

**RESOLUTION NO. 005-0507**  
**May 16, 2007 – 54<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting**  
**POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE ABSTRACTION OF GROUNDWATER FOR**  
**REFILLING STATIONS**

WHEREAS, the demand for refilling stations as an alternative source for safe drinking water in the Philippines has increased such that water refilling stations have proliferated nationwide;

WHEREAS, unregulated operations of these deep wells have contributed to the fast depletion of the country's groundwater.

WHEREAS, the Implementing Rules and Regulation of the Water Code of the Philippines was amended in 2006 imposing stricter and stiffer penalties for violators who are extracting groundwater without the necessary water permits from the NWRB;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) information campaign on water refilling business has made more refilling station owners aware of the need to secure water permits for deepwells used in their operation;

WHEREAS, with the issues relative to the compliance of water refilling stations to water permit requirements, the Board, during its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting on April 18, 2007, directed the Secretariat to set a meeting with the DOH to discuss the matter;

WHEREAS, the meeting was conducted by NWRB on May 11, 2007 to solicit from the DOH and representatives from Water Quality Association Phils. (WQAP), Agua Vida System, Inc., Crystal de San Pablo, and Solorex Water Technology Inc., their recommendations and suggestions on the formulation of policies that will encourage water refilling stations sourcing water from their own deepwells to apply for water permits;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to adopt the following policy guidelines on the abstraction of groundwater for refilling stations:

1. Owners/operators of water refilling stations shall file a water permit applications and pay the filing fee of P5,000.00 with NWRB.
2. Owners/operators of water refilling stations with existing deepwells operating without water permits shall be fined a penalty of P1,000.00 for drilling a well without a Permit To Drill in accordance with Article 90 (j) of the Water Code of the Philippines.

3. Owners/operators of refilling stations shall submit the completed requirements of water permit applications (WPA) within the prescribed period. A corresponding fine for continuing to utilize a well without a water permit shall be imposed as follows:

<b>Filing Period</b>	<b>Fine</b>
June1, 2007-August 31, 2007	P1,000.00
Sept. 1, 2007-Dec. 31, 2007	P5,000.00

The operation of the refilling station shall be allowed to continue while the water permit is being processed.

4. In the processing of the WPA, a Certification from the Water Service Provider (MWSS/Water District/CPC Grantees) shall attest that it has no existing water service connection within the area and/or cannot meet the requirements of the applicant.
5. Any refilling station found operating a well without a permit after December 31, 2006 shall be issued a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) by the NWRB and shall cause the immediate closure of the water source within fifteen (15) days upon receipt of the CDO. Appropriate penalties shall also be imposed.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board Secretariat shall conduct an information dissemination campaign on these policies to be coordinated with the DOH and LGUs, representatives from the Water Corporation Association of Refilling Stations, the Philippine Franchise Association and the Association of Filipino Franchise Inc.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that NWRB shall coordinate with the LGUs and the DOH regarding the listings of all water refilling stations sourcing water from deepwells within their areas.