RESOLUTION NO. 15 - 0921

FURTHER AMENDING THE POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE PROCESSING AND ISSUANCE OF WATER PERMITS AND CONDITIONAL WATER PERMITS

The National Water Resources Board, a government institution created and existing under Presidential Decree No. 424 and Presidential Decree No. 1067, with office address at 8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Quezon City, states:

In a virtual meeting of the Board held on 22 September 2021, the following resolution was approved and confirmed, to wit:

WHEREAS, Article 8 of the Water Code of the Philippines provides that Water Permit shall continue to be valid as long as the water is beneficially used;

WHEREAS, the existing Water Permits issued by the Board contain several conditions for compliance by the permittee among which are the submission of required plans and specifications for the diversion of works and other required structures, and filing of application of Certificate of Public Convenience (CPC) within one (1) year from the issuance of the permit in case of waters appropriated for municipal use;

WHEREAS, non-compliance of conditions set forth in the Water Permit is a ground for revocation of the permit;

WHEREAS, many grantees fail to comply with the said conditions within the prescribed period;

WHEREAS, to address this problem, there is a need to develop policies for the issuance of Conditional Water Permits (CWP) prior to the issuance of the Water Permit;

WHEREAS, the policy guidelines or Resolution No. 003-0607 was developed in consultation with the key stakeholders during a meeting held last June 14, 2007;

WHEREAS, the process of revoking Water Permits for violation of conditions for compliance entails a tedious process that may drag indefinitely;

WHEREAS, there is a need to Amend Resolution No. 003-0607 (As Amended) approved on 22 October 2008 to ensure that holder of a CWP for municipal use shall secure a CPC and maintain the same in good standing until the Water Permit has been issued, and that Water Permit holders for municipal use shall maintain the legality and good standing of a CPC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to amend the amendment to policy guidelines on the processing and issuance of Water Permits and Conditional Water Permits.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to approve the policy guidelines as revised 2021, to wit:

1. Water Permits and CWPs shall be processed in accordance with Sections 9 & 10 of the Amended Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Water Code of the Philippines. For bulk water suppliers, in addition to the documentary requirements prescribed in Section 5 of the IRR of the Water Code, a Memorandum of Agreement/ Joint Venture Agreement (MOA/JVA) between the private water supplier and the buyer with a specific purpose on how the water will be used shall also be required prior to the processing of the application.
2. Upon compliance with Sections 9 & 10 of the IRR and the review and evaluation of the Water Permit application, the Board Secretariat shall make a recommendation to grant the CWP for submission to the Board.

3. The CWP shall be issued for the use/development of a water source and remain valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of approval.

4. The Water Permit will be issued as soon as the conditions set forth under the CWP are complied with.

5. If after the lapse of the one-year period applicant fails to show compliance with the conditions, the Water Permit will not be issued to the applicant and closure of the well and other similar diversion structures for surface water source will follow. The Board may, however, grant extension to the one-year period for justifiable circumstances.

6. All holders of CWP for municipal use shall secure a CPC and maintain the same in good standing until the Water Permit has been issued, otherwise, the CWP will be cancelled or revoked.

Hence, all obligations arising from the issuance thereto, including but not limited to the payment of Annual Water Charges (AWC), shall be strictly complied with.

7. All holders of a Water Permit for municipal use shall maintain the legality and good standing of a CPC, otherwise the same can be a ground for the cancellation of the Water Permit.

In the same manner, water permittees for municipal use not required by law to secure a CPC shall also maintain their Water Permits in good standing, otherwise the same may be cancelled or revoked.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this 22nd day of September 2021, in Quezon City, Philippines.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently the Board Secretary of the National Water Resources Board;
2. The NWRB holds office at the 8th Floor NIA Bldg, EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City;
3. I am the custodian of the records of the NWRB, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions; In the Regular Meeting of the NWRB held on 22 September 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, NWRB Resolution No. 15-0921 was unanimously approved and adopted;
4. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
5. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 5th day of October 2021, Quezon City.

ROEL M. MONTESA
Board Secretary