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SENATE

S. NO. 402

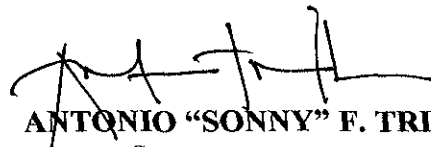
Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act 6969, also known as the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990, has been inadequate to meet the many concerns pertaining to the management of hazardous and nuclear wastes in the country. The law merely provides that it prohibits the entry, even in transit of hazardous and nuclear waste into our territory. Moreover, Republic Act 9003 otherwise known as the Solid Waste Management Act does not, cover medical waste, which, almost often than not, are hazardous to health. Hence, many cases involving hazardous wastes are not properly resolved since enforcement is also hampered.

Thus, this bill seeks to address the problems created by hazardous healthcare and radioactive wastes through the enactment of the Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Management Act. It is imperative therefore that this type of waste be properly treated before it is released in the environment in order to prevent the spread of diseases and its catastrophic effect. Furthermore, this bill aims to provide a guideline for the proper handling, treatment and tracking of medical waste. It intends to advance the protection of human health and the environment from the potential risks of hazardous and radioactive wastes within the framework of sustainable development. In terms of penalties, this bill strengthens enforcement through additional sanctions and higher penalties for any violation of the provisions of the law.

In view of the foregoing, the early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

SENATE

S. NO. 402

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE
WASTES MANAGEMENT, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*Be it enacted in the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
assembled*

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Philippine Hazardous and*
2 *Radioactive Wastes Management Act*".

3
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to advance
5 the protection of human health and the environment from the potential risks of hazardous and
6 radioactive wastes within the framework of sustainable development. Towards this end, the State
7 shall:

8 (a) Develop and implement national and local integrated and comprehensive hazardous and
9 radioactive wastes management programs focusing on pollution prevention and resource
10 conservation recovery, which shall:

11 (1) Improve wastes management techniques, organizational arrangements, methods of collection,
12 separation and recovery of wastes;

13 (2) Promote environmentally safe disposal of residues;

14 (3) Minimize the generation of hazardous and radioactive wastes by encouraging cleaner
15 production, process substitution, resource recovery, recycling and reuse, and treatment; and

16 (4) Institutionalize public participation in the development and implementation of such
17 programs;

18 (b) Promulgate guidelines for the generation, collection, segregation, transport, recovery, storage,
19 treatment and disposal of hazardous and radioactive wastes including emergency and

20 contingency plans for accidents involving such wastes;

- 1 (c) Prohibit the entry, even in transit, of hazardous and radioactive wastes into the Philippine
2 territorial limits for whatever purpose consistent with multilateral international agreements and
3 protocols;
- 4 (d) Promote a national research and development program for improved hazardous and
5 radioactive wastes management and resource conservation techniques;
- 6 (e) Formulate and enforce a system of accountability for generators, including the promotion of
7 extended producer responsibility, product stewardship and responsible care program;
- 8 (f) Promote international environmental standards on wastes management; and
- 9 (g) Strengthen the integration of hazardous and radioactive wastes management and resource
10 conservation and recovery topics into the academic curricula of formal and non-formal education
11 in order to promote environmental awareness and action among the citizenry,
- 12

13 **SEC. 3. Coverage of the Act.** - This Act shall apply to the generation, possession,
14 collection, recovery, reuse, storage, transport, treatment and disposal of hazardous and
15 radioactive wastes in the country for whatever purposes: *Provided,* That this Act shall cover the
16 entry of such wastes, even in transit, into the Philippine territorial limits,

17 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act,

- 18 (a) "Abandoned underground mines" refer to worked out mineral mines with deep shafts
19 extending to about one thousand (1,000) to two thousand (2,000) thousand feet below the ground
20 surface,
- 21 (b) "Best available techniques (BAT)" refer to any technology that shall take into consideration
22 costs and benefits of a measure as well as precaution and prevention such as, but not limited to:
- 23 (1) the nature, effects and mass of releases concerned;
- 24 (2) consumption and use of raw materials in the process and its energy efficiency;
- 25 (3) the need to prevent or reduce to a minimum the overall impact of releases to the environment;
- 26 and
- 27 (4) ensure occupational health and safety at the workplaces.
- 28 (c) "Best environmental practices (BEP)" refer to practices that are generally accepted as
29 "environmentally friendly", taking into consideration the nature, traditions and culture of the

1 locality. For this purpose, technological advances and changes in scientific knowledge and
2 understanding shall likewise be considered in determining acceptable practices in preserving the
3 environment.

4 (d) "Borehole facilities" shall refer to those that entail the emplacement of solid radioactive
5 wastes in an engineered facility of relatively narrow diameter bored and operated directly from
6 the surface. It covers a range of design concepts with depths ranging from a few meters up to
7 several hundred meters, and their diameters can vary from a few tens of centimeters up to more
8 than one (1) meter.

9 (e) "Carcinogen" refers to any substance that can cause or contribute to the incidence of cancer;

10 (f) "Collection" refers to the act of removing hazardous waste from the source or from a storage
11 point.

12 (g) "Construction" refers to the erection or building of new structures.

13 (h) "Contaminated sites" refer to places or spots where the soil quality exceeds the soil standards
14 set pursuant to Section 17 hereof.

15 (i) "Corrective action" refers to the steps taken to assess, prioritize and clean up hazardous and
16 radioactive wastes from the treatment, storage and, disposal facilities (TSDFs) and/or
17 contaminated sites in order to protect health and the environment.

18 (j) "Corrosivity" refers to a state where the waste has either of the following properties: (1) it is
19 aqueous and has a pH less than or equal to 2 or greater than or equal to 12.5; (2) it is a liquid and
20 corrodes steel (SAE 1020) at a rate greater than 6.35 mm. (0.250 inch) per year at a test
21 temperature of 55°C (130°F).

22 (k) "Degradability" refers to the ability of a compound to be reduced to simpler fonus through a
23 breakdown of its structure.

24 (l) "Deep injection" well means a well used for subsurface injection of waste fluids and solids
25 derived from industries such as geothermal and oil and gas into an injection zone.

