[DOE Department Circular No. DC2015-06-0004, June 08, 2015]

IMPLEMENTING THE CORRESPONDING PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS (PNS) FOR THE EURO 4/IV-PH FUELS COMPLYING WITH THE EURO 4/IV EMISSIONS STANDARD

Adopted: 08 June 2015 Date Filed: 30 June 2015

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7638, otherwise known as "An Act Creating the Department of Energy (DOE)", tasks the DOE to formulate rules and regulations to guide the operations of both government and private entities involved in energy resource supply and distribution;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8749 otherwise known as the "Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999", mandates the use of environmentally clean fuels which meet specified emission standards and directs the DOE, together with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Bureau of Product Standards (BPS), and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and other stakeholders, to set specifications for all types of fuel and fuel-related products and improve fuel composition;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the above mandate, the DOE has developed and subsequently promulgated by BPS the PNS/DOE QS 008:2012 and PNS/DOE QS 004:2012 as the current standard specifications for gasoline and diesel oil respectively, and these already include Euro 4/IV-Philippine specifications for both fuel types;

WHEREAS, there is a regional/global thrust towards harmonization of fuel quality standard specifications, vehicle technology and emission standards with due regard to the environment, vehicle performance, health and safety and for easier global/international trade;

WHEREAS, the DENR has issued Administrative Order No. 2010-23 which provides that starting 01 January 2016, all new passenger and light duty motor vehicle types to be introduced into the Philippine market shall comply with Euro 4/IV limits/emission standards subject to Euro 4/IV-PH fuels availability. Subsequently, however, the DENR issued DAO No. 2015-04 which reiterates the same provision but which also prescribed emission standards for compliance by 01 July 2015 for certain types of vehicles loaded with Euro 4/IV fuels, thus further provides of ensuring the availability of such fuel in the market on same timeline; and

WHEREAS, the local oil refineries, however, have already put up the necessary investment for the upgrading of their facilities aimed at beginning production of Euro