises considered, the DOE, with the approval of the JCPC adopts and promulgates the Implementing Guidelines on the Preparation of the AWP under Section 6 (a), Rule 29(A) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9136.

2 H 3 E

NOW, THEREFORE, FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREGOING PREMISES, the DOE hereby promulgates the following guidelines on Section 6(a) Rule 29 (A) of the EPIRA-IRR on the Benefits to Host Communities.

Section 1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

This Circular is being issued to provide information and guidance on the preparation, development and submission of the Annual Work Program (AWP) for the ER No. 1-94 as indicated under Section 6(a), Rule 29(Part A) of the EPIRA-IRR. Said guideline details the procedures as well as roles and responsibilities of the parties involved.

Section 2. POLICY THRUSTS

The DOE hereby adopts the following policy thrusts in the preparation and development of the Annual Work Program:

a) To optimize and rationalize the equitable share of resources among host LGUs and Region Share to include non-host LGUs by integrating the local development plan in the submission of the AWP:

 To ensure that the Benefits to Host Communities Program directly be used as an effective tool for poverty alleviation and rural development; and,

c) To comply to the requirement of Section 6a, Rule 29 (A) of the EPIRA-IRR.

Section 3. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

The Guidelines on the preparation, development and submission of the Annual Work Program under ER No. 1-94 shall be observed by the host communities and host region as assisted by the Generation Facilities and/or Energy Resource Developers.

The Guidelines supplement the existing ER No. 1-94 implementing guidelines of the Department as regard their requirements.

Section 4. ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM (AWP) FRAMEWORK

 The following rule shall govern the preparation and development of the Annual Work Program:

a) Submission of Annual Work Program

 The host communities and host region shall prepare an Annual Work Program and submit, in print and in electronic copy, to DOE not later than 15 March of every year. It is expected that said annual Work Program has been reviewed and validated by the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer with proper endorsement to DOE. The annual work program shall follow a prescribed format (Annex A) containing information on the following:

a.1 Project Title and Description: includes information on the project proponent, location of project site as well details on project type and specifications

a.2 Expected Output/Accomplishment: information on the expected physical output / accomplishments

 a.3 Estimated Budgetary Requirement: information on funding requirement and fund utilization on ER No. 1-94, to date.

- a.4 List of Beneficiaries: list of communities, households and individuals benefitted by the project.
- a.5 Funding and Timing of Projects to be Implemented: on time, on budget and with best results.

The primary consideration, as much as possible, is to implement the project according to specified and approved timeline within the context of complete documentation, availability of funds, no outstanding/unliquidated project funds and streamlined process.

- a.5.1a For existing GENCOs provision of available and audited Accrued Financial Benefits (AFB)
- a.5.2a Newly-engaged GENCOs in the program electricity sales forecast based on the dependable capacity which the GENCOs can generate minus own use and system losses
- a.5.2 Allowance for Deviation should be approved by DOE, with no additional fund release required but because of emergency interventions or situation.
- a.5.3 In Case of Emergency for areas stricken by calamity or Acts of God, where a particular project needs to be implemented in order to improve the situation and provide "rapid response".
- a.6. Remarks: Other information relative to the proposed annual work program / list of project proposal/s.

The proposed projects of the following types under Electrification Fund (EF), Development and Livelihood Fund (DLF) and Reforestation, Watershed Management, Health and Environment Enhancement Fund (RWMHEEF) can qualify and be included in the AWP for the ER No. 1-94.

It is assumed that the host LGUs and host region has conducted the minimum social preparation activities such as, but not limited to, community consultations and orientations in its preparation of the annual work program for the ER No. 1-94 to ensure greater stakeholder/community participation as well as consistency in their local/regional development plans.

Once the AWP for the ER 1-94 has been finalized by the host communities, an accompanying legislative/sangguniang resolution must be submitted to the Department to firm-up support to said AWP including a sworn certification by the host LGU/Region that the listed projects under AWP shall be funded only through ER No. 1-94 and that is also included in the Annual Investment Plan of the host LGUs.

b. Validation of the Annual Work Program

Prior to endorsement to DOE, the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer shall undertake review and validation of the annual work program as proposed by its host LGUs and host region.

