

RESOLUTION NO. 015-0908
September 24, 2008 – 70th Board Meeting
TREE PLANTING AS A REQUIREMENT TO WATER PERMIT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the NWRB's principal objective is to achieve a scientific and orderly development and management of the country's water resources consistent with the principles of optimum utilization, conservation and protection to meet present and future needs;

WHEREAS, one of NWRB's mission is the protection of the water environment to preserve flow regimes, biodiversity and cultural heritage as well as the mitigation of water-related hazards and to allocate sufficient water that will ensure flood security and spur economic development of the country;

WHEREAS, the forest cover of the country is diminishing due to over exploitation of forest resources, climate change effects and inappropriate land use practices that disrupted the hydrological condition of watersheds, resulting in accelerated soil erosion, siltation of rivers and reservoirs, increased incidence and severity of flooding and decreasing supply of available water and degrading water quality;

WHEREAS, there are many different water allocation issues among water users and uses due to the insufficiency of the water source;

WHEREAS, in order to manage the country's water resources in a more sustainable manner and ultimately to help protect and conserve the watershed where the quantity and quality of water available depend on;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that tree planting will be imposed as additional requirement to Water Permit Applications.

The Board shall designate their respective representatives to constitute the Technical Working Group (TWG) which will perform the following tasks:

1. Formulate specific guidelines to implement the additional requirement which will include, but not limited to, the number of trees and type of species to be planted as well as the location or diversion point for the tree planting activity; and
2. Identify other relevant activities that can be imposed as alternative measures to promote watershed protection and conservation.

The TWG shall present the proposed guidelines for Board's approval.