26 (m) "Department" means the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

27 (n) "Disposal" means the discharge, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking or placing of
28 any hazardous and radioactive wastes into or on any land or water so that such wastes, or any

1 constituent thereof, may enter the environment or be emitted into the air or discharged into any
2 waters, including ground waters.

3 (o) "Generation" refers to the act or process of producing hazardous and radioactive wastes.

4 (p) "Generator" refers to a person, natural or juridical, who produces hazardous and radioactive
5 wastes.

6 (q) "Geological repository" refers to the isolation of high level radioactive waste using a system
7 of engineered and natural barriers at depths up to several hundred meters in a geologically stable
8 formation.

9 (r) "Hazardous wastes" refer to substances discarded from commercial and industrial
10 establishments, institutions and healthcare facilities which, because of the concentration, or
11 physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or significantly contribute to increases
12 in mortality or serious illnesses, or pose an unreasonable risk and potential threat to human
13 health and the environment.

14 (s) "Hazardous and radioactive wastes management" means the systematic administration of
15 activities which provide for the identification, listing, collection, segregation, storage, transport,
16 recovery, reuse, processing, reprocessing, treatment and disposal of hazardous and radioactive
17 wastes.

18 (t) "Healthcare waste" refers to waste that is generated or produced as a result of the following
19 activities: diagnosis, treatment or immunization of human beings or animals; research pertaining
20 to the above activities; production or testing of biological and waste originating from minor or
21 scattered sources.

22 (u) "Ignitability" refers to the characteristic used to define as hazardous wastes that could cause a
23 fire during transport, storage or disposal. A waste exhibits the characteristics of ignitability if a
24 sample of the waste has any of the following properties: (1) it is a liquid that has a flash point of
25 less than 60°C (140°F); (2) it is not a liquid and is capable, under standard temperature and
26 pressure, of causing fire through friction, absorption of moisture or spontaneous chemical
27 changes and, when ignited, burns so vigorously and persistently that it creates a hazard; (3) it is
28 an ignitable gas; or (4) it is an oxidizer.

- 1 (v) "Injection zone" refers to a geological formation, group of formation or a part of a formation
2 located below the underground source of potable water, and which receives waste fluids or solids
3 through a deep injection well.
- 4 (w) "International environmental standards" refer to the requirements or standards under existing
5 international environmental agreements to which the Philippines is a party.
- 6 (x) "Landfill" refers to a waste disposal site designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a
7 manner that exerts engineering control over significant potential environmental impacts arising
8 from the development and operation of the facility.
- 9 (y) "Land disposal" refers to the placement of hazardous and radioactive wastes on the surface,
10 near surface and at depths within the soil column.
- 11 (z) "Land treatment or land farming" refers to a managed technology that involves the controlled
12 application of waste on the soil surface and/or the incorporation of waste or contaminated soils
13 into the upper soil zone.
- 14 (aa) "Level 1 hospital" refers to an emergency hospital that provides:
- 15 (1) initial clinical care and management to patients requiring immediate treatment, as well as
16 primary care on prevalent diseases in the locality;
- 17 (2) clinical services that include general medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and nonsurgical
18 gynecology and minor surgery;
- 19 (3) general administrative service and may provide ancillary services (primary clinical
20 laboratory, first level radiology, pharmacy); and
- 21 (4) nursing care for patients who require minimal category of supervised care for twenty-four
22 (24) hours or longer.
- 23 (bb) "Level 2 hospital" refers to a non-departmentalized hospital that provides:
- 24 (1) clinical care and management on prevalent diseases in the locality;
- 25 (2) clinical services that include general medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology,
26 surgery and anesthesia;
- 27 (3) appropriate administrative and ancillary services (secondary clinical laboratory, first level
28 radiology, pharmacy); and

1 (4) nursing care provided in the level I hospital as well as intermediate, moderate and partial
2 category of supervised care for twenty-four (24) hours or longer.

3 (cc) "Level 3 hospital" refers to a departmentalized hospital that provides:

4 (1) clinical care and management on prevalent diseases in the locality as well as particular forms
5 of treatment, surgical procedure and intensive care;

6 (2) clinical services provided in the level 2 hospital as well as specialty clinical care;

7 (3) appropriate administrative and ancillary services (tertiary clinical laboratory, second
8 radiology, pharmacy); and

9 (4) nursing care provided in the level 2 hospital as well as total and intensive skilled care

10 (dd) "Manifest or consignment note" refers to a form prescribed by the Department and the
11 Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) accompanying hazardous and radioactive wastes
12 from the point of generation, through transport, to final disposition.

13 (ee) "Military munitions" refer to all types of both conventional and chemical ammunition
14 products and their components produced by or for the military for national defense and security,
15 including munitions produced by other parties under contract with or acting as agent for the
16 Department of National Defense (DND).

17 (ff) "Mined cavities" refer to the emplacement of radioactive waste at some depths inside mines
18 or caverns which is either man-made or natural.

19 (gg) "Mutagens" refer to any substance that can cause a change in genetic material.

20 (hh) "Near surface facilities" refer to the disposal of radioactive wastes with or without
21 engineered barrier on or below ground surface where the final protective covering is of the order
22 of a few meters thick or in caverns a few tens of meter below the earth's surface.

23 (ii) "On-site treatment facilities" refer to facilities of generators who treat their own hazardous
24 and radioactive wastes, either by themselves or through a service provider, inside their facilities
25 in compliance with waste acceptance criteria promulgated by the Department, the Department of
26 Health (DOH) and the PNRI.

27 (jj) "Open burning" refers to the low temperature thermal destruction of wastes by means of direct
28 exposure to fire. For this purpose, this shall apply to the traditional small-scale methods of
29 community sanitation called "siga".

1 (kk) "Partial treatment" refers to any process used to modify the characteristics of a hazardous or
2 radioactive waste without totally negating its hazardous characteristics. This may include volume
3 reduction, conditioning, moisture reduction and neutralization, among others.

4 (ll) "Persistence" refers to the substantial length of time a compound, once introduced into the
5 environment, stays there, or the property of a substance whose half-life in water, sediment or soil
6 exceeds duration of fifty (50) days.

