

**[ NFA LETTER CIRCULAR NO. AO-2013-04-002,  
March 13, 2013 ]**

**NFA SHIPPING CLEARANCE PRIOR TO LOADING OF  
PALAY/RICE/CORN AND/OR CORNGRITS IN ANY WATER VESSEL  
OF 3,000 BAGS @ 50 KG/BAG MINIMUM**

Pursuant to the powers vested to the National Food Authority (NFA) under Presidential Decree No. 4, as amended, and its implementing rules and regulations on grains business, **NFA LETTER CIRCULAR NUMBER AO 2k8-05- 004 dated May 28, 2008**, titled "Amendment to Letter Circular No. AO 2K8-04- 001 dated March 6, 2008 on NFA Shipping Clearance Prior to Loading of Palay/Rice/Com and/or Corngrits in any Water Vessel of a Minimum of 3,000 Bags @ 50 kg/Bag" is hereby reiterated. This is also in pursuant to the Covenant signed during the Multi-Sectoral Groups of the Rice Industry dialogue on February 22, 2013.

For your information, the pertinent matters in the Letter Circular are:

1. All shippers of palay/rice/corn and/or corngrits by means of water transport, whose volume is one hundred fifty (150) metric tons of three thousand bags (i.e. 3,000 bags @ 50 kg net) and above, shall be required to apply to the nearest NFA office, for a NFA Shipping Clearance prior to loading. This covers palay/rice/corn and/or corngrits of local and/or foreign origin. The application shall be accomplished in triplicate copies using the prescribed form stating among others the quantity, value, names of shipper and consignee. For the purpose of this Circular, the term "water transport" shall mean and include, but not limited to vessel, boat, barge and other water crafts. palay/rice/corn and/or corngrits commodities could either be a full container load (FCL) and/or a less container load (LCL), which includes stocks loaded on trucks on board ferry boats.
2. Both shipper and consignee should be duly licensed by NFA as wholesale/transporter. In case the palay/rice/corn and/or corngrits to be shipped are imported, the shipper/transporter should likewise be a licensed NFA importer. If the transporter/shipper is not the direct importer and have just acquired/bought the commodities from another wholesale or importer, he/she should possess documentary evidences such as Invoices issued by the seller/importer and the corresponding NFA licenses/permits of the same.
3. Consignees of all palay/rice/corn and/or corngrits Shipments whether required to have an NFA Shipping Clearance or not should be able to present for their protection, Sales Invoices and NFA licenses/import/shipping clearance when demanded by NFA investigators and/or other enforcement agencies. Absence of these documents or possession of spurious documents shall be a ground for seizure and detention and eventual forfeiture of stocks by the NFA in coordination with the Bureau of Customs (BOC)/Philippine Port Authority (PPA) and/or by other enforcement agencies in accordance with the procedures under the Constitution and the Tariff and Customs Code.