



06 July 2015

**MEMORANDUM No. 2015-017**

**TO : ALL ELECTRIC COOPRERATIVES (ECs)**

**SUBJECT : Addendum/Supplement to Existing Guidelines in the Conduct of Referendum for Electric Cooperatives (ECs) Conversion**

The DOE received various letters and communications from Philippine Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc. (PHILRECA), National Association of General Managers of Electric Cooperatives (NAGMEC), Cordillera Region Electric Cooperatives' Association, Inc. (CRECA), Northern Mindanao Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc. (NORMECA) and various ECs strongly clamoring for an amendment of Department Circular No. DC2014-01-0002 proposing that the conduct of Referendum provided under said circular be integrated to form part of the Annual General Membership Assembly (AGMA) of the ECs.

This clamor was reinforced by NEA's representation from its consultations and meetings with Stakeholders, emphasizing that integration of the Referendum in the AGMA will entail less cost on the part of the EC as opposed to conducting it separately.

Consequently, in a Memorandum dated June 25, 2015 from former DOE Secretary Carlos Jericho L. Petilla to the undersigned, NEA was directed to issue an appropriate addendum or supplement to the existing Guidelines in the Conduct of Referendum for EC Conversion, so that the ECs could well conduct their Referenda during AGMAs. Inasmuch as the AGMA is the gathering of the general membership to discuss and decide matters affecting their affairs, the DOE recognizes that it could legally be the proper venue for the Referendum, in compliance with the requirements of Republic Act No. 10531 and its IRRs. The Referendum shall be included as one of the agenda to be tackled and a plurality of votes cast for this matter shall determine the choice of the member-consumers on the conversion issue. Nevertheless, ECs still retain the option to conduct a separate Referendum as provided under existing issuances.

Finally, the appropriate addendum/supplement to the existing Guidelines shall be crafted in coordination/consultation with the different ECs Leadership Associations within thirty five (35) days upon issuance of this memorandum. Your active participation in the process to be undertaken is hereby enjoined.

**EDITA S. BUENO**  
Administrator