7 (mm) "Person(s)" refers to any being, natural or juridical, susceptible of rights and obligations,
8 or of being the subject of legal relations.

9 (nn) "People's organization (PO)" refers to a nonprofit and non-stock association of citizens in a
10 locality, embracing a common goal to protect the environment and, ultimately, public health.

11 (oo) "Radioactive wastes" refer to materials that contain or are contaminated with radionuclides
12 at concentrations or activities greater than clearance levels as established by the PNRI. This also
13 refers to disused sealed sources for which no use is foreseen:

14 (pp) "Reactivity" refers to the state of a waste material, or a representative sample of the waste
15 material, exhibiting any of the following properties:

16 (1) It is normally unstable and readily undergoes violent change without detonating;
17 (2) It reacts violently with water;
18 (3) It forms potentially explosive mixtures with water;
19 (4) When mixed with water, it generates toxic gases, vapors or fumes in a quantity sufficient to
20 present danger to human health or the environment;
21 (5) It is a cyanide- or sulfide-bearing waste which, when exposed to pH conditions between 2
22 and 12.5, can generate toxic gases, vapors or fumes in a quantity sufficient to present a danger to
23 human health or the environment;
24 (6) It is capable of detonation or explosive reaction if subjected to a strong initiating source or if
25 reacted under confinement; or
26 (7) It is readily capable of detonation or explosive decomposition or reaction at standard
27 temperature and pressure.

1 (qq) "Resource recovery" refers to the collection, extraction or recovery of recyclable materials
2 from the waste stream for the purpose of recycling, generating energy or producing a product
3 suitable for beneficial use: *Provided*, That such resource recovery facilities exclude incineration.

4 (rr) "Recycling" refers to the process of minimizing the 'generation of wastes by recovering
5 usable products that might otherwise become waste.

6 (ss) "Segregation" refers to a wastes management practice of separating different materials found
7 in hazardous waste in order to promote recycling and reuse of resources and to reduce the
8 volume of wastes for collection and disposal. This also refers to separating radioactive wastes
9 according to level of activity, physical form and half-life.

10 (tt) "Special hazardous wastes" refer to substances discarded from households consisting of
11 consumer or industrial goods or products which become hazardous at the end of its useful life by
12 virtue of its hazardous content which may be released to the environment upon indiscriminate
13 disposal.

14 (uu) "Storage" refers to the containment of hazardous and radioactive wastes, either on a
15 temporary basis or for a period of years, consistent with the guidelines as prescribed by the
16 Department and in such a manner as not to constitute disposal of such wastes.

17 (vv) "Surface impoundments" refer to pits, ponds, lagoons and dike areas that are either natural
18 topographic depressions or man-made excavations that are primarily of earthen materials. They
19 are designed and constructed to hold or store, treat and/or dispose liquid waste or waste
20 containing free liquids through processes such as evaporation, cooling, aeration, photo
21 decomposition and/or settling.

22 (ww) "Sustainable development" refers to development which meets the needs of the present
23 without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

24 (xx) "Special hazardous wastes collectors" refer to entities which receive or collect special
25 hazardous wastes under a take-back program or similar collection mechanism for the purpose of
26 consolidating the wastes from households or consumers, preparatory to delivery to an accredited
27 recycling or treatment facility.

28 (yy) "Technical demonstration" refers to the initial exhibition of a new technology process or
29 practice, or a significantly new combination or use of technologies, processes or practices,

1 subsequent to the development stage, for the purpose of proving technological feasibility and
2 cost effectiveness.

3 (zz) "Level 4 hospital" refers to a teaching and training hospital (with at least one (1) accredited
4 residency training program for physicians) that provides:

5 (1) clinical care and management on prevalent diseases in the locality as well as specialized and
6 sub-specialized forms of treatment, surgical procedure and intensive care;

7 (2) clinical services provided in the level 3 hospital as well as sub-specialized clinical care;

8 (3) appropriate administrative and ancillary services (tertiary clinical laboratory, third level
9 radiology, pharmacy); and

10 (4) nursing care provided in the level 3 hospital as well as continuous and highly specialized
11 critical care.

12 (aaa) "Thermal treatment" refers to the controlled heating which involves a prescribed heating
13 rate, maximum temperature and cooling cycle to produce the property and grain structure
14 required.

15 (bbb) "Toxicity" refers to the degree of danger posed by a substance to human or animal due to
16 its acute lethality, chronic and sub-chronic toxicity, carcinogenicity, teratogenicity or
17 mutagenicity, among others.

18 (ccc) "Treatment" refers to any method, technique or process designed to change the physical,
19 chemical or biological character or composition of any hazardous and radioactive wastes so as to
20 render such waste non-hazardous, safer for transport, amenable for recovery, amenable for
21 storage or reduced in volume.

22 (ddd) "Treatment, storage and disposal facility (TSDF)" refers to a site where a hazardous
23 substance is treated, stored or disposed.

24 (eee) "Waste acceptance criteria" refers to a list of parameters which describe the minimum
25 characteristics which the waste should possess before it may be placed or accepted in a TSDF.

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CHAPTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

1 **SEC. 5. Identification and Listing of Hazardous Wastes.** - Within six (6) months from
2 the effectivity of this Act, the Department shall, after notice and public consultation, develop,
3 formulate and publish criteria for identifying and listing the characteristics of hazardous wastes,
4 taking into account, but not be limited to, toxicity, persistence, reactivity and degradability in
5 nature, potential for accumulation in tissue, and other related factors such as ignitability,
6 corrosivity and other hazardous characteristics. Such criteria shall be reviewed and revised every
7 four (4) years thereafter, or as the need arises: *Provided*, That the Department, in coordination
8 with the DOH and the PNRI, shall also identify or list those hazardous and radioactive wastes
9 that contain certain constituents such as identified carcinogens, mutagens or teratogens that
10 endanger human health: *Provided, further*, That the Department, in coordination with the DND
11 and appropriate government agencies, shall formulate criteria for identifying when military
12 munitions become hazardous and radioactive wastes: *Provided, finally*, That within six (6)
13 months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department, in coordination with the Department of
14 Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG),
15 after public consultation, shall formulate criteria for identifying and listing the categories of
16 special hazardous waste products to be tracked and regulated, taking into account, but not be
17 limited to, the presence of toxicity, reactivity, ignitability and corrosivity.

