

No Deforestation Policy

Company Name: D.M. Wenceslao & Associates, Inc. (DMW)

Date: December 2024

Scope: DMW's Operations

Introduction

D.M. Wenceslao & Associates, Inc. (DMW) recognizes that healthy forests are vital to biodiversity conservation, climate stability, and community well-being. In line with global sustainability best practices, the company commits to a strict no gross deforestation policy across all developments under its direct control. This means no clearing, burning, or degradation of natural forests for any project within DMW's operational footprint.

This policy aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 15: Life on Land, SDG 13: Climate Action, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Commitments

- **No Forest Clearing:** DMW will not clear, burn, or convert natural forests or wooded areas in the course of its development projects. This commitment to no gross deforestation means the company does not rely on offsets or replanting to compensate for clearance -- it prevents deforestation altogether.
- **Comprehensive Coverage:** The no-deforestation commitment applies to all projects and phases of development, from land due diligence and planning to construction and long-term estate management.
- **Biodiversity Protection:** The company will actively conserve ecosystems and wildlife within its properties by protecting existing green areas and integrating natural spaces into project designs.
- **Beyond Legal Compliance:** DMW will strictly comply with all Philippine laws and regulations governing forest protection, land use, and environmental impact assessments, while striving to align with international frameworks and sustainability goals.
- **Monitoring and Transparency:** Progress against this policy will be reviewed annually by the Environmental Management Team. Beginning reporting year 2025, DMW will disclose its no-deforestation performance in the Annual Sustainability Report and other public communications. Any incidents or complaints related to deforestation will be promptly investigated, with appropriate corrective actions and remediation measures undertaken to ensure accountability and continuous improvement.
- **Communication:** This policy will be communicated to all employees, contractors, and project partners to ensure full awareness, accountability, and consistent application across the organization.

Rationale

Adopting a no-deforestation policy is both an environmental responsibility and a strategic imperative for long-term value creation. Forests are indispensable for a stable climate, absorbing and storing vast amounts of carbon dioxide. Yet globally, approximately 10 million hectares of forest are lost each year, releasing about 5.6 billion tons of CO₂. By preventing deforestation in its operations, DMW avoids contributing to these emissions and supports international climate goals.

In the Philippines, one of the world's most climate-vulnerable nations, forests serve as natural defenses against extreme weather. Keeping forests intact around DMW's developments helps maintain critical ecological buffers that reduce flood risk, stabilize soils, and protect surrounding communities. Preserving forest cover strengthens climate resilience while ensuring that urban growth proceeds responsibly and sustainably.

Conclusion

DMW's No Deforestation Policy reflects the company's commitment to sustainable development and climate resilience. By pledging to eliminate deforestation across all projects under its direct control, DMW ensures that its growth contributes not only to economic progress but also to the preservation of ecosystems that sustain life and protect communities.

Prepared by:

Environmental Compliance

D.M. Wenceslao & Associates, Inc.