



24 May 2017

Representative JESUS N. SACDALAN

Chairperson

Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization

House of Representatives

Quezon City

Dear Representative Sacdalan,

The Department of Social Welfare and Development supports House Bill No. 479 or the "Dam Safety Act of 2016" authored by Representative Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado.

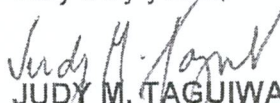
We believe that the institutionalization of a National Dam Safety Program and the establishment of a National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) will facilitate the management of the socio-economic and environmental impacts of dams including possible destruction to property and loss of lives.

To contribute to the enhancement of the bill, may we recommend the following:

1. Ensure that all provisions related to emergency management should be consistent with Republic Act No. 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act.
2. Expound on the National Dam Safety Program to be instituted since the provisions were mostly on the establishment of the National Dam Safety Authority.
3. On Section 14. Penalties, the first part of this Section which deals with stakeholder consultation and the conduct of massive public information campaigns may be transferred to Section 6 on the Power and Functions of the National Dam Safety Authority.
4. On Section 16, Implementing Rules and Regulations, the government and non-government entities enlisted as NDSA Board of Directors are recommended to take part in the formulation of the IRR.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


JUDY M. TAGUIWALO
Secretary