18
19 **SEC. 6. Notification of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Activity.** - Upon the
20 effectivity of this Act, any person generating or managing hazardous or radioactive wastes is
21 required to notify in writing the Department, the DOH and the PNRI of their hazardous or
22 radioactive wastes activities specifying, among others, the types of wastes, quantities and
23 containers used for storage, including incidents involving hazardous and radioactive wastes.

24
25 **SEC. 7. National Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Status Report.** - The Department,
26 in coordination with the DOH, the PNRI and other concerned agencies, shall, within six (6)
27 months, publish a Wastes Management Status Report which shall be used as a basis in
28 formulating the National Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management Framework provided
29 in Section 8 of this Act.

1 The said report shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- 2 (a) Inventory of existing hazardous and radioactive wastes and their depots and facilities;
- 3 (b) General waste characterization, taking into account, but not be limited to, the source, type
- 4 and quantity of hazardous and radioactive wastes generated;
- 5 (c) Projection of hazardous and radioactive wastes generation, including quantity for reduction,
- 6 recovery and reuse;
- 7 (d) Listing of treatment, storage and disposal facilities, including transporters of hazardous and
- 8 radioactive wastes; and
- 9 (e) Listing of identified contaminated sites.

10 **SEC. 8. *National Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management Framework.*** Within
11 eighteen (18) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department, in coordination with the
12 DOH, the PNRI and other appropriate agencies and entities, shall prepare and formulate a
13 National Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management Framework, herein referred to as the
14 Framework, that shall embody policies established pursuant to this Act. Specifically, the
15 Framework shall contain the following:

- 16 (a) Hazardous and radioactive wastes control strategies and techniques;
- 17 (b) Proper hazardous and radioactive wastes transport, treatment, storage and disposal systems;
- 18 (c) Waste reduction goals and targets;
- 19 (d) Period of compliance for waste reduction;
- 20 (e) Information and education campaign;
- 21 (f) Human resources development; and
- 22 (g) Roles and responsibilities of relevant government agencies.

23 The framework shall be adopted as the official blueprint for hazardous and radioactive wastes
24 management with which all relevant government agencies must comply with.

26 **SEC. 9. *Use of Best Available Technology and, Best Environmental Practices in***
27 ***Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management.*** - Generators and owners of treatment,
28 storage and disposal facilities are required to use best available technologies and best
29 environmental practices (BAT/BEP) in hazardous and radioactive wastes management. The

1 Department, in coordination with the Inter-Agency Technical Advisory Council (IATAC)
2 created herein, shall formulate criteria in assessing the proposed BAT/BEP to be used. In the
3 formulation of these criteria, consideration shall be given, among others, to the relative economic
4 feasibility of the technology. Further, such technology shall render the waste sufficiently low in
5 toxicity, reactivity, corrosivity and ignitability as to present the least possible risk to human
6 health and safety and to the environment.

7

8 **SEC. 10. Requirements for Generators of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes.** – Within
9 six (6) months after the effectivity of this Act, the Department, the DOH and the PNRI shall
10 establish requirements for generators of such hazardous and radioactive wastes necessary to
11 protect human health and the environment. These requirements shall ensure that the generators
12 shall be responsible for the proper management of the wastes generated and bear the costs for
13 proper storage, transport, treatment and disposal of such wastes. Further, such requirements shall
14 include, but not be limited to, the following:

15 (a) Recordkeeping practices that accurately identify the quantities of such hazardous and
16 radioactive wastes generated, the constituent thereof which are significant in quantity or in
17 potential harm to human health or the environment, and the disposition of such wastes;

18 (b) Use of appropriate storage facilities and containers to prevent release of materials to the
19 environment;

20 (c) Labeling practices for any containers used for the storage, transport or disposal of such
21 hazardous and radioactive wastes that will identify accurately such wastes;

22 (d) Use of a manifest or consignment note system and any other means necessary to assure that
23 all hazardous and radioactive wastes generated are designated for treatment, storage or disposal
24 in, and arrived at TSDFs with appropriate permit issued pursuant to this Act;

25 (e) Emergency and contingency plans for effective action to minimize damage and contain and
26 mitigate effects of spills and accidents in connection with the generation, transport, storage or
27 disposal of such wastes;

28 (f) When it is necessary to transport the wastes, the generators shall only engage the services of
29 transporters and the TSDFs holding permits issued pursuant to this Act; and

1 (g) In the case of radioactive wastes, the wastes generator is required to submit a certificate of
2 transport from their radiological health and safety officer (RHSO) for the transport of radioactive
3 wastes to the treatment facility.
4

5 **SEC. 11. Requirements Applicable to Transporters of Hazardous and Radioactive**

6 **Wastes.** - Within six (6) months after the effectivity of this Act, the Department, in coordination
7 with the DOH, the PNRI and the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC),
8 shall establish requirements applicable to transporters of hazardous and radioactive wastes
9 necessary to protect human health and the environment.. Such requirements shall include, but
10 need not be limited to, the following:

- 11 (a) Recordkeeping concerning such wastes transported, and their source and delivery points;
- 12 (b) Use of carriers duly registered with the DOTC;
- 13 (c) Transport of wastes only if properly labeled;
- 14 (d) Transport of wastes only to the TSDF which the generator designates in the manifest form to
15 be a facility holding appropriate permit issued pursuant to this Act;
- 16 (e) Emergency and contingency plans for effective action to minimize damage and contain and
17 mitigate effects of spills and accidents in connection with the transport of such wastes; and
- 18 (f) Coordination with other concerned government agencies in the event that transport of such
19 hazardous and radioactive wastes to the designated TSDF requires security escort or police
20 protection/assistance.

