

**[DAR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 01, S. 2014,
February 21, 2014]**

**ADDITIONAL RULES ON THE ISSUANCE OF NOTICES OF
COVERAGE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER NO. 7, SERIES OF 2011**

PREFATORY STATEMENT

On 30 September 2011, Administrative Order (A.O.) No. 7, Series of 2011, otherwise known as "The Revised Rules and Procedures Governing the Acquisition and Distribution of Private Agricultural Lands under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 6657, as amended", was issued pursuant to Section 49 of R.A. No. 6657, as amended, and the overall mandate of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to implement the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) and other agrarian reform laws.

The Issuance of a Notice of Coverage (NOC) to the landowner is a mandatory requirement that initiates compulsory land acquisition proceedings of private agricultural lands, in order to inform the latter that his/her/its land is covered under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), and that he/she/it can exercise certain rights within a reasonable time. In order to start the process of documentation for land acquisition, reasonable notice should be given to the landowner.

The prevailing rule on the issuance of the NOC is provided in Section 15 of A.O. No. 7, series of 2011, which states that: "The NOC shall be issued to the registered landowner (RLO) of the landholding, as stated in the Transfer Certificate of Title (TCT) or Original Certificate of Title (OCT), or, in case of untitled private agricultural lands, the Tax Declaration, preferably not later than one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the first day of the scheduled date of acquisition and distribution as provided for in Section 5 of this Rule."

The manner by which the identity of the registered landowner is determined is of critical importance in the issuance of NOCs for remaining private landholdings to be covered under the compulsory acquisition mode of CARP, and requires further clarification especially in instances when the original copies of the titles are unavailable for various reasons, for the guidance of the Department's field personnel.

Pursuant to Section 30 of R.A. No. 9700, land acquisition activities for landholdings over which NOCs have already been issued and served are considered pending proceedings which shall be processed until completed even beyond 30 June 2014. In this regard, all NOCs issued and properly served pursuant to this A.O., A.O. No. 7, Series of 2011, and all other previous A.O.s regarding land acquisition and distribution shall be deemed as the initiation of a pending proceeding that may continue even beyond 30 June 2014.