



DENR Environmental Laboratory Recognition (ELR) Scheme

Level 2: Assessment of the Laboratory

Upon the recommendation of the assigned EMB ELR Custodian and EMB RO who conducted the surveillance, and with the applicant laboratory's concurrence, the ELR Secretariat shall schedule the Level 2 i.e. On-site assessment of the laboratory. The Laboratory Inspection and Assessment Team (LIAT) are then designated, the composition of which, based on the DAO 98-63, are as follows:

- Two (2) EMB Central Office Assessors;
- Two (2) External Assessors; and
- One (1) EMB Regional Office Assessor.

These assessors have undergone the DENR ELR Assessor's Training. External Assessors must have been nominated by relevant professional organizations, such as the Integrated Chemists of the Philippines and the Kapisanang Kimika ng Pilipinas. These External assessors provide additional credible, independent and unbiased application of the assessment process. They translate available science and practice into useful information during assessments.

The LIAT shall conduct the assessment following the requirements of DAO 98-63, led by one of the EMB Central Office assessors as Chairman of the LIAT.

Aspects of the laboratory operation that are checked during on-site inspection and assessments are:

- a) Management and organization;
- b) Personnel, including signatories;
- c) Physical layout and safety provisions of the laboratory;
- d) Compliance to environmental and other laws related to the operation of environmental laboratories;
- e) Laboratory waste management practices;
- f) Proficiency testing results;
- g) Analytical methods;
- h) Quality assurance/ quality control practices; and
- i) Instrument/ equipment calibration and maintenance.

External assessors are given aspects a to f as their main tasks/ responsibilities, giving the EMB assessors ample time to assess aspects g to i of the different parameters the laboratory is applying for.