

**[DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2007-13,
July 03, 2007]**

**LIFTING OF THE MORATORIUM ON NEW WOOD PROCESSING
PLANTS (WPPS)**

To address the clamor of the wood industry and to support the wood requirements of the country, Memorandum Circular No. 2003-14, declaring moratorium on the establishment of new Wood Processing Plants (WPPs) is hereby LIFTED.

Issuance of new WPP Permits for sawmilling purposes only with raw materials from planted species shall be allowed. All applications for establishment of new WPPs (minisawmill/sawmill) shall be approved by the Secretary. Renewal of WPPs shall vest with the Regional Executive Directors (REDs) concerned.

All DENR Regional Offices are hereby directed to accept applications to establish and operate new WPPs utilizing planted species only, provided that applicants have contracts with legitimate plantation owners/suppliers covered with Certificate of Tree Plantation Ownership (CTPO), provided further that in case of Cooperatives, they shall be allowed to process their raw material using planted species within their own common milling station.

Taking into consideration the result of the Wood Industry Rationalization Study conducted by the Forest Management Bureau, all REDs are directed to prepare and submit the Regional Wood Processing Plan for approval by the Secretary. No new/renewal of WPPs shall be issued without the approved Regional Wood Processing Plan.

In order to ensure the manufacture and sale of quality semi-finished and finished forest Products, all holders of WPP Permits must conform to the specific local national standards and fair trade practices in accordance with Bureau of Product Standards Certification Schemes and Consumer Act (R.A. 7394).

All other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed/amended accordingly.

Adopted: 03 July 2007

(SGD.) ANGELO T. REYES
Secretary



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