21
22 **SEC. 12. Requirements Applicable to Owners of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes**

23 **Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities.** - Within six (6) months after the effectivity of this
24 Act, the Department, in coordination with the DOH and the PNRI, shall establish requirements
25 applicable to owners of the TSDFs of hazardous and radioactive wastes necessary to protect
26 human health and the environment: *Provided*, That the 'Department, the DOH and the PNRI
27 shall, where applicable, distinguish requirements appropriate for new and existing facilities at the
28 time of the effectivity of this Act. Such requirements shall include, but need not be limited to, the
29 following:

- 1 (a) Performance standards for the design, construction, operation, maintenance and monitoring of
2 the facility;
- 3 (b) Requirements and standards to ensure adequate resources, including human and financial,
4 throughout the life cycle of the facility;
- 5 (c) Requirements and standards for the closure, decommissioning and post-closure care,
6 monitoring and maintenance and use of the facility;
- 7 (d) Waste acceptance requirements and procedures, approved by the Department, the DOH and
8 the PNRI, for different types of hazardous and radioactive wastes packages; and
- 9 (e) Management, engineering controls and use of personnel protective equipment to minimize
10 exposure of workers to the hazardous wastes and medical surveillance of workers directly
11 involved in the collection, transport, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes.

12 **SEC. 13. *Categories of TSDFs for Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes.*** - Within
13 six (6) months after the effectivity of this Act, the Department shall formulate specific, relevant
14 and appropriate standards, including waste acceptance criteria, for the various categories of
15 TSDFs identified hereunder: *Provided*, That no waste shall be accepted unless it complies with
16 the waste acceptance criteria formulated pursuant to this Act: *Provided, further*, That the
17 Department shall revise, as the need arises, the regulations, standards and guidelines applicable
18 to the categories listed hereunder, taking into account improvements in the technology of control
19 and measurement: *Provided, finally*, That such regulations shall specify criteria for the
20 acceptable location of new and existing TSDFs as necessary to protect human health and the
21 environment.

22 The categories of TSDFs are as follows:

- 23 (a) Facilities that conduct on-site storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes generated
24 or produced at the premises through industrial or commercial processes and activities other than
25 disposal via sewer - The Department shall encourage on-site treatment of hazardous wastes by,
26 among others, providing for incentives: *Provided*, That generators who undertake partial
27 treatment of wastes shall not be considered as on-site facility operators for purposes of this
28 category: *Provided, however*, That mining operations shall fall under this category;
- 29 (b) Commercial or industrial hazardous wastes thermal treatment facilities;

1 (c) TSDFs in this category are facilities that conduct on-site and off-site thermal treatment:

2 *Provided*, That the Department shall promulgate regulations on hazardous wastes used as fuel
3 and raw material: *Provided, further*, That the Department may also exempt from the
4 requirements hereof facilities which burn *de minimis* quantities of hazardous wastes as fuel, as
5 defined by the Department, if:

6 (1) the wastes are burned at the same facility at which such wastes are generated;

7 (2) the waste is burned to recover useful energy, as determined by the Department on the basis of
8 the design and operating characteristics of the facility and the heating value and other
9 characteristics of the waste; and

10 (3) the waste is burned in a type of device determined by the Department to be designed and
11 operated at a destruction and removal efficiency sufficient such that the protection of human
12 health and environment is assured;

13 (d) Landfills that accept hazardous wastes for disposal- The Department shall, after due review
14 and public consultation, promulgate regulations concerning the prohibition of specified
15 hazardous wastes in landfills: *Provided*, That the placement of such specified hazardous wastes in
16 landfills may be allowed upon determination by the Department that the prohibition for disposal
17 of such waste in landfills is not required in order to protect human health and the environment
18 for as long as the waste remains hazardous, taking into account the following factors:

19 (1) The long-term till certainties associated with land disposal;

20 (2) The goal of managing hazardous wastes in an appropriate manner in the first instance; and

21 (3) The persistence, toxicity, mobility and propensity to bio-accumulate such hazardous wastes
22 and their hazardous constituents.

23 For this purpose, disposal of hazardous wastes in landfills is deemed to be protective of human
24 health and the environment if it is determined that there will be no migration of hazardous
25 constituents of the wastes from the disposal unit or injection zone: *Provided, however*, That the
26 disposal of any liquid in landfills shall be prohibited: *Provided, further*, That the disposal in
27 landfills of wastes containing hazardous solvents, pesticides and polycyclic hydrocarbons such
28 as, among others, furans and dioxins, as determined by the department, after public consultation,
29 is prohibited unless the Department determines the prohibition of the disposal of such waste is

1 not required in order to protect human health and the environment for as long as the waste
2 remains hazardous, taking into account the factors referred to in subparagraphs (1) to (3) of this
3 category.

4 Within six (6) months from the preparation of the status report, the Department shall review,
5 classify and rank, subject to public consultations, all hazardous wastes listed pursuant to this Act,
6 other than those wastes which are referred to in subparagraph (3) of this category or deep injection
7 wells. Within twelve (12) months thereafter, the Department, when necessary, shall promulgate
8 regulations prohibiting disposal in landfills of such hazardous wastes listed and ranked: *Provided,*
9 That the Department shall promptly publish in a newspaper of general circulation notice of such
10 determination, together with an explanation of the basis for such determination: *Provided, further,*
11 That the storage of hazardous and radioactive wastes in landfills is hereby prohibited;

12 (e) Facilities that recycle or reprocess hazardous wastes which are not generated or produced at the
13 premises - The Department, in coordination with the POST, shall promulgate standards for this
14 category of the TSDF. Facilities in this category are those that receive off-site treatment of hazardous
15 wastes and recover valuable materials from the hazardous wastes, use hazardous wastes as input
16 materials or fuel for production, or produce compost by biological treatment of hazardous wastes.
17 These also include, but are not limited to, reclaimers of spent lead-acid batteries, precious metals and
18 oil recyclers;

19 (f) *Other off-site treatment facilities* - Facilities in this category are those facilities that receive
20 hazardous wastes outside the premises and transform physical and/or chemical characteristics of the
21 hazardous wastes by physicochemical or thermal treatment other than incineration or in order to
22 dispose of them into landfills;

23 (g) Facilities that store hazardous and radioactive wastes which are not generated or produced at the
24 premises within allowable period - The storage of any hazardous and radioactive waste is prohibited,
25 unless such storage is solely for the purpose of the accumulation of such quantities of hazardous
26 wastes as are necessary to facilitate proper recovery, treatment or disposal but shall not be longer
27 than is prescribed by the Department; and

28 (h) *Other land disposal facilities* - Facilities under this category shall include, among others, deep
29 injection wells, borehole facilities, near surface facilities, mined cavities, surface impoundments,
30 land treatment units/land farming and abandoned underground mines.

