

- Third Offense: One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 100,000.00) and Suspension of Coal Trader Accreditation, Coal End-User Registration, COC, or SSCMP, as may be applicable
- Fourth Offense: Cancellation of Coal Trader Accreditation, Coal End-User Registration, COC, or SSCMP, as may be applicable

Violation of any provision of this Circular resulting in environmental incidents, as defined under Section 10 hereof, and/or serious injury resulting in the loss of life or limb, shall be subject to a fine of Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 200,000.00), in addition to the suspension or cancellation of Coal Trader Accreditation, Coal End-User Registration, COC, or SSCMP, as may be applicable.

The DOE may further recommend to the concerned Local Government Unit (LGU) the suspension or revocation of the Business Permit and/or closure of business establishment for any violation of the provisions of this Circular.

Section 8. Compliance. All existing Coal Traders, Coal Logistics Service Providers, Coal End-Users, Operators of COCs and SSCMPs, and all other persons engaged in Coal Operations shall comply with this Circular within six (6) months from its effectivity by submitting to the DOE, through the ERDB or the concerned DOE FO where their business is located, a sworn certification by an authorized representative stating that it has complied with the requirements under this Circular, and shall attach a Checklist (Annex “A”) of its compliance and supporting documents.

Thereafter, all such entities shall submit the sworn certification and Checklist on or before June 30 of every year of operation.

Failure to submit the sworn certification and Checklist within the period prescribed herein shall be a ground for suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Coal Trader Accreditation, Coal End-User Registration, COC, or SSCMP, as may be applicable.

Compliance with the provisions of this Circular, including payment of fines, shall not result in any increase in the price of coal. In no case shall any cost incurred be charged to or passed on by a licensee/permittee to its customers.

Section 9. Visitorial and Enforcement Power of the DOE. The DOE, through the ERDB or the concerned DOE FO, shall, at reasonable hours of the day and in a manner which will not impede or obstruct work in progress, conduct on-site validation of the submitted sworn certification and Checklist. On-site validation may likewise be conducted in case of complaints received against any Coal Trader, Coal Logistics Service Provider, Coal End-User, Operators of COCs and SSCMPs, and all other persons engaged in Coal Operations.

Refusal to allow inspection or on-site validation shall be a ground for suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Coal Trader Accreditation, Coal End-User Registration, COC, or SSCMP, as may be applicable.

Section 10. Other Regulations. All existing Coal Traders, Coal Logistics Service Providers, Coal End-Users, Operators of COCs and SSCMPs, and all other persons engaged in Coal Operations shall strictly comply with other applicable rules, regulations, and issuances of other government agencies and entities, both local and national.

In case of any health and safety incident resulting in serious physical injury or loss of life, or any environmental incident, such as, but not limited to, coal spillages, contamination, fire, spontaneous combustion, coal run-off into seas, rivers, and other water bodies, the concerned Coal Trader, Coal Logistics Service Provider, Coal End-User, Operator of COC and SSCMP, and all other persons engaged in Coal Operations shall be held responsible and liable thereto. Immediate emergency response shall be undertaken to address the occurrence of any of these incidents.

The concerned DOE FO Director or the ERDB Director shall be notified within twenty-four (24) hours, using the fastest available means of communication, in case of any of these incidents. Failure to make such notification shall be a ground for suspension, cancellation, or revocation of Coal Trader Accreditation, Coal End-User Registration, COC, or SSCMP, as may be applicable.

Section 11. Periodic Review. The ERDB shall review the implementation of this Circular after one (1) year from its effectivity, and the Checklist be updated, as necessary, to ensure continued alignment with evolving technologies, local industry needs, and global best practices.

Section 12. Separability Clause. If for any reason, any provision of this Circular is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such part not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 13. Repealing Clause. Any circulars, orders, letters of instructions, or issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Circular are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 14. Effectivity. This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation and shall remain in effect until otherwise revoked. A copy of this Circular shall be filed with the University of the Philippines Law Center – Office of the National Administrative Register (UPLC–ONAR).

Issued this _____ day of **SEP 10 2025** at the Energy Center, Rizal Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, Metro Manila.



