

[DOH, March 18, 1999]

**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF CHAPTER VII —
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE — OF THE CODE ON SANITATION OF THE
PHILIPPINES (P.D. 856), AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 111, S. 1991**

Pursuant to Section 4 of P.D. 866, The Code on Sanitation of the Philippines, the following Rules and Regulations on Chapter VII (Industrial Hygiene) of the Code are hereby issued for the guidance and strict compliance by all concerned.

**RULE I
DEFINITION OF TERMS**

SECTION 1. *Definition of Terms*

- A. **Annual Examination** — regular physical examination done once a year.
- B. **ANSI** — refers to American National Standard Institute.
- C. **Company's Health and Safety Committee** — the composition of which shall be in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations of the Labor Code of the Philippines and its implementing Rules and Regulations.
- D. **Company's Medical Staff** — includes company Physicians, Nurses, Dentists, and First-Aiders with adequate training on occupational health and safety.
- a) Full time — a service rendered for 8 hours/day; 48 hours/week.
- b) Part time — a service rendered for at least 4 hours/day, 12 to 24 hours/week as the case may be.
- E. **Department** — the Department of Health.
- F. **Effluent** — wastewater discharged into the environment resulting from process of industry, manufacturing, trade or business from the development, processing or recovery of any natural resources which may cause or tend to cause pollution, or contribute to the pollution.
- G. **Emergency Clinic** — means an enclosed area, room or building located within the premises of the establishment and equipped with the necessary medical facilities and supplies, where workers maybe brought for examination and treatment of their injuries or illnesses in case of emergency, where more elaborate instruments and equipment (such as examining bed, oxygen tank) are made available for the workers and where the services of a more competent medical staff are provided, who may handle or treat a few simple cases of injuries or illnesses needing short-

term confinement, or may refer such cases to hospitals.

H. **Emergency Treatment Room** — means an enclosed area or room equipped with the necessary medical facilities and supplies, and located within the premises of the industrial establishment where workers maybe brought for examination and treatment of their injuries or illness in cases of emergency.

I. **Ergonomics** — refers to the joint application of certain biological sciences and engineering techniques so as to ensure the optimum mutual adaptation of man and work.

J. **First-Aider** — means any person trained and duly certified or qualified to administer first-aid by the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) or by any organization accredited by the same.

K. **First-Aid Treatment** — means adequate, immediate and necessary medical and/or dental attendance or remedy given in case of injury or sudden illness suffered by the workers, irrespective of whether or not such illness/injury is occupational in nature, before more extensive medical and/or dental treatment can be secured. It does not include following treatment for an injury or illness.

L. **Foot Candle** — a unit of illuminance on a surface that is everywhere one foot from a uniform source of light of one candle and equal to one lumen per square foot. One foot candle = 10.75 lux.

M. **Glare** — refers to excessive luminance in the field of vision which disturbs the adaptation process of the retina produced by excessive light stimuli.

N. **Hazard** — risk or danger to one's health or life.

O. **Hazardous Workplace** — refers to an establishment where any or all of the following conditions exist:

- 1) where the nature of work exposes the workers to dangerous environmental elements, contaminants or work conditions including ionizing radiation, chemicals, fire, flammable substances, noxious components and the like;
- 2) where the workers are engaged in construction work, logging, fire fighting, mining, quarrying, blasting, stevedoring, dock work, deep sea fishing/diving and mechanized farming;
- 3) where the workers are engaged in the manufacture or handling of explosives and other pyrotechnic products;
- 4) where the workers used or are exposed to power driven or explosive powder actuated tools and equipment; and
- 5) where the workers are exposed to biological agents such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, protozoas, nematodes and other parasites.

P. **Industrial Establishment** — refers to establishment which is either engaged in the manufacture, sale and distribution of goods or processing of raw materials into end products.

Q. **Industrial Hygiene** — the science and art devoted to the anticipation, recognition and control of those environmental factors or stresses, arising in or from the workplace which cause sickness, impairs health and inefficiency among workers as well as the surrounding communities.

R. **Large Scale Industries** — establishments employing two hundred (200) workers or more.

S. **Local Health Authority** — the Governor, City or Municipal Mayor.

T. **Local Health Officer** — appointed employee of local government unit concerned who is a licensed medical physician. He is in charge of formulation and implementation of health policies, plans, programs, and projects of the people in the LGU concerned.

U. **Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)** — the document that describes the identity of a substance which includes the following: product and company information; composition information on ingredients; hazards identification; first-aid measures; fire fighting measures; accidental release; handling and storage; exposure controls and personal protection; physical and chemical properties; stability and reactivity; toxicological information; ecological information; disposal considerations; transport and regulatory information.

