



13 OCT 2022

URGENT MEMORANDUM

FOR : All Regional Executive Directors
All Chiefs, DENR Regional Legal Divisions

FROM : The Assistant Secretary
Legal Affairs
The Chairperson, Anti-Illegal Land Titling Committee
Special Order 2021-716

SUBJECT : SUBMISSION OF DATA ON REVERSION CASES IN THE
DIFFERENT REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE DENR
PURSUANT TO SPECIAL ORDER 2021-716

This has reference to the mandate of the Anti-Illegal Land Titling Committee (AILTC) to conduct a continuing inventory of illegal/irregularly issued registered patents/land titles nationwide pursuant to Special Order (SO) 2021-716.¹

Per the new SO, the Chiefs of the Legal Division of DENR Regional Offices are required to maintain a database of reversion cases prosecuted within their jurisdiction and submit to the AILTC a yearly report on these cases on or before the 30th of January, **without prejudice to the Chairperson's request for a more frequent or for an earlier submission.**

In line with such, your offices are directed to comply with the inventory templates² attached for uniformity. Please submit your reports reflecting the latest data **on or before 14 October 2022** addressed to the Secretary, through the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs. Please provide a summary of the information provided at the bottom of the tables showing the following: (1) total number of pending reversion cases already filed before the courts; and (2) breakdown of all pending reversion cases based on grounds used.

It is also requested that the soft copy of such reports be sent to aftc@denr.gov.ph for easier recording and compilation. You may access the digital copy of the template at Google Drive link: <https://bit.ly/3fRMaQR>.

For your immediate and preferential compliance, please.


ATTY. MICHELLE ANGELICA D. GO, CESO II

Copy furnished:

The Office of the Secretary

The Undersecretary
Legal, Administration, Human Resources and
Legislative Affairs

The Undersecretary
Field Operations - Luzon, Visayas and Environment

The Undersecretary
Field Operations - Mindanao

The Director
Legal Affairs Service

¹ Copy of Special Order 2021-716 is attached as Annex "A".

² Template for inventory of reversion cases is attached as Annex "B".



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

DENR Special Order
No. 2021 - 716

DEC 06 2021

Annex
"A"

SUBJECT: RECONSTITUTION OF THE ANTI-FAKE TITLES COMMITTEE MEMBERS, EXPANDING ITS FUNCTIONS AND RENAMING IT AS "ANTI-ILLEGAL LAND TITLING (AILT) COMMITTEE"

In the interest of service, in order to address the pernicious effects posed by illegally or irregularly issued land patents and registered titles, and in consonance with the mandate of the Department over lands of the public domain, the Anti-Fake Titling Committee is hereby renamed as "Anti-Illegal Land Titling (AILT)," its members reconstituted and its functions expanded.

The Committee shall be composed of the following:

The Assistant Secretary, Legal Affairs	Chairperson
The Director, Land Management Bureau	Vice Chairperson
The Director, Legal Affairs Service	Vice Chairperson

Members:

From the Legal Affairs Service (LAS)

The Chief, Claims and Conflicts Division	Member
The Chief, Litigation and Prosecution Division	Member
The Chief, Investigation and Arbitration Division	Member
The Head, Zero Backlog Task Force	Member
The Chief, Legal Research and Opinion Division	Member
The Chief, Internal Affairs Division	Member
The Chief, Legal Crisis Prevention and Management Division	Member

From the Field Office (FO):

The Regional Executive Director of the area of concern.	Provisional Member
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A **Technical Working Group** is hereby created to assist the Committee in the performance of its functions which shall be composed of the following:

The Chief, Legal Crisis Prevention and Management Division, LAS	TWG Head
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A Legal Officer, Legal Crisis Prevention and Management Division, LAS	Deputy TWG Head
The Chief, Legal Division, Land Management Bureau	Member
The Chief, Forest Resources Management Division, Forest Management Bureau	Member
The Chief, Land Classification Division, National Mapping and Resource Information Authority	Member
The Chief, Geodetic Surveys Division, Land Management Bureau	Member
The Chief, Surveys and Mapping Division of the area of concern	Provisional Member