SHARON S. GARIN
Secretary



Annex “A”



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT of ENERGY
Energy Resource Development Bureau
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City

Company _____
Accreditation/Registration/COC/SSCMP No. _____
Address _____
Contact No. _____ Date Accomplished _____

COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

RULES AND REGULATIONS ON THE HANDLING, TRANSPORT, STORAGE, AND DISTRIBUTION OF COAL

No.	Reference Section	Provision	Compliance			Remarks/ Evidence
			Yes	No	N/A	

Section 3. General Guidelines

1	Sec 3(1)	Minimum labor standards, including the provision of sanitation, rest areas, adequate compensation, and protection against exploitation, shall be observed at all times.				
2	Sec 3(2)	All workers shall undergo the required health, safety, and environmental trainings and/or orientations prior to performing their assigned tasks.				
3	Sec 3(3)	All workers shall be provided with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).				
4	Sec 3(4)	Proper housekeeping shall be maintained at all times.				
5	Sec 3(5)	An emergency preparedness and response plan shall be established and implemented to address any untoward incident/s. Such plan shall be disseminated to all employees. Regular emergency drills shall be conducted.				
6	Sec 3(6)	Appropriate mitigating measures shall be implemented to prevent spontaneous combustion at all stages of coal handling, transportation, storage and distribution of coal.				
7	Sec 3(7)	A dust control system, such as, but not limited to, water spray, sprinkler, misting machine, dust arrester, or cover, shall be provided and installed to prevent emission of fugitive coal dust.				
8	Sec 3(8)	Appropriate measures shall be implemented to prevent emission of foul odor from coal stockpile.				
9	Sec 3(9)	Coal stockpile shall be properly maintained. Any hazardous condition in or around such area shall be immediately reported, and appropriate corrective and control measures shall be implemented.				

1. Put a check mark on the appropriate box under the **Compliance** column.
2. **N/A** means not applicable to the current operation
3. Under **Remarks/Evidence** column: a) If **Compliance** is **Yes** = state proof of compliance (such as documents, procedures, photos)
b) If **Compliance** is **N/A** = provide justification
4. Attach supporting documents

10	Sec 3(10)	Wind breakers, such as, but not limited to, suitable trees and vegetation and/or appropriate fence which shall always be higher than the stockpile height, shall be maintained along the perimeter of the stockpile area.				
11	Sec 3(11)	Generation of dust and other operational spoils within the working area and other applicable areas of operation shall be controlled by sprinkling or water-spraying of roads.				

Section 4(A) Handling and/or Transport of Coal Within COC or SSCMP Area

12	Sec 4(A)(1)	Equipment operators shall be protected from heat, dust and coal particles coming from the stockpile.				
13	Sec 4(A)(2)	Spotters or equivalent safety personnel shall be deployed, based on the results of a site-specific hazard identification and risk assessment, for every activity (i.e., loading and unloading of coal).				
14	Sec 4(A)(3)	Coal shall be safely loaded into trucks, mine cars, and loading bins via a conveyor system, or directly into barges or landing craft transport (LCT) via roll-on-roll-off using trucks, or by other means of conveyances.				
15	Sec 4(A)(4)	Trucks, vessels, and other coal conveyances shall be provided with appropriate fire-fighting equipment.				
16	Sec 4(A)(5)	Trucks, vessels, and other coal conveyances shall not be overloaded and shall be driven or operated within the specified speed limit.				

Section 4(B) Handling and/or Transport of Coal from Mine Stockpile to Staging Area or Loading Port

17	Sec 4(B)(1)	Coal shall be safely loaded into trucks, mine cars, and loading bins via conveyor system, and or directly into barges or LCT via roll-on-roll-off using trucks directly into barges or landing craft transport (LCT), including or by other means of conveyances.				
18	Sec 4(B)(2)	A truck’s cargo box shall be properly secured to prevent fugitive coal dust and/or coal spillages along the road.				
19	Sec 4(B)(3)	Truck tires shall be cleaned to prevent dust and mud from being carried and scattered along access roads and other areas of operations.				
20	Sec 4(B)(4)	Roads shall be cleaned and swept to prevent accumulation of dust and other operational spoils within the working area and other applicable areas of the operation.				
21	Sec 4(B)(5)	Spillage prevention systems (e.g., flexible skirting, boom barriers, or custom aprons) shall be installed in accordance with port design and operational layout to capture fugitive coal dust or particles.				
22	Sec 4(B)(6)	Congestion at the mine stockpile area, staging area, and loading port shall be avoided to ensure safe and smooth movement of trucks and other vehicles				
23	Sec 4(B)(7)	Trucks, vessels, and other coal conveyances shall be provided with appropriate fire-fighting equipment.				
24	Sec 4(B)(8)	Trucks, vessels, and other coal conveyances shall not be overloaded and shall be driven or operated within the specified speed limit.				
25	Sec 4(B)(9)	Spotters or equivalent safety personnel shall be deployed, based on the results of a site-specific hazard identification and risk assessment, for every activity (i.e., loading and unloading of coal)				

