

NEA responds to mitigate risks of COVID 19 pandemic

Just like any other organization, the NEA has been confronted with a lot of challenges brought about by the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic. It has posed great risks not only to people's health but also to the country's economy as well.

To be able to mitigate the risks of this global health crisis on its officials and employees and the Agency as a whole, NEA, through the CRFS, formulated a series of initiatives and mobilized and utilized available resources that could help lessen the impact of said unexpected occurrence.

Since the declaration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), NEA has endeavored to come up with strategies to ensure health protection of its workforce and to prevent the spread of the dreaded disease.

These initiatives were based on the directives of the National Government, the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Energy (DOE), it being its supervisory agency, the local government unit (LGU), and others. Among NEA's initiatives are the following:

1) Formulation of Policies and Guidelines on:

a. Prescribing the Guidelines on the Use of NEA Vehicles under the "New Normal" Environment (May 21, 2020)

When Metro Manila was placed under MECQ, public transportation was not allowed, and some transportation services remained limited. In order to ensure the safety and well-being of the employees while continuously dispensing public service, these guidelines were formulated and approved to strengthen measures on the use of motor vehicles and drivers.

This was also aligned to the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 10 s. 2020 which urged government agencies to provide adequate transportation services for its employees once office-based work is allowed by the government.

b. Guidelines for Visitors and Contractors for the "New Normal" Environment in the Workplace (June 8, 2020)

This was in pursuance of DOH AO No. 2020-0015 dated 27th of April 2020, "Guidelines on the Risk-Based Public Health Standards for COVID-19 Mitigation" which aims to provide



guidance for sectoral planning on the implementation of nonpharmaceutical interventions as minimum public health standards to mitigate the threat of COVID-19, DPWH DO No. 39 s. 2020 dated 19th of May 2020, "Revised Construction Safety Guidelines for the Implementation of Infrastructure Projects During the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis", and the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines dated 22nd of May 2020, which granted authority to this Office to adopt measures lawful and necessary to implement and enforce the minimum public health standards.

c. Guidelines on the Issuance and Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Medical Supplies (June 8, 2020)

To protect the NEA employees from the risk of transmission of COVID-19, NEA procured the necessary PPEs and medical supplies for its employees during the "New Normal" of office operations.

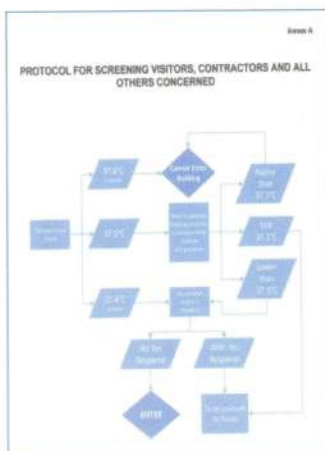
This set of guidelines was in compliance with Proclamation No. 922, "Declaring a State of Public Health Emergency Throughout The Philippines" on March 8, 2020 by President Rodrigo R. Duterte which directs to immediately act to prevent loss of life, utilize appropriate resources to implement urgent and critical measures to contain or prevent the spread of the disease in the Philippines.

Likewise, this was in consonance with Government Procurement Policy Board Resolution No. 06-2020 and Circular No. 01-2020 allowing all procuring entities to purchase medical equipment and supplies; NEA Office Order No. 2020-059 Providing for Minimum Health Standards for COVID-19 mitigation aligned with the Department of Energy Order No. 2020-04-0007 dated April 29, 2020; and Section 5.5 of Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No.10, dated May 7, 2020 that mandates all government agencies to implement minimum health protocols at all times, such as the wearing of face masks, taking of body temperature, and presence of sanitation stations.

2) Issuance of Memoranda and Advisories on the:

a. Continuation of the Present Workforce Arrangement (May 13, 2020)

NEA continued to adopt the combination of Work-from-Home



▶ next page