

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO.

97-05

July 18, 1997

SUBJECT : Guidelines on the Protection and Management of Expired, Cancelled, and Expiring Timber License Agreements (TLAS)

In pursuance to the existing DENR policies, rules and regulations, and in order to effectively and efficiently preserve and sustain the remaining resources within the areas of expired, cancelled and expiring Timber License Agreements (TLAs), the following instructions are hereby issued for the information, guidance and compliance of all concerned.

1. The Regional Executive Director (RED) shall post-haste inform/notify the expired/cancelled TLA holder(s) to vacate and pull-out from the area including all its logging equipment within fifteen (15) days from receipt of notice;
2. In the interim, the RED concerned shall immediately prepare and promulgate an Action Plan for Forest Protection with corresponding budgetary requirements to be submitted on or before July 31, 1997 for the approval of the Office of the Secretary;

However, in case where the expired/cancelled or expiring TLA area falls under two (2) or more administrative regions, the REDs concerned shall prepare their respective plans following the political boundary of each administrative region;

3. The RED shall undertake consultations with the LGUs, POs, NGOs concerned relative to the protection and management of the area and whenever possible, execute multi-partite Memorandum of Agreement for joint protection and management thereof. Simultaneously, a rapid appraisal/assessment and land-use

planning shall be conducted in the area purposely to determine allocation of resources thereof;

4. With regard to expiring TLAs, the RED concerned shall cause the conduct of resource assessment, socio-economic survey and land-use planning in the area, and prepare a forest protection plan in consultation with the LGUs, POs, NGOs concerned at least six (6) months prior to expiration.
5. The RED may, from time to time, issue supplementary instructions consistent herewith for the successful execution and implementation hereof.

This memorandum order shall take effect immediately.

(Sgd.) VICTOR O. RAMOS
Secretary