V. **Medium-Scale Industries** — establishments employing fifty one (51) to one hundred ninety nine (199) workers.

W. **Non-Hazardous workplace** — refers to establishment where none of the condition(s) under hazardous workplace exists in the principal activity of the establishment.

X. **Occupational Health Personnel** — refers to the qualified first-aider, nurse, dentist, or physician, whose service/services have been engaged by the employer in order to provide occupational health services in the establishment/undertaking.

Y. **Occupational Health Practitioner** — refers to a physician, nurse, engineer, dentist or chemist and other qualified health professional duly licensed to practice his/her profession in the Philippines and possessing all of the additional qualifications required by the Department.

Z. **Occupational Health Services** — are services entrusted with essentially preventive functions and responsible for advising the employers, the workers, and their representatives, in the establishment/undertaking of the following:

- 1) the requirements for establishing and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment which will facilitate optimal physical and mental health in relation to work; and

2) the adaptation of work to the capabilities of workers in the light of their state of physical and mental health.

- i. **Outfall** — the outlet of a drain or sewer.
- ii. **Pre-Employment Examination** — physical examination conducted before an applicant is accepted or hired for employment.
- iii. **Sanitary Permit** — a permit issued by the Local Health Officer after compliance with the prescribed sanitary and environmental/occupational health requirements.
- iv. **Secretary** — the Secretary of Health.
- v. **Separation examination** — physical examination conducted prior to the resignation or termination of the workers.
- vi. **Septic tank** — a water-tight receptacle which receives the discharge of a plumbing system or part thereof and designed to accomplish the partial removal and digestion of suspended solid matter in the sewerage through a period of detention.
- vii. **Sewer** — the pipe line conveying sewage from the building to the septic tank or to any point of discharge.
- viii. **Sewerage system** — means pipeline or conduits, pumping station, force mains constructed drainage ditches, and all other constructions, devices and appurtenances used for collecting or conducting sewage and industrial wastes or other wastes to a point of treatment discharge or ultimate disposal.
- ix. **Shall** — is construed to mean mandatory.
- x. **Small-Scale Industries** — establishments employing fifty (50) workers or less.
- xi. **Special Examinations:**
 - 1) **ECG (electrocardiogram)** — special examination done to determine cardiac abnormalities.
 - 2) **EEG (electroencephalogram)** — special examination done to determine brain wave abnormalities.
 - 3) **Lung Function Test** — special examination performed to determine pulmonary functions and abnormalities.
 - 4) **Audiometric Examination** — special examination done to detect hearing abnormalities.
 - 5) **Optometric Examination** — special examination done to determine the abnormalities of the eyes.

- xii. **Threshold Limit Values (TLVs)** — refer to airborne concentration of substances that represent conditions under which it is believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed day after day without adverse effect.
- xiii. **Vermin** — refers to a small group of animals such as mice, rats, and insects which are vectors of diseases.
 - 1) **Rats/Mice** — refer to a small group of animals inhabiting human households and premises which are vectors of diseases.
 - 2) **Insect** — refers to any of the several kinds of arthropods which include flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches, fleas, lice and bedbugs which are vectors of diseases.
- xiv. **Vermin and Insect Abatement Program** — a control scheme to eradicate or reduce the vermin/insect population.
- xv. **Waterworks** — the system of reservoirs, channels, mains, pumping and purifying equipment by which a water supply is obtained and distributed.
- xvi. **Workplace** — means the office, premises or worksite, where the workers are habitually employed and shall include the office or place where the workers who have no fixed or definite worksite, regularly report for assignment in the course of their employment.

RULE II

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT

Section 1. Responsibilities of the Secretary

- A.** The Secretary shall have the following powers and functions:
- 1. Formulates policies, standards, guidelines and programs for the promotion and protection of workers' health.
 - 2. Prescribes a list of Threshold Limit Values of atmospheric/environmental contaminants as a guide in appraising health hazards and evaluating control measures.
 - 3. Reviews concentration values at regular intervals to amend or modify the list where indicated.
 - 4. Develops standards regarding other concentrations of short intermittent duration capable of causing acute impairment to health.
 - 5. Requires the control of other contaminants known or believed to be capable of causing impairment of health but not included in the list already issued by the Department.
 - 6. Prescribes control measures to eliminate/minimize industrial contaminants and infectious diseases caused by processing or handling industrial products or