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SEC. 14. Closure Plan. - The owner of TSDFs shall submit a closure plan, including the funds and human resources necessary for the same, subject to the review and approval of the Department.

SEC. 15. Post-closure of Facility. - The owner of a TSDF must close the facility upon termination of its operation and shall, after such closure, provide for protection during a post-closure care period, in accordance with the requirements of the Department and the closure plan, including the funds and human resources necessary for the same. The protection shall include, but shall not be limited to, monitoring, repair and maintenance. The owner shall maintain a hazardous waste facility permit for the post-closure care period pursuant to Chapter VI hereof.

SEC. 16. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System. - Prior to the establishment of TSDFs, all government agencies and private corporations, firms and entities which intend to set up TSDFs shall be subject to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1586 and its implementing rules and regulations.

SEC. 17. Formulation of Soil Quality Standards for Identification of Contaminated Sites. - Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department, in coordination with other relevant government agencies, shall formulate soil quality standards which shall be used to determine contaminated sites.

SEC. 18. Registry of Contaminated Sites. - The Department shall maintain a registry of confirmed contaminated sites in the country based on the soil quality standards set pursuant to Section 17 hereof: *Provided*, That the Department shall take all necessary action to ensure that the registry provides a complete listing of all such sites, their exact location and the types of waste found at each site: *Provided, further*, That in developing and maintaining the registry, the Department shall assess, based upon new information received, the relative priority of the need

1 for action at each site to remedy environmental and health problems resulting from the presence
2 of hazardous and radioactive wastes at such sites: *Provided, finally,* That any site classified as
3 properly closed or remediated where no evidence of present or potential adverse impact exists
4 shall be deleted from the registry.

5

6 **SEC. 19. *Import and Export of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes.*** - In accordance
7 with Section 2(c) hereof, the Department and the PNRI shall promulgate rules and regulations on
8 the import and export of hazardous and radioactive wastes consistent with relevant multilateral
9 international agreements and protocols.

10 **SEC. 20. *Market-based Instruments, Responsible Care and Product Stewardship***
11 ***Program.*** - Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department, in
12 coordination with the manufacturers of commercial or industrial products, shall identify and
13 implement market-based, instruments, extended producer responsibility, responsible care,
14 products stewardship programs that shall promote cleaner production, waste minimization and
15 resource recovery: *Provided,* That the Department shall identify and list products that shall be
16 covered by such programs.

17

18

CHAPTER III

19

RADIOACTIVE WASTES

20 **SEC. 21. *Listing of Radioactive Wastes.*** - Within six (6) months from the effectivity of
21 this Act, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) - PNRI, in coordination with the
22 Department, after public consultation, shall formulate and publish the criteria for identifying and
23 listing the types of radioactive wastes to be monitored and regulated.

24

25 **SEC. 22. *Classification of Radioactive Wastes.*** - The PNRI shall establish the waste
26 classification system based on internationally-acceptable guidelines. The classification system
27 shall be based primarily on the safety aspects of radioactive wastes disposal: *Provided,* That other
28 stages of radioactive wastes management may also be developed by the PNRI.

29

1 **SEC. 23. *Management of Radioactive Wastes.*** - Pursuant to Sections 10, 11 and 12
2 hereof, the PNRI shall promulgate rules and regulations on radioactive wastes management. Said
3 rules and regulations shall be based on the best available technique to limit the outflow of
4 radioactive substances to the environment, taking into account the benefits as well as the cost of
5 the technique. The technique shall be both technically and economically feasible: *Provided*, That
6 said rules and regulations may be based on, but not be limited to, the following methods of
7 managing radioactive wastes:

8 (a) Dilute and Disperse - Radioactive waste with activity level that can be disposed of as
9 ordinary waste into the sewage, municipal landfills, etc.

10 (b) Delay and Decay - Short-lived radionuclides by storing under well controlled conditions until
11 the radioactivity has decayed to a level which meets the established exemption or clearance
12 limits for such waste.

13 (c) Characterization, Segregation, Treatment, Conditioning, Transport, Storage, Disposal
14 Methods for managing radioactive wastes containing long-lived radio nuclides, including
15 disused, sealed sources and other wastes that cannot be managed under subsections (a) and (b) of
16 this section: *Provided*, That the acceptable storage period for conditioned wastes prior to the
17 establishment of a final disposal repository shall be for a maximum period of fifty (50) years.

18

19 **SEC. 24. *Guidelines for the Acceptance of Radioactive Wastes by Transporters and***
20 ***TSDFs.*** - Within six (6) months after the effectivity of this Act, the PNRI shall formulate
21 specific, relevant and appropriate waste acceptance criteria for transporters and TSDFs of
22 radioactive wastes: *Provided*, That no radioactive waste shall be accepted unless it complies with
23 the waste acceptance criteria formulated pursuant hereof

24

25 **SEC. 25. *Site Requirements and Selection Criteria.*** - The PNRI shall develop and
26 promulgate generic site requirements for locating a final repository for radioactive wastes.

27 **SEC. 26. *Safety Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).*** – The
28 PNRI shall develop and promulgate criteria and regulations on the performance requirements and

1 safety assessment of the TSDF: *Provided*, That the safety assessment shall, among others, address
2 both radiological and non-radiological risks: *Provided, further*, That non-radiological EIA shall be
3 carried out in accordance with relevant environmental laws.

4
5 **SEC. 27. *Emergency Preparedness.*** - The PNRI shall promulgate requirements and
6 guidance on the formulation of emergency plans commensurate to the seriousness of the
7 accidents that could occur at the TSDFs.

8
9 **SEC. 28. *Security.*** - The PNRI shall promulgate guidelines on security arrangements
10 that should be in place to ensure that radioactive waste is not accidentally or deliberately
11 removed from their proper location without location. Particular attention shall be given to
12 materials of intrinsic value that could pose a serious threat to human health and the environment
13 if control were lost.

