

## DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. DO2023-07-0020

OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY MANAGEMENT DIVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9513 OR THE RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008 (RE ACT)

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7638 or the Department of Energy (DOE) Act of 1992 declares the policy of the State to ensure a continuous, adequate, and economic supply of energy with the end in view of ultimately achieving self-reliance in the country's energy requirements through the integrated and intensive exploration, production, management, and development of the country's indigenous energy resources, and through the judicious conservation, renewal, and efficient utilization of energy to keep pace with the country's growth and economic development;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2(a) of the RE Act of 2008 declares the policy of the State to accelerate the exploration and development of renewable energy (RE) resources, such as solar and wind energy resources, among others, while Section 5 of the RE Act mandates the DOE to implement its provisions;

WHEREAS, Section 32 of the RE Act stipulates the creation of the Renewable Energy Management Bureau (REMB) to, among others, implement policies, plans and programs related to the accelerated development, transformation, utilization and commercialization of RE resources and technologies and mandates the DOE Secretary, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), to determine the organizational structure and staffing complement of REMB in accordance with existing civil service rules and regulations;

WHEREAS, the Solar and Wind Energy Management Division (SWEMD) was created as one of the five (5) Divisions with twenty-six (26) plantilla positions under REMB to formulate and implement policies, plans and programs related to accelerate the development, transformation, utilization and commercialization of solar and wind energy resources;

WHEREAS, Section 19(B) of the DOE Department Circular (DC) No. DC2009-05-008, titled "Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9513, as amended by DC No. DC2022-11-0034", states that the State may directly undertake the exploration, development, production and utilization of RE resources, or it may enter into RE Service or Operating Contracts with Filipino and/or foreign citizens or Filipino and/or foreign corporations or associations, subject to certain exceptions thereunder;

WHEREAS, the huge potential for the development of wind and solar energy resources in the country has sustained the interest of the RE stakeholders, both local and foreign, to explore, develop and utilize solar and wind energy resources;

WHEREAS, the DOE has awarded 171 Wind Energy Service Contracts (WESCs) and 295 Solar Energy Service/Operating Contracts (SESC/SEOC), and has been processing 20 WESC and 10 SESC/SEOC applications as of 15 May 2023;

WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure that the award and administration of WESCs and SESCs/SEOCs remain efficient and effective and that the DOE maintains its compliance with the timeline required under RA 11032 or the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Service Delivery Act", and RA 11234 or the "Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop (EVOSS) Act", as well as keeping pace with the continuing technological and policy innovation relating to solar and wind energy development;

WHEREAS, on 03 April 2023, the DOE Secretary approved the recommendation of REMB to reengineer the SWEMD by creating an interim Solar Energy Management Group (SEMG) composed of 14 personnel and interim Wind Energy Management Division (WEMG) composed of 13 personnel by assigning four (4) technical personnel from the Geothermal Energy Management Division and the Biomass Energy Management Division and hiring of personnel under Contract of Service (CS) or Job Order to complete the manpower complement of 26 personnel per Division;

WHEREAS, the DOE Secretary further approved the plan for the permanent creation of the Solar Energy Management Division (SEMD) and Wind Energy Management Division (WEMD), to be submitted to the DBM for consideration; and

WHEREAS, Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 6, series of 2005, and CSC Resolution No. 050157 promulgated on 07 February 2005 define the parameters for the designation of personnel in the civil service.

**NOW THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, the following are hereby ordered:

**Section 1. Scope**. This Department Order (DO) shall provide for the interim reorganization of the SWEMD and the creation of SEMG and WEMG.

