



Guidelines on Establishing Partnership Between the National Ecology Center (NEC) and Government or Private Sector Owners of Existing Training and Integrated Solid Waste Management Facilities for the Conduct of the NEC Trainings

I. Rationale

Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 states that there shall be established a National Ecology Center under the Commission which shall provide consulting, training, and networking services for the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Furthermore, the following functions shall be performed by the NEC under this provision:

1. Facilitate training and education in integrated ecological solid waste management;
2. Establish and manage a solid waste management information database in coordination with the Department of Trade and Industry and other concerned agencies:
 - a. on solid waste generation and management techniques as well as the management, technical and operational approaches to resource recovery; and
 - b. of processors/recyclers, the list of materials being recycled or brought by them and their respective prices;
3. Promote the development of a recycling market through the establishment of a national recycling network that will enhance the opportunity to recycle;
4. Provide or facilitate expert assistance in pilot modeling of solid waste management facilities; and
5. Develop, test, and disseminate model waste minimization and reduction auditing procedures for evaluating options.

The National Ecology Center is headed by the Director of the EMB in his ex officio capacity. It shall maintain a multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary pool of experts, including those from academe, inventors, practicing professionals, business and industry, youth, women, and other concerned sectors, who shall be screened according to qualifications set by the Commission.

On December 7, 2021, the National Solid Waste Management Commission issued Resolution No. 1500, Series of 2021, Adopting the Guidelines on the Establishment of the National Ecology Center. The activities of the NEC relative to said Resolution were provided as follows:

- a. Formulate, conduct, and facilitate training programs for local government units (LGU) and the private sector on the proper management of solid wastes;
- b. Initiate and promote partnerships with other national government agencies, business entities, private sector, and development organizations for the proper management of solid wastes and the conduct of all its programs and activities;
- c. Develop training programs on the technical operations of solid waste management facilities;
- d. Develop an accreditation and certification system for the conduct and holding of training programs on solid waste management;
- e. In collaboration with the Department of Education (DepEd), develop an education program that will promote an effective solid waste management system;
- f. Act as the hub for networking of LGUs, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and industry on the voluntary compliance of the pertinent provisions of the Act; and
- g. Act as the clearing house for cleaner production/cleaner technologies in solid waste management

II. Partnership with Government or Private Sector Owners of Existing Training and Integrated SWM Facility for the NEC Trainings

During the NSWMC Executive Committee Meeting held on March 3, 2022, the EMB Director and NEC Head recommended for the issuance of an Addendum to NSWMC Resolution Non. 1500 to consider the existing facilities of the government and of the industry to serve as a possible venue for the conduct of the trainings.

Further, it was proposed that a Memorandum of Agreement between the NEC, through its Head, and the government or private sector partners that serve as training institutions with the existing or ongoing construction of training facilities, shall be executed to formalize the partnership on the conduct of face to face trainings in their training facilities/institutions and that these partners may apply as additional NEC members based on the qualifications set by the Commission.

III. Qualifications of Possible Government or Private Sector Partners with Existing Training and Integrated SWM Facility for the NEC Trainings

Consistent with the qualifications for an appointment as a member of the NEC provided in NSWMC Resolution No. 1500, Series of 2021, the following shall be part of the minimum qualifications of a government unit /private company SWM Facility operators to be recognized as NEC members and NEC Training Centers.

3.1 Government and Private SWM Facility Operators (with Training Facility)

1. Secured all necessary Environmental Clearances and Permits:
 - a. Environmental Compliance Certificate
 - b. Discharge Permit
 - c. Permit to Operate (for air pollution sources)
 - d. Hazardous Waste Generation ID
 - e. TSD Registration (if applicable)
2. Proof of Environmental Compliance with Secured Permits
 - a. EMB Regional Office's Monitoring Report of SWM Facilities Full Environmental Compliance;
 - b. Proof/records showing the sufficient income to shoulder the operation and maintenance expenses of the facility and database of the process of different types of waste diverted in a monthly basis.
3. With registered Pollution Control Officer;
4. Existing operating units or facilities should be used for training and demonstrations;
5. Availability of training room and computer/s, projector, white screen, sound system.

3.3 NEC Trainers/Pool of Experts

In line with NSWMC Resolution No. 1500, Series of 2021, the qualifications for appointment as a member of the NEC and other matters pertinent to its operation shall be as follows:

1. Be a Filipino Citizen;
2. Have a proven and credible track record on his/her field of expertise;
3. Has not been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;
4. Be a reputed authority on specific aspects of solid waste management as related to sectors or areas, such as:
 - a. Reuse or recycling of solid wastes;

- b. Natural science;
 - c. Environment/Ecology/Biodiversity;
 - d. Energy/Renewable Energy;
 - e. Economics;
 - f. Social Science;
 - g. Health and Sanitation;
 - h. Law and Policy;
 - i. Development planning;
 - j. Relevant fields of Engineering such as but not limited to Sanitary, Agriculture, Biosystems; and
 - k. Other relevant or appropriate fields;
5. Have a relevant university degree.

Proposed qualification to include non-degree holders:

6. Skilled and experienced SWM Facility operators, managers, and personnel with proven performance based on actual operation and maintenance of SWM equipment and SWM facility. So, he/she be expert on hands-on experience in operating and maintaining the equipment and the SWM facility.

IV. Memorandum of Agreement with Government/Private Company SWM Facility as National Ecology Center Training Facility

In line with NSWMC Resolution No. 1506, Series of 2022 or the Addendum to NSWMC Resolution No. 1500, Series of 2021, Adopting the Guidelines on the Establishment of the National Ecology Center, the EMB Director as Head of the NEC in his ex officio capacity shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the qualified government or private operator of SWM Facility to formalize the partnership.

The Regional Directors, as Head of the Regional Ecology Center, shall provide a quarterly report on the trainings conducted in these NEC Training Facilities to the EMB Director as the NEC Head.

The NEC Head shall update the National Solid Waste Management Commission during the regular monthly NSWMC En Banc Meetings.

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