14
15 **CHAPTER IV**
16 **HAZARDOUS HEALTHCARE WASTES**
17

18 **SEC. 29. *Listing of Hazardous Healthcare Wastes.*** - Within six (6) months from the
19 effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with the Department and the DILG, after public
20 consultation, shall formulate criteria for identifying and listing the categories of hazardous
21 healthcare wastes to be tracked and regulated. In the formulation of such criteria, the DOH shall
22 take into account, but not be limited to, presence of infectious agents, toxicity, reactivity,
23 ignitability and corrosivity.

24
25 **SEC. 30. *Management of Hazardous Healthcare Wastes in Hospitals and Other***
26 ***Healthcare Facilities.*** - Pursuant to Sections 10, 11 and 12 hereof, the DOH shall promulgate
27 rules and regulations on the effective management of hazardous healthcare wastes in hospitals
28 and other healthcare facilities. Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the
29 following:

- 1 (a) Hospitals and other healthcare facilities shall practice or implement waste minimization and
2 segregation;
- 3 (b) Segregation at source shall be the responsibility of the waste generator;
- 4 (c) Appropriate storage receptacles or bins shall be provided for each healthcare waste category;
- 5 (d) Labeling of receptacle per waste category shall likewise be implemented for identification of
6 waste and management measures in case of accidents;
- 7 (e) All hazardous healthcare wastes shall be collected and stored in designated on-site storage
8 areas until transported to a TSDF;
- 9 (f) Treatment of hazardous healthcare wastes on-site shall be done through appropriate treatment
10 methods;
- 11 (g) Upon the approval of the Department, healthcare facilities with capacity to manage
12 hazardous healthcare wastes on-site may also treat for a fee the hazardous healthcare wastes
13 generated by other healthcare facilities: *Provided*, That in case of treatment of radioactive
14 healthcare wastes, approval of the PNRI shall be secured;
- 15 (h) For hazardous healthcare liquid waste, all healthcare facilities shall provide wastewater
16 treatment facilities and comply with the effluent standards set by the DBNR. Treatment and
17 disposal of sludge shall conform to the provisions of this Act; and
- 18 (i) To ensure the proper management of hazardous healthcare wastes, a committee on hazardous
19 healthcare wastes management may be created in all healthcare facilities: *Provided*, That in all
20 level 1, level 2, level 3 and level 4 hospitals, the creation of a committee on hazardous healthcare
21 wastes management shall be mandatory. The committee shall also develop an emergency plan to
22 ensure an immediate and appropriate action once an emergency occurs. For other healthcare
23 establishments, a hazardous healthcare waste management officer shall be designated.

24
25 **CHAPTER V**
26 **SPECIAL HAZARDOUS WASTES**
27

28 **SEC. 31. *Collection of Special Hazardous Wastes.*** - Local government units (LGUs)
29 shall be responsible for the collection of special hazardous wastes, as listed by the Department in
30 accordance with Section 5 hereof, from persons and households: *Provided*, That the LGUs may

1 enter into agreement with entities duly accredited by the Department for the collection of special
2 hazardous wastes.

3
4 **SEC. 32. *Responsible Care Program for Special Hazardous Wastes.*** - The LGUs shall
5 enact appropriate ordinances implementing responsible care, extended producer responsibility or
6 product stewardship program that shall include, but shall not be limited to, take back or return to
7 supplier schemes, that shall promote cleaner production, waste minimization and resource
8 recovery.

9 **SEC. 33. *Transport, Treatment, Storage and Disposal of Special Hazardous Wastes.*** -
10 Upon collection of hazardous special wastes by LGUs pursuant to Section 31 hereof, the
11 transport, treatment, storage and disposal of special hazardous wastes shall be regulated in
12 accordance with this Act.

13 **CHAPTER VI**
14 **INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM**

15
16 **SEC. 34. *Lead Agency.*** - The Department shall be the primary government agency
17 responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this Act, including in Philippine
18 Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) areas, special economic zones and freeports, unless otherwise
19 provided herein. As such, it shall have the following functions, powers and responsibilities:

- 20 (a) Prepare a National Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Report;
- 21 (b) Prepare a National Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management Framework;
- 22 (c) Develop and promulgate criteria for identifying and listing the characteristics of hazardous
23 and radioactive wastes;
- 24 (d) Establish, enforce, review and revise standards for generators of hazardous and radioactive
25 wastes;
- 26 (e) Establish, enforce, review and revise standards for transporters of hazardous and radioactive
27 wastes;
- 28 (f) Establish, enforce, review and revise standards applicable to owners and operators of facilities
29 for the treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous and radioactive wastes;

- 1 (g) Exercise jurisdiction over all aspects of generation, possession, collection, destruction,
2 recovery, use, storage, transportation, entry into, even in transit, treatment and disposal of
3 hazardous and radioactive wastes;
- 4 (h) Evaluate applications for and issue permits and licenses' pursuant to this Act;
- 5 (i) Revoke, modify or deny in accordance with the standards, rules and regulations, hazardous
6 waste transporter licenses, TSDFs permits and other permits/licenses issued in accordance with
7 this Act;
- 8 U) Establish a cooperative effort among the national government, LGUs, academic institutions,
9 civil society and the private sector to attain the objectives of this Act;
- 10 (k) Develop and implement programs to achieve goals and objectives set under this Act;
- 11 (I) Accept, receive and administer grants or other funds or gifts from public and private agencies,
12 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act. Funds received by the Department
13 pursuant to this section shall accrue to the Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management
14 Fund;
- 15 (m) Secure necessary scientific, technical, including laboratory facilities, by contract or
16 otherwise;
- 17 (n) Encourage, coordinate, participate in or conduct studies, investigations, research and
18 technical demonstrations relating to hazardous and radioactive wastes management as it may
19 deem advisable and necessary for the discharge of its duties pursuant to this Act;
- 20 (o) Encourage waste reduction, resource recovery, exchange and energy conservation in
21 hazardous and radioactive wastes management;
- 22 (p) Oversee any corrective action work undertaken pursuant to rules and regulations issued in
23 accordance with this Act;
- 24 (q) Formulate and undertake appropriate protocol with other concerned agencies for immediate
25 coordinated responses to hazardous and radioactive waste-related emergency incidents;
- 26 (r) Issue order against any person or entity and impose fines, penalties and other administrative
27 sanctions to compel compliance with the provisions hereof, standards, rules and regulations
28 issued pursuant to this Act; and

1 (s) Exercise such powers and perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
2 objectives of this Act.

