

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 116, July 24, 2020]

DIRECTING A STUDY FOR THE ADOPTION OF A NATIONAL POSITION ON A NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM, CONSTITUTING A NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE. AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XII of the 1987 Constitution states that it is the goal of the national economy to have a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth, a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced for the benefit of the people, and an expanded productivity to raise the quality of life for all;

WHEREAS, the State recognizes that sustained economic development energy security require a reliable, secure, sustainable, quality and reasonably-priced electricity supply, including sufficient reserves to ensure that there will be no disruptions of power supply;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 recognizes a balance among energy tariffs, service reliability and environmental soundness of different technologies in the electricity grid;

WHEREAS, to provide for strategic direction of the State's energy requirements, the Philippine Energy Plan 2017-2040 of the Department of Energy has laid down a technology-neutral approach for the optimal energy mix to ensure energy security and improve the reliability, adequacy and efficiency of energy supply to meet the demand by year 2040;

WHEREAS, the experience of a number of countries has shown that nuclear power can be a reliable, cost-competitive and environment-friendly energy source;

WHEREAS, the international Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has prescribed guidelines on building a National Position for a Nuclear Energy Program, which identify significant components thereof such as but not limited to national policy development, energy analysis and planning, prefeasibility study and the engagement of the public and relevant stakeholders;

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy, with the assistance of the IAEA, has conducted a preliminary evaluation on the possibility of introducing nuclear energy in the country's power generation mix through the conduct of energy planning studies on the nineteen (19) infrastructure issues of nuclear power development, consistent with the IAEA's Milestone Approach;

WHEREAS, the State adheres to international standards on safety, security and safeguards on peaceful development of nuclear energy, and is committed to a multi-stakeholders involvement in the development of a National Position for a Nuclear Energy Program; and

WHEREAS, there is an imperative need to revisit the country's policy on nuclear energy and to determine its feasibility as a long term option for power generation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the laws, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. *Study for the Adoption of a National Position.* The government shall conduct a study for the adoption of a National Position on a Nuclear Energy Program (HEP), in accordance with pertinent IAEA guidelines and relevant laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 2. *Constituting the Nuclear Energy Program inter-Agency Committee.* The Nuclear Energy Program Inter-Agency Committee (NEP-IAC) is hereby constituted, to be composed of the following;

Chairperson:	Department of Energy (DOE)
Vice-Chairperson:	Department of Science and Technology
Members:	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
	Department of the Interior and Local Government
	Department of Finance
	Department of Foreign Affairs
	National Economic and Development Authority
	National Power Corporation
	National Transmission Corporation
	Philippine Nuclear Research Institute
	Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology

Each member-agency shall designate a representative to the NEP-IAC, who shall hold a rank not lower than an Assistant Secretary or its equivalent.

SECTION 3. *Secretariat* . The NEP-IAC shall be assisted by a Secretariat, which shall be complemented by existing personnel and offices from the member agencies. The Secretariat shall provide technical and administrative support to the NEP-IAC, and provide updates to and coordinate with concerned agencies on the status of the NEP-IAC's plans and programs.

SECTION 4. *Powers and functions of the NEP-IAC* . The NEP-IAC shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Conduct a prefeasibility study to evaluate and assess the need for and viability of introducing nuclear power into the State's energy mix, taking into consideration economic, security and environmental implications, and engagement of the public and relevant stakeholders;
- b. Evaluate and formulate a national strategy to include a roadmap and timeline in the preparation of a NEP, as well as measures to address infrastructure gaps and issues, and make appropriate recommendations thereon;
- c. Review the existing legal framework, study the viability of nuclear energy, and recommend the necessary steps in the utilization of nuclear