

LOCAL WATER UTILITIES ADMINISTRATION

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January 9, 2014

Memo Circular No. 1001 - 14

To:

Regional / Provincial Water District Associations

All Water Districts

Subject:

World Water Day 2014

The world will once again be celebrating World Water Day (WWD) on March 22, 2014. As the leading government agencies on provincial water supply, the LWUA and the water districts are duty-bound to lead the national and provincial WWD celebration to bring to everyone's attention the importance of water.

The theme for this year is - **Water and Energy**. It aims to bring to focus the close interrelationships between the two and their effect on everyone particularly on water and energy-scarce countries. A flyer on the WWD notes that:

Water and energy are closely interlinked and interdependent. Energy generation and transmission requires utilization of water resources, particularly for hydroelectric, nuclear, and thermal energy sources. Recent interest in biofuels also creates an incremental demand on water resources; the latest World Water Development Report (2012) predicts that even a nominal increase in biofuel demand (say 5% of road transport by 2030, as predicted by International Energy Agency) could push up the water demand by as much as 20% of the water used for agriculture worldwide. Additionally, biofuel production is linked to increases in water pollution through increased used of fertilizers and agricultural chemicals. Conversely, about 8% of the global energy generation is used for pumping, treating and transporting water to various consumers.

In this regard, as in the past, LWUA encourages all water districts to come up with World Water Day programs. To create more impact and generate more attention, it would be best if regional or provincial water district associations can band together and come up with a common celebration. This can be in the form of regional/ provincial motorcades, seminars, WD tours- briefings for school children, various contests, watershed tree planting and the like. You can also come up with special issues of your newsletters or magazines. Do not forget your streamers.

We did a great job in 2013. Hopefully, we can do it again this year.

EDUARDO C. SANTOS Acting Administrator