 It shall assess whether the propose projects can promote rural development, uplift socioeconomic conditions, address environmentally critical situation, improve health, among others.

Other considerations to be observed by the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer in the review and validation of the proposed projects under the AWP as submitted by their host communities are the following: a) It supports the local development plan of the host communities; b) It is not a duplication of any ongoing, completed or pipeline projects in terms of area coverage and project activities; c) It must be sustainable – meaning, it has the ability to continue even after the completion of the project; and, d) The proponent/LGU has the technical and managerial capability to carry-out the project.

For projects requiring the participation or cooperation of non-government entities, the linkages and role must be well-defined and stipulated in appropriate legal document such as Memorandum of Agreement.

The Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer shall then prepare a validation report containing the results of the validation process conducted. In the case when the validation report showed errors or discrepancies in the information presented by a specific host LGU or region, the host community will be asked to rectify these errors or provide an explanation for these discrepancies prior to finalization and submission of the validated annual work program by the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer to DOE.

Whenever applicable, the following existing national standards/guidelines, laws and policies shall be adhered to and/or requirements complied with, to facilitate the review and evaluation of the proposals as stated in the submitted annual work program.

c. Submission of Validated Annual Work Program

Based on the results of the validation, the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer shall endorse the validated AWP to the Electric Power Industry Management Bureau through the Rural Electrification Administration and Management Division (EPIMB-REAMD), which shall then forward within ten (10) working days to the Office of the Undersecretary for Power, the validated annual work program on ER No. 1-94, copy furnished the Office of the Secretary - Department of Energy for information and monitoring purposes.

Also, upon receipt of the validated AWP, the EPIMB-REAMD shall then proceed to program funds for the implementation of the proposed ER No. 1-94 projects. The process and documents flow for the evaluation and approval of ER No. 1-94 projects is attached as Annex B.

The undersecretary for Power is hereby authorized to issue additional guidelines as may be necessary to implement this Circular.

d. Web-Posting of Validated Annual Work Program

For transparency and accountability purposes, the DOE shall be responsible for ensuring that the Annual Work Program are posted in the official websites of DOE and the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer within five (5) days upon receipt of the validated Annual Work Program.

1	e. Project Financial Review and Audit
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3	The Financial Services of the Department shall still continue to conduct the financial audit and
4	review on the uses and liquidation of the project funds under the ER No. 1-94 including the
5	total electricity sales of the Generation Companies as well as other documents relative to E.R.
6	No. 1-94.
7	C. C. F. INADACT EVALUATION
8	Section 5. IMPACT EVALUATION
10	After the institutionalization of the annual work program for the ER No. 1-94, said policy guideline
11	shall be revisited and relevant stakeholders will be reconvened, to include the semi-annual interface
12	with the COMRELs of the Power Plants, to share their experiences, insights, feelings on the impact of
13	the annual work program on facilitating the implementation of the ER No. 1-94 Program.
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15	Section 6. OTHER PROVISION
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17	If after March 15 of every year, the Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer fails to
18	comply with the submission of the annual work program of it host communities, the DOE shall not
19	evaluate/process any project proposals of said host communities provided however, that the
20	Generation Company and/or Energy Resource Developer shall show cause the reason for non-
21	submission with approval from DOE.
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23	Section 7. REPEALING CLAUSE
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25	Provisions from previous issuances that are inconsistent or contrary to the provisions of this order are
26	hereby repealed/rescinded.
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28	Section 8. SEPARABILITY
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30	If any provision of this Order is declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain
31	valid and subsisting.
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33	Section 9. EFFECTIVITY
34	the Constant of the Department of
35	This order shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Secretary of the Department of
36	Energy.
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41	Issued thisth day of 2016 in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Metro Manila.
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45	ALFONDO C. CUEL
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