

# [ **PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1749, December 10, 1980** ]

## **AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1515 VESTING THE JURISDICTION AND CONTROL OVER WATERSHED RESERVATIONS IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, under Presidential Decree No. 705, jurisdiction and authority over all forest lands, grazing lands, and all forest reservations, including watershed reservations presently administered by other government agencies or instrumentalities is vested in the Ministry of Natural Resources thru the Bureau of Forest Development;

**WHEREAS**, under Presidential Decree No. 1515, jurisdiction; control and regulation over critical watershed areas and reservations proclaimed and thereafter proclaimed as such by the President of the Philippines which are essential to water-based power projects is vested in the Ministry of Energy;

**WHEREAS**, the Ministry of Energy under its mandate to formulate and implement the government's policies, plans and programs on the development of indigenous energy resources should contribute to the desired protection, development, management and rehabilitation of watershed and forest reservations/areas;

**WHEREAS**, in the pursuance of the aforecited functions for implementing national objectives, only watershed areas and reservations supporting operational water-based power projects over which jurisdiction, control and regulation shall be vested in the Ministry of Energy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree the following:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1515 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"Section 1.** Any Provision of existing law to the contrary notwithstanding, the Ministry of Energy shall have jurisdiction, control and regulation over the following watershed areas and reservations:

1. Tiwi Geothermal Reservation as covered by Presidential Proclamation No. 739;
2. Tongonan Geothermal Area as covered by Presidential Proclamation No. 1112;
3. Palimpinon Geothermal Area as covered by Presidential Proclamation No. 1413:

*Provided*, That when public interest so requires, jurisdiction over other watershed areas and reservations which may in the future support water-based energy projects, shall be transferred by the President of the Philippines to the appropriate agency of the government when such projects become operational; *Provided further*, That such watershed areas and reservations shall include only the immediate watershed areas supporting existing hydroelectric dams and projects, the boundaries of which are to be jointly determined on the ground by the Ministry of