Secretariat:

All Staff, AILT Committee

The Committee as herein reconstituted shall perform the following functions, to wit:

1. Conduct continuing assessment and updating of the inventory of illegally or irregularly issued land patents/registered titles nationwide;
2. Investigate, *motu proprio*, or upon complaint or upon instructions of the Secretary, the circumstances surrounding illegally or irregularly issued land patents/registered titles to determine the propriety of initiating reversion cases pursuant to DENR Administrative Order No. 2016-31¹ and other relevant laws, rules and regulations;
3. Evaluate and review the legal and technical bases of cases recommended for cancellation or reversion by the Regional Executive Director concerned or any other official or office;
4. Intensify the information and education campaign against illegally or irregularly issued land patents/registered titles;
5. Recommend policies or guidelines in the disposition of cases of illegally or irregularly issued land patents/registered titles;
6. Endorse to the appropriate offices the conduct of administrative investigations on officials and employees involved in the processing of the illegally or irregularly issued land patents/registered titles; and
7. Perform other relevant tasks and functions.

The Undersecretary for Legal shall exercise general supervision over the Committee.

The Chiefs of the Legal Division of DENR-Regional Offices are hereby designated as the **Regional Focal Person** of the Committee. They shall submit to the Committee, through their Regional Executive Directors, the required draft complaints for the cancellation of title/reversion cases including, *inter alia*, all documents, reports and maps; and shall ensure the correctness, accuracy and completeness of the required submissions. They shall likewise maintain a database of reversion cases prosecuted within their jurisdiction and submit to the

¹ Procedure in the Investigation and Resolution of Land Claims and Conflicts Cases

Committee a yearly report on these cases on or before the 30th of January, without prejudice to the Chairperson's request for a more frequent or for an earlier submission.

The Chairperson and the Members of the Committee are hereby authorized to issue *subpoena duces tecum* and *subpoena ad testificandum* to compel attendance of parties and their witnesses, including the Regional Focal Persons and other personnel of the Department. Parties who fail to comply with said subpoenas may be held liable for the administrative charge of insubordination.

As the Chairperson of the Committee, the **Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs** is hereby authorized to institute, commence and endorse the filing of cancellation of title and/or reversion cases through the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG); or the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) for cancellation of title/reversion cases of areas covered by Certificate of Land Ownership Awards (CLOA).

The Chairperson of the Committee may invite the **Heads of Bureaus and Attached Agencies** in Committee meetings for cases that need their technical expertise.

The **Regional Executive Directors**, shall be the signatory for reversion complaints filed before the Courts.

The Committee shall employ the assistance of all DENR offices, officials and employees for the accomplishment of its functions under this Order. Existing reversion task forces or teams may continue to perform their functions under previous issuances but they shall submit regular reports this Committee.

All expenses incurred in the performance of the functions of the Committee shall be charged against the appropriate funds of the Department, subject to the existing auditing and accounting rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and supersedes all previous orders inconsistent herewith.



ROY A. CIMATU
Secretary



Office

PENDING REVERSION CASES

Case Title	Docket Number	Venue	Ground for Reversion	Handling Lawyer/Action Officer (Regional Office) & OSG Counterpart	Case Status	Current Condition of the Subject Land	Administrative case/s against DENR Employees filed with Complete Details

Total number of pending reversion cases: _____

Breakdown of reversion cases based on ground: _____

Office

CERTIFICATES OF TITLE UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR POSSIBLE INITIATION OF REVERSION COMPLAINTS

Original Certificate of Title or Transfer Certificate of Title	Name of Titleholder	Lot Description (Area and Location)	Possible Ground for Reversion	Handling Lawyer or Action Officer	Status/Remark