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IMPLEMENTING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR BIOFUELS – COCONUT METHYL ESTER (B100), PNS/DOE QS 002:2021

WHEREAS, Section 5 (k) of Republic Act No. 7638 otherwise known as the "Department of Energy (DOE) Act of 1992," empowers the DOE to promulgate necessary rules and regulations to implement the objectives of the Act among which is the integration and rationalization of the various programs of the Government towards self-sufficiency and enhanced productivity in power and energy without sacrificing ecological concerns;

WHEREAS, Section 26 of Republic Act No. 8749, otherwise known as the "Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999" directs the DOE, together with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS), and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and other stakeholders, to set specifications for all types of fuel and fuel-related products and improve fuel composition;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9367 or the "Biofuels Act of 2006" mandates the use of biofuels to reduce dependence on imported fuels with due regard to the protection of public health, the environment and natural ecosystems consistent with the country's sustainable economic growth that would expand opportunities for livelihood;

WHEREAS, the quality of biodiesel, also designated as B100, in the form of coconut methyl ester was standardized to ensure its effectiveness when used either in its pure state or as a blend based on local conditions as established through various test validations, in terms of the current requirements of the industry, its users and manufacturers and regional standards harmonization thrust;

WHEREAS, technical concerns, e.g. susceptibility to flakes formation and microbial contamination, were established for the need to review Philippine National Standard (PNS/DOE QS 002:2015) that resulted to the following improvements in the standard;

- Inclusion of new property, the Cold Soak Filterability Test (CSFT);
- Improvement of Monoglyceride content;
- · Inclusion of provision of good housekeeping; and,
- Updating / review of test methods

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WHEREAS, in accordance with the above mandate, the DOE-chaired by the Technical Committee on Petroleum Products and Additives (TCPPA) has developed/reviewed and subsequently promulgated by BPS on December 27, 2021 the PNS/DOE QS 002:2021 as the current standard specification for Coconut Methyl Ester, cancelling and replacing PNS/DOE QS 002:2015 to reflect the foregoing improvements in the quality specification for Coconut Methyl Ester;

NOW, THEREFORE, the following guidelines are hereby adopted to effectively implement the PNS for Coconut Methyl Ester:

- Section 1. Standard Implementation. Upon the effectivity of this Department Circular, only Coconut Methyl Ester conforming to PNS/DOE QS 002:2021 shall be manufactured, sold, offered for sale, dispensed, or introduced into commerce in the Philippines.
- Section 2. Product Quality Certification. In order to protect against adulterated or offspecification product, it shall be the responsibility of the Accredited Biodiesel Producer to ensure that all Coconut Methyl Ester deliveries are accompanied by a Certificate of Quality to be issued by same, indicating full PNS compliance of the delivered Coconut Methyl Ester,

Accordingly, an Accredited Biodiesel Producer shall submit to the DOE-Renewable Energy Management Bureau (DOE-REMB), as proof of their quality management system their adherence to the mandated quality for B100. The DOE-REMB shall issue the additional implementing and monitoring guidelines pursuant to this Section as appropriate.

- Section 3. Prohibited Acts. The following acts are prohibited and penalized:
 - A. Sale and possession of biofuel and biofuel blends which fail to conform with the PNS is punishable under Chapter VIII Section 1 of Joint Administrative Order No. 2008-1, Series of 2008, otherwise known as "Guidelines Governing the Biofuel Feedstocks Production, and Biofuels and Biofuel Blends Production, Distribution and Sale under Republic Act No. 9367".
- Section 4. Penalties / Sanctions. Any person who fails to comply with the prescribed PNS herein shall be subject to appropriate sanctions imposed under applicable laws, rules and regulations as stated in Section 3.
- Section 5. Repealing Clause. All circulars and issuances not consistent with this Circular shall be modified and repealed accordingly.

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Section 6.	following its con and shall remain thereof shall be f	Publication. This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days implete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in effect until otherwise revoked and certified true copies filed with the University of the Philippines Law Center – Office Administrative Register (UPLC-ONAR).
Done this Metro Manii	of	, 2022 in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City,

ALFONSO G. CUSI Secretary