

**[FPA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 01, S. 2006,
January 01, 2006]**

**REVISED GUIDELINES ON ISSUANCE OF PERMIT TO PURCHASE
METHYL BROMIDE**

In line with the country's obligation and commitment as a party to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the National Methyl Bromide Phase-out Strategy was instituted and implemented starting January 2005 with the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) as the lead agency.

On May 4, 2005, FPA Memorandum Circular No. 02 series of 2005 was issued providing the guidelines for all handlers of methyl bromide (MB). MC No. 02 defined, among others, the procedures and requirements covering the importation, distribution and usage of methyl bromide in accordance with the Protocol's reduction and phase-out schedule for controlled/non-QPS MB application reckoned from the country's reference baseline of 10.3 ozone depleting potential (ODP) tons. Controlled/non-QPS MB use include soil sterilization, application on stored products and fumigation of structures such as flourmills. On the other hand, Quarantine and/or Pre-shipment (QPS) use of MB are exempted from use reduction and phase out provision of the Montreal Protocol.

Quarantine and Pre-shipment MB application defined:

Quarantine Application - *in relation to MB, are treatments to prevent the introduction, establishment and/or spread of quarantine pests or to ensure their official control that is performed or authorized by a national plant, animal or environmental protection or health authority.*

Pre-shipment Application - *any treatments other than quarantine applications applied within 21 days prior to export to meet the requirements of the importing country or official requirements of the exporting country, those that are performed or authorized by a national plant, animal, environmental or health authority.*

Quarantine and/or Pre-shipment (QPS) application of methyl bromide are coordinated with the Bureau of Plant Industry-Plant Quarantine Service (BPI-PQS) and are correspondingly acknowledged through the issuance of either a Phytosanitary or Fumigation Certificate by the BPI-PQS.

To meet the reduction target for controlled/non-QPS MB usage for 2006, additional measures need to be instituted in the issuance of a Permit to Purchase MB.

Pursuant therewith, issuance of a Permit to Purchase Methyl Bromide shall be subject to the following guidelines and procedures for the information and compliance of all concerned.