[FPA ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 17, S. 2010, August 16, 2010]

GUIDELINES FOR THE BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY ("BPI") AND THE FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY ("FPA") ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A LOGBOOK MONITORING SYSTEM FOR METHYL BROMIDE QPS USES

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a signatory to the Montreal Protocol on the Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer;

WHEREAS, the Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which was ratified by the Philippine Senate, included Methyl Bromide ("MB"), a fumigant, as an Ozone Depleting Substance ("ODS") and introduced control measures on its usage;

WHEREAS, in keeping with the country's obligation as a party to the Montreal Protocol, the Department of Agriculture ("DA"), Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR"), FPA, and the Environmental Management Bureau ("EMB") entered into a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") regarding the implementation of the Philippine National Methyl Bromide Phase-Out Strategy ("NMBPS");

WHEREAS, pursuant to the MOA, FPA has been the lead implementing agency on NMBPS;

WHEREAS, pursuant to its mandate, BPI has been the agency charged with monitoring and supervising fumigation as a quarantine and pre-shipment treatment, including those that use MB as the active ingredient;

WHEREAS, FPA and BPI have their own set of rules and regulations on the monitoring and supervision of MB consumption for quarantine and pre-shipment ("QPS") use;

WHEREAS, there is a need to streamline, harmonize and strengthen these various rules and regulations to enhance the monitoring and supervision of MB consumption;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, and Chairman of the FPA Board of Directors in accordance with the powers vested in me by law, do hereby issue this Administrative Order governing the rules and regulations on the quarantine and pre-shipment use of Methyl Bromide:

SECTION I. Definition of Terms:

1. Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) – The recognized National Plant Protection Organization of the International Plant Protection Convention of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

2. Certified Pesticide Applicator (CPA) – a person who has attended certification training and has been duly licensed as such for purposes of handling pesticides by FPA.

3. Certificate Authorizing Import of Pesticide (CAIP) – an FPA permit for pesticide importations.

4. Date of Fumigation – This is equivalent to the date of aeration.

5. Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) – a government regulatory agency mandated to regulate the importation, distribution, and use of all fertilizers and pesticides including Methyl Bromide by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 1144. The FPA implemented the Philippine National Methyl Bromide Phase-Out Strategy.

6. International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) – the basis for phytosanitary measures applied by members of the World Trade Organization. ISPMs are adopted by contracting parties to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and by Food and Agriculture Organization members that are not contracting parties, through the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM).

7. ISPM 15 – ISPM Publication number 15 provides the guidelines for regulating wood packaging materials in international trade. Approved phytosanitary measures include heat treatment and/or MB fumigation.

8. Methyl Bromide (MB) – a broad spectrum pesticide registered with the FPA for use as space fumigant for the control of weeds, nematodes, fungi, and insect pests. MB is an ozone-depleting substance with an ODS potential 0.6 times of an equal weight of CFC.

9. Pest Control Operator (PCO) – refers to establishments engaged in commercial application of pesticides and other pest control services. The term applies solely to fumigator companies. Each PCO must have under its employ at least one certified pesticide applicator.

10. Plant Quarantine Service (PQS) – a section of the BPI mandated to prevent the introduction of exotic pests and to prevent the further spread of pests already present in the country. It has sole jurisdiction on quarantine and pre-shipment (QPS) MB treatments. It accredits fumigators who are involved in QPS treatments and issue Phytosanitary and/ or Fumigation Certificate to the FPA licensed and BPI accredited fumigators.

11. Quarantine Treatment Provider (QTP) – BPI-PQS Accredited Companies involved in fumigation and heat treatment of products either for quarantine or pre-shipment purposes.

12. Quarantine Station – A region or port where quarantine and pre-shipment services are provided by PCOs and inspected and supervised by BPI.

13. QPS Applications – MB applications exempted from phase-out

a. Quarantine Application – are treatments to prevents to prevent the introduction, establishment and/or spread of quarantine pests (includes diseases) or to ensure their official control, that is performed or authorized by a national plant, animal, or environmental protection or health authority.