



Republic of the Philippines  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**

**RESOLUTION NO.** 001-0904

**Policy Recommendations for Metro Manila Critical Areas**

The **NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD** (“the Board”), a government institution, created and existing under Philippine laws, with office address at 8<sup>th</sup> Floor NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, states:

At the regular meeting of the Board held at its above-mentioned office on September 22, 2004, the following resolution was approved and confirmed, to wit:

WHEREAS, based on the findings under the “Water Resources Assessment for Prioritized Critical Areas (Phase I)” conducted by the CEST Consultants, eight (8) critical areas were considered in need of urgent attention, namely: Area 1: Guiguinto, Bulacan; Area 2: Bocaue and Marilao, Bulacan; Area 3: Meycauayan, Bulacan and North Caloocan; Area 4: Navotas, Caloocan and West Quezon City; Area 5: Makati, Mandaluyong, Pasig and Pateros; Area 6: Parañaque and Pasay; Area 7: Las Piñas and Muntinlupa; and Area 8: Dasmariñas, Cavite.

WHEREAS, in view of the findings recommended by the CEST Consultants, the NWRB Staff submitted for Board’s approval during its 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting held on September 22, 2004, eight (8) policy recommendations for critical areas within Metro Manila.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to adopt the following policies relative to the issuance of water permit applications, as well as to existing water permits issued for services covered within the aforementioned critical areas:

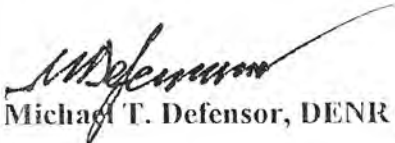
1. To revoke or suspend water permits or reduce the authorized volume of extraction of existing deepwells in areas adequately served by MWSS, regardless of whether or not located in critical areas, after due notice and hearing, except of vital services as provided under paragraph 3.
2. To proceed with the processing of pending and new water permit applications as follows:

	<b>CRITICAL</b>	<b>NON-CRITICAL</b>
<b>IN AREAS ADEQUATELY SERVICED BY</b>	Process permits only for vital services as provided in paragraph 3	Process permits only for back-up purposes and hours of operation shall be

MWSS		limited only during periods when commercial water supply is not available.
<b>NOT ADEQUATELY SERVICED BY MWSS</b>	Process only temporary permits that will be valid until connection becomes available in the area.	To proceed with the processing of water permits

3. Groundwater extraction may be allowed to ensure that operation of vital services are not unduly hampered (e.g. hospitals, fire lighting, etc.) provided that extraction shall be made only as back-up to commercial water supply.
4. In all instances, (a) the volume of extraction shall be determined by the Board based on what may be appropriated and extracted without exceeding mining yield level; and (b) the NWRB Secretariat shall recommend measures to closely monitor the volume of extracted water and impose additional charges to discourage excessive usage of groundwater source.
5. MWSS shall be required to submit their Business Plans relating to water requirements and expansion of service areas, which shall be used for future policy guidelines on the granting of water permits.
6. Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) shall be executed with Local Government Units (LGUs) for joint monitoring and enforcement of the rules and regulations on use of water resources and the conditions on water permits.
7. A comprehensive awareness campaign shall be undertaken to inform the public on the danger of over extraction of aquifers.
8. Efforts to enforce the provisions of PD 1067, otherwise known as the Water Code of the Philippines and its Implementing Rules and Regulations ("IRR") shall be intensified with the apprehension of violators and illegal appropriators.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand this September 22, 2004 in Quezon City:

  
 Sec. Michael T. Defensor, DENR (Chairman)

(Absent)

Sec. Romulo L. Neri, NEDA (Vice-Chairman)

*tr*

**Members:**

(Absent)  
**Sec. Juanita D. Amatong, DOF**

*Ruben J. Fondevilla*  
**Sec. Raul M. Gonzales, DOJ**  
rep. Atty. Ruben Fondevilla

**Sec. Manuel M. Dayrit, DOH**  
rep. Dr. Robert A. Sadang

*Leonardo Q. Liongson*  
**Dir. Leonardo Q. Liongson, NHRC-UP**

*Ramon B. Alikpala*  
**Executive Director Ramon B. Alikpala, NWRB**