

LETTER OF INSTRUCTION NO. 409, May 29, 1976

LETTER OF INSTRUCTION NO. 409, May 29, 1976

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/c1851a3099b2/>

TO:

The Secretary of Natural Resources
The Director of the Bureau of Forest
Development

In order to prevent the recurrence of destructive floods in Luzon as well as in other parts of the country, and in accordance with the policy of the government to conserve and develop the country's forest resources and to prevent the wasting of the country's forest stands, you are hereby directed to implement the following measures immediately:

1)

The Secretary of Natural Resources and the Director of the Bureau of Forest Development, Department of Natural Resources shall conduct a study to determine, among others, the total number of forest concessionaires in the country at present and the location of their respective forest concessions. Based on the findings of the study to be conducted as directed herein, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall cause the cancellation of the permits, licenses, or contracts of those forest concessionaires whose concessions are operated to produce profits or benefits only to the individual concessionaires and there is no manifestation that the continuance of these forest concessions is necessary for the national economy, and of those forest concessionaires who may be found to have violated the terms and conditions of their permits, licenses, or contracts with the government, including the rules and regulations of the Department of Natural Resources and the laws which are applicable to such forest concessionaires. The policy herein defined shall immediately apply to the areas situated in central and northern Luzon, including those on the west side of the Sierra Madre Mountains, the southern side of the Caraballo mountains, on the south and west side of the Cordilleras, and on both sides of the Zambales mountains, and shall thereafter be enforced throughout the country after a reasonable period of time. Moreover, the Secretary of Natural Resources and Director of the Bureau of Forest Development shall, in the implementation of the policy stated, determine which of the forest concessionaires, particularly in Luzon, have reforestation projects which are actually being carried out. The Secretary of Natural Resources shall without delay submit to the President a full report on the implementation of the foregoing instructions.

2)

The Secretary of Natural Resources and the Director of the Bureau of Forest Development shall cause the immediate cancellation of the permits or licenses of all sawmill operators or proprietors in the Greater Manila area and in the entire Luzon whose sawmills are found to be not directly supplied by contract by legitimate logging concessionaires.

3)

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the government to prohibit the cutting of trees in the Greater Manila area and within a radius of fifty (50) kilometers from the boundary of the said geographical unit. The Secretary of Natural Resources and the Director of the Bureau of Forest Development are directed to take appropriate measures for the proper enforcement and observance of the aforestated policy. In addition, the executive officials mentioned shall undertake, within the limit of the resources and capabilities of their department and offices, such programs, projects, and activities as may be necessary in order to preserve and maintain at least 40 per cent of the country's forest stands.

4)

The Secretary of Natural Resources and the Director of the Bureau of Forest Development are hereby authorized to adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary in the implementation and enforcement of all the foregoing instructions.

Done in the City of Manila, this 29th day of May in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-six.

35 VITAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS, 92 (1976—)

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.