**Section 2. Reorganization of the SWEMD**. The SWEMD is hereby temporarily reorganized into the following management group:

- 2.1 SEMG, which shall perform the following mandates:
  - 2.1.1 Develop, formulate and implement policies, plans, programs, projects and activities for the promotion and commercialization of solar energy resources as part of the National Renewable Energy Program (NREP) and accelerate the development, transformation, utilization, adoption, commercialization and public awareness of solar energy resources and technologies;

- 2.1.2 Monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies, plans, programs, projects, activities, as well as laws, regulations and other issuances on the promotion and commercialization of solar energy;
- 2.1.3 Administer the implementation of existing solar energy laws, policies, regulations and related issuances;
- 2.1.4 Coordinate with various government agencies, local government units (LGUs), academe, private sector and other stakeholders on matters related to the development and implementation of solar energy policies, plans and programs;
- 2.1.5 Conduct energy technology and policy research and formulate activities for the development of sustainable solar energy systems;
- 2.1.6 Develop and spearhead the implementation of local and/or foreign-assisted solar energy projects and activities;
- 2.1.7 Operate and maintain a computerized national solar energy database;
- 2.1.8 Conduct solar energy resource assessment and mapping; and
- 2.1.9 Perform other functions that may be necessary for accelerating the development and utilization of solar energy resources in the country.
- 2.2 WEMG, which shall perform the following mandates:
  - 2.2.1 Develop, formulate and implement policies, plans, programs, projects and activities for the promotion and commercialization of wind energy resources as part of the NREP and accelerate the development, transformation, utilization, adoption, commercialization and public awareness of wind energy resources and technologies;
  - 2.2.2 Monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies, plans, programs, projects, activities, as well as laws, regulations and other issuances on the promotion and commercialization of wind energy;
  - 2.2.3 Administer the implementation of existing wind energy laws, policies, regulations and related issuances;
  - 2.2.4 Coordinate with various government agencies, LGUs, academe, private sector and other stakeholders on matters related to the development and implementation of wind energy policies, plans and programs;
  - 2.2.5 Conduct energy technology and policy research and formulate activities for the development of sustainable wind energy systems;
  - 2.2.6 Develop and spearhead the implementation of local and/or foreignassisted wind energy projects and activities;

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- 2.2.7 Operate and maintain a computerized national wind energy database;
- 2.2.8 Conduct wind energy resource assessment and mapping; and
- 2.2.9 Perform other functions that may be necessary for accelerating the development and utilization of the wind energy resources in the country.
- 2.3 The assignments of the DOE personnel for the SEMG and WEMG shall be in accordance with the issuance of the appropriate Special Order by the Secretary.
- Section 3. Strengthening of the Renewable Energy Legal Services Division (RELSD). Without prejudice to the proposed institutional strengthening of the DOE, the RELSD shall receive additional personnel under CS in order to provide support services to REMB in the discharge of its functions under the RE Act.

RELSD shall submit their requirements with the accompanying supporting documents to REMB for consolidation.

- **Section 4. Hiring of Personnel**. To assist SEMG, WEMG and RELSD in the discharge of their functions, the hiring of CS is hereby authorized, subject to the guidelines and limitations set forth in CSC-Commission on Audit DBM Circular No. 1, series of 2018. Further, the Administrative Services (AS) Human Resource Management Division shall coordinate and hire the required personnel under CS to complete the manpower complement of 26 personnel per Group and personnel support for RELSD.
- **Section 5. Budgetary Requirements**. The funds to support this DO shall be sourced from existing 2023 DOE funds, subject to applicable accounting rules and regulations. Thereafter, appropriations for the implementation of this DO shall be incorporated into the regular budget of the DOE.
- Section 6. Enhanced Organizational Structure and Staffing Complement. SWEMD and AS shall prepare and submit the enhanced organizational structure and staffing complement for endorsement of the Secretary to the DBM within six (6) months from the effectivity of this DO.
- Section 7. Repealing Clause. All issuances inconsistent with this DO are hereby modified or superseded accordingly.
- **Section 8. Separability Clause**. If for any reason, any section or provision of this DO is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such parts not affected shall remain in full force and effect.
- Section 9. Effectivity. This DO shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until otherwise revoked or amended in writing by the undersigned or any competent authority.

Signed this \_\_\_\_day of July 2023 at the DOE, Energy Center, Rizal Drive cor. 34th Street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Metro Manila.

RAPHAEL P.M. LOTILLA Secretary Ó

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