

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 96 - 22

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES GOVERNING THE DEPUTIZATION OF NPC WATERSHED PERSONNEL AS DEPUTY FOREST OFFICERS

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 224 and in relation to Executive Order No. 256, the following guidelines governing the deputization of NPC Watershed Personnel as Deputy Forest Officers are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

SECTION 1.0 SCOPE AND COVERAGE.

These guidelines shall apply to watershed areas/reservation covered under Executive Order Nos. 224 and 256 dated July 16, 1987 and July 10, 1995, respectively.

SECTION 2.0 DEPUTIZATION OF NPC WATERSHED PERSONNEL.

To further ensure the protection and conservation of the watershed and forest resources within areas covers hereto, all NPC watershed personnel shall be deputized as Forest Officers.

SECTION 3.0 POWERS AND DUTIES OF NPC WATERSHED PERSONNEL DEPUTIZED AS FOREST OFFICERS.

Deputized forest officers shall have the following powers and duties.

- a. To enforce forest laws, rules and regulations governing the protection of the watershed areas from fire, kaingin making illegal occupancy, illegal cutting, gathering and/or collecting of timber and other forest products without authority;
- b. To arrest in coordination with PNP/AFP elements, any person who has committed or committing any of the offenses defined in the forestry laws, rules and regulations;
- c. To deliver within the period prescribed by law and regulation any person arrested and/or forest products confiscated and tools and equipment used in violation of existing forestry laws and regulations and to file the proper complaint with the appropriate official designated by law to conduct preliminary investigation and file complaint in court;
- d. To testify in Court on the speedy prosecution of the criminal complaint against forest violator/s;
- e. To submit report of apprehension/violations committed within 15 days from the time of apprehension or as the need of the legal or technical assistance arises;
- f. To conduct forestry information, dissemination and extension activities within NPC's jurisdiction in coordination with other personnel of other government or private agencies engaged in similar works.

SECTION 4.0 DEPUTIZATION PROCESS.

To facilitate deputization of NPC watershed Personnel, all concerned are required to undertake the following actions:

1. Determine who shall be deputized as forest officers in accordance with Section 2.0 of this Order; and;

2. Endorses to the Board the list of NPC Watershed Personnel who may be deputized. The list shall include the following information:

- I) Name of Official
- II) Age
- III) Designation/Title
- IV) Address

Prepares the deputization order for the approval of the President of the National Power Corporation.

SECTION 5.0 TRAINING OF DEPUTIZED FOREST OFFICERS.

NPC-WMD Reforestation and Protection Division shall conduct training immediately after they are deputized in order that they can effectively perform/exercise their powers and duties.

NPC-WMD Reforestation and Protection Division shall prepare training syllabus to be used during the training to assure the uniform dissemination of the technical and general information.

SECTION 6.0 GROUNDS FOR THE TERMINATION OF POST AS DEPUTIZED FOREST OFFICER.

The appointment/designation as deputized forest officer shall be revoked by Board/President on the following grounds:

- a. When proven guilty aiding, abetting, or conniving with any forest violators;
- b. When they are considered more as forest destruction or hindrance in the implementation of forest laws, rules and regulations;
- c. When found to have committed acts which constitute disqualification from occupying public office; and
- d. Upon termination of their tenure of service as NPC official/employee.

SECTION 7.0 EFFECTIVITY.

This Administrative Order shall take effect immediately.

(SGD) **GUIDO ALFREDO A. DELGADO**
President