Section 4(C)(I) Handling and/or Transport of Coal by Land from Staging Area or Loading Port to Unloading Port or Area

26	Sec 4(C)(I)(1)	Trucks shall be equipped with brakes, lighting, an audible backing horn, and early warning devices.				
27	Sec 4(C)(I)(2)	A truck’s cargo box shall be properly secured to prevent fugitive coal dust and/or coal spillages along the road.				
28	Sec 4(C)(I)(3)	Truck mufflers shall be provided with silencers or other devices to prevent generation of excessive noise.				
29	Sec 4(C)(I)(4)	Unauthorized persons and/or extraneous materials shall not be allowed to ride in or be transported by trucks during coal transport.				
30	Sec 4(C)(I)(5)	Truck tires shall be cleaned to remove dirt and mud before leaving the staging area.				
31	Sec 4(C)(I)(6)	Coal spillages on barangay, municipal, or national roads used by the conveyance shall be cleaned.				
32	Sec 4(C)(I)(7)	Trucks and other coal conveyances shall be provided with appropriate fire-fighting equipment.				
33	Sec 4(C)(I)(8)	Trucks and other coal conveyances shall not be overloaded and shall be driven or operated within the specified speed limit.				

Section 4(C)(II) Handling and/or Transport of Coal by Sea from Staging Area or Loading Port to Unloading Port or Area

34	Sec 4(C)(II)(1)	Tugboats, barges, and seagoing vessels shall be equipped with adequate lighting devices.				
35	Sec 4(C)(II)(2)	Coal cargo shall be trimmed as level as possible. Barges and seagoing vessels shall be properly secured with appropriate covers to prevent coal spillages at sea.				
36	Sec 4(C)(II)(3)	Unauthorized persons and/or extraneous materials shall not be allowed to ride in or be transported in the barges or seagoing vessels during coal transport.				

Section 4(D) Handling or Discharging of Coal in Unloading Port or Area

37	Sec 4(D)(1)	Only authorized personnel shall be allowed to perform coal unloading in the port of unloading.				
38	Sec 4(D)(2)	Adequate lighting devices shall be provided during nighttime unloading operations.				
39	Sec 4(D)(3)	The movement of equipment and personnel designated for unloading operations shall be closely supervised.				
40	Sec 4(D)(4)	Coal spillages shall be prevented during unloading of coal in the port of unloading.				
41	Sec 4(D)(5)	Temporary storage of coal on the pier apron shall be prohibited to prevent coal run-off.				
42	Sec 4(D)(6)	All handling equipment shall be maintained in good working condition and shall be readily available within the area to immediately address stockpile management requirements.				

Section 4(E) Handling and/or Transport of Coal from Unloading Port or Area to Coal End-User’s/Coal Trader’s Storage Facility

43	Sec 4(E)(1)	A truck’s cargo box shall be properly secured to prevent fugitive coal dust and/or coal spillages along the road.				
44	Sec 4(E)(2)	Truck tires shall be cleaned to remove dirt and mud before leaving the port of unloading.				
45	Sec 4(E)(3)	Roads shall be cleaned and swept to prevent accumulation of dust and other operational spoils within the working area and other applicable areas of the operation.				
46	Sec 4(E)(4)	Coal shall be unloaded only at its designated location in the storage facility.				
47	Sec 4(E)(5)	Spotters or equivalent safety personnel shall be deployed, based on the results of a site-specific hazard identification and risk assessment, for every activity (i.e., loading and unloading of coal).				
48	Sec 4(E)(6)	Trucks and other coal conveyances shall be provided with appropriate fire-fighting equipment.				
49	Sec 4(E)(7)	Trucks and other coal conveyances shall not be overloaded and shall be driven or operated within the specified speed limit.				

Section 5 Handling and/or Storage of Coal

50	Sec 5(1)	Implement appropriate measures to ensure that the storage facility prevents the emission of fugitive coal dust and foul odor.				
51	Sec 5(2)	Store coal in a distinct area that has controls to prevent washout and contamination.				
52	Sec 5(3)	Design, manage, and maintain coal stockpile to ensure safe handling and storage.				
53	Sec 5(4)	Construct and maintain settling pond/s with appropriate drainage systems or other similar facilities or set-ups to capture run-off coal and other operational spoils.				
54	Sec 5(5)	Install a perimeter fence to prevent the emission of fugitive dust and other operational spoils.				

Submitted By:

Signature _____

Name of Authorized Personnel _____

Designation _____

Date _____