Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION
CENTRAL OFFICE

NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION
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IRD-RECORDS SECTION

BAGONG PILIPINAS

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 81
Series of 2026

TO : **THE SENIOR DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATORS, DEPARTMENT/ REGIONAL/ PROJECT MANAGERS, DIVISION MANAGERS AND ALL OTHER CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **AMENDMENT TO *MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR (MC) NO. 111, SERIES OF 2019*: NIA GENERAL GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF RESERVOIR DAMS.**

In the exigency of the service, certain sections of the ***NIA GENERAL GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF RESERVOIR DAMS*** under the ***Memorandum Circular No. 111, Series of 2019,*** dated *11 December 2019,* are hereby amended, to wit:

4. Amendment to the Title Page of the *General Guidelines and Criteria for Planning, Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Reservoir Dams:*

   From:

   "1st EDITION (OCT. 2019)"

   To:

   "2nd EDITION (AUG. 2026)"

5. Amendment to the Page Footer of the *General Guidelines and Criteria for Planning, Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Reservoir Dams*:

   From:

   "NIA-General Guidelines & Criteria for Planning, Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Reservoir Dams/1st Edition (2019)/jrp."

   To:

   "NIA-General Guidelines & Criteria for Planning, Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Reservoir Dams/2nd Edition (2026)/jrp. Updated by: DSD"

6. Amendment to **Sub-Section 6.2.2 REQUIRED DEGREE OF SUB-SURFACE EXPLORATION AND NUMBER OF BOREHOLES** under **SECTION 6.0 - GEOLOGICAL AND GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS GUIDELINES,** as follows:

   6.1. Addition of Sub-Section **6.2.2.1.2 : LOCATION OF PROPOSED SIDE-CUT EXCAVATION AT LEFT AND RIGHT ABUTMENTS**

   6.2. Addition of Sub-Section **6.2.2.1.2.1**, to read as follows:

ISO 45001:2018 CERTIFIED
CERTIFICATE NO. 10316032
CERTIFICATION INTERNATIONAL
ISO 9001:2015

"A minimum of three (3) boreholes shall be drilled at each abutment side where excavation or side-cut slopes are required. Boreholes shall be strategically located to characterize the subsurface conditions within the anticipated excavation limits and to evaluate the engineering properties of the materials that will influence slope stability. The investigation shall provide sufficient geotechnical information for the design of stable excavation slopes and the selection of appropriate slope protection and stabilization measures. Exploration boreholes shall be distributed along the whole extent of the proposed excavation to adequately characterize the subsurface conditions. The locations and spacing of the boreholes shall be determined by a Geologist or Geotechnical Engineer based on the anticipated geological conditions, site variability, and engineering requirements."

6.3. Consequently, the addition of Sub-Section **6.2.2.1.2** and its corresponding sub-section **6.2.2.1.2.1** shall result in the renumbering of the preceding and succeeding provisions under Section 6.0. The corresponding page numbers of The General Guidelines and Criteria for Planning, Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Reservoir Dams shall likewise be amended accordingly.

All previous memoranda that are inconsistent hereof are hereby superseded. All other provisions not otherwise amended hereof shall remain in full force and effect. Strict compliance is hereby enjoined.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

ENGR. EDUARDO EDDIE G. GUILLEN
Administrator
Date: 14 SEP 2026