

EMB CARAGA INITIATES ON-LINE MONITORING OF AIR EMISSIONS OF INDUSTRIES

The **Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Caraga Region** enforces an initiative to monitor online the air emission of industries by requiring all firms operating fuel-burning equipment in Caraga Region to install a Closed Circuit Television (CCTV). This aims to provide an online visual monitoring of the smoke stack emissions whether or not dark smoke is discharging from any stack or such installation.

CCTV video surveillance has played a major role in many countries to discourage the violators on air pollution. This initiative is anchored on the DENR Administrative Order No. 2000-81 as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) under the Philippine Clean Air Act (RA 8749) and Memorandum issued by the concurrent EMB Director Atty. Jonas



R. Leones dated November 7, 2014. Thru the leadership of Regional Director Wilson L. Trajeco, PME, Ph.D., EMB Caraga Region envisioned to create an internet-based solution thru the online monitoring system intended to facilitate generation of real time visuals of the appearance of smoke coming out of the plant stack which can be viewed in the office that considers the distance of the plant location of the firms which are mostly far from the EMB Caraga Regional Office. As of to date, a total of nineteen (19) firms from different provinces in the region can be viewed online.

Demand for the installation of the CCTV in all firms with fuel-burning equipment is driven by a growing demand for public health and welfare and to further improve the emission standards on air pollution for stationary sources. The standards whichever is applicable, shall be limited on the acceptable level of pollutants emitted from a stationary source for the protection of the public's health and welfare.

Aside from the online-based system, these firms are quarterly submitting results of stack sampling to the office. EMB Caraga Region is also continuously monitoring the ambient air quality to protect and advance the right of people to a balanced and healthful ecology and environmental protection. (DMCR)