3

4 **SEC. 35. *Role of the DOH.*** - The DOH shall be primarily responsible in performing the
5 following duties and responsibilities:

6 (a) Develop, promulgate and publish criteria in identifying and listing the categories of
7 hazardous healthcare wastes to be monitored and regulated;

8 (b) Develop and promulgate rules and regulations on the effective management of hazardous
9 healthcare wastes in hospitals and other healthcare facilities; and

10 (c) Exercise such powers and perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
11 provisions of this Act.

12

13 **SEC. 36. *Role of the PNRI.*** - The PNRI shall be primarily responsible in performing the
14 following duties and responsibilities:

15 (a) Develop and promulgate regulations establishing a program for the monitoring of the
16 radioactive wastes listed pursuant to this Act;

17 (b) Develop, promulgate and publish criteria for identifying and listing the types of radioactive
18 wastes to be monitored and regulated;

19 (c) Develop and promulgate rules and regulations on the radioactive wastes management
20 pursuant to Section 23 hereof;

21 (d) Formulate specific, relevant and appropriate waste acceptance criteria for transporters and
22 TSDFs of radioactive wastes pursuant to Section 24 hereof;

23 (e) Exercise jurisdiction over all aspects of generation, possession, collection, recovery,
24 transport, entry, even in transit, into Philippine territory, treatment, storage and disposal of
25 radioactive wastes; and

26 (1) Exercise such powers and perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
27 provisions of this Act.

28

1 **SEC. 37. *Role of Local Government Units (LGUs)***: - Local government units shall have
2 the following duties and responsibilities:

3 (a) Share the responsibility for the implementation, enforcement and monitoring of the
4 provisions of this Act within their territorial jurisdictions such as the registration and compliance
5 monitoring of generators, transports and TSDFs;

6 (b) Prepare a compliance scheme in accordance with their special hazardous wastes management
7 program;

8 (c) Segregation and collection of special hazardous wastes;

9 (d) Emergency preparedness and response;

10 (e) Participate in all efforts concerning hazardous and radioactive wastes management; and

11 (f) Enact appropriate ordinances to implement LGU's role in this Act.
12

13 **SEC. 38. *The Interagency Technical Advisory Council (MTAC)***. - For purposes of
14 policy integration and harmonization and coordination of functions, there is hereby created an
15 JATAC attached to the Department which shall be composed of the following officials or their
16 duly authorized representatives:

17 Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, as chairperson;

18 Secretary of Health, as co-chairperson;

19 Secretary of Science and Technology, as co-chairperson;

20 Secretary of Agriculture;

21 Secretary of Finance;

22 Secretary of Trade and Industry;

23 Secretary of National Defense;

24 Secretary of Foreign Affairs;

25 Secretary of Transportation and Communications;

26 President of league of cities;

27 President of league of municipalities;

28 President of league of provinces;

29 President of league of barangays;

- 1 Director General of the Philippine Export Zone Authority;
- 2 Representative from civil society;
- 3 Representative from the industry;
- 4 Representative from the TSDF operators; and
- 5 Representative from the academe as members.

6

7 The IATAC shall have the following functions, among others:

8 (a) Develop and promulgate criteria in assessing the proposed *BATIBEP* to be used accordance
9 with Section 9 hereof; and

10 (b) Constitute and authorize a multidisciplinary body to conduct annual audit to determine
11 compliance of the TSDF perpetrators with the terms and conditions in the permits and licenses
12 issued pursuant to this Act.

13

14 **SEC. 39. *The IATAC Technical Working Group.***- The IATAC shall be supported by a
15 technical working group (TWG) which shall be composed of representatives of the following:

16 Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department;

17 Environmental and Occupational Health Office of the DOH;

18 Philippine Nuclear Research Institute of the DOST;

19 Industrial Technology Development Institute of the DOST;

20 Bureau of Health Facilities and Services of the DOH;

21 Bureau of Soil and Water Management of the Department of Agriculture (DA);

22 Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority of the DA;

23 Bureau of Customs of the Department of Finance;

24 Bureau of International Trade Relations of the DTI;

25 Board of Investments of the DTI;

26 Bureau of Import Services of the DTI;

27 Department of National Defense;

28 Land Transportation Office of the DOTC;

29 Occupational Health and Safety Center of the Department of Labor and Employment;

1 Philippine Coast Guard;
2 Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs);
3 Industry; and
4 the Academe.
5 The TWG shall provide technical support to the IATAC.

6
7 **SEC. 40. *Linkage Mechanism.*** - The Department and its concerned agencies may
8 coordinate and enter into agreement with other government agencies, civil society, industrial
9 sector and other concerned sectors in the furtherance of the policies of this Act: *Provided*, That
10 the Department shall coordinate with the DILG and the Philippine National Police in the
11 enforcement of the requirements for transporters issued pursuant to this Act.

12
13 **SEC. 41. *Visitorial Powers.*** - The Department, the PNRI and the DOH or their duly
14 authorized representatives shall have access to, and the right to copy therefrom, the records
15 required to be maintained pursuant to the provisions of this Act. The Secretary of the Department
16 and the DOH and the Director of the PNRI or their authorized representatives shall likewise have
17 the right to enter the premises of any generator, transporter or TSDF any time to question any
18 employee or investigate any fact, condition or matter which may be necessary to determine any
19 violation, or which may aid in the effective enforcement of this Act and its implementing rules
20 and regulations. This section shall not apply to private dwelling places unless the visitorial power
21 is otherwise judicially authorized.

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25 **CHAPTER VII**
26 **PERMITS AND FEES**

27 **SEC. 42. *Permits for Treatment, Storage or Disposal of Hazardous and Radioactive***
28 ***Wastes.*** -

1 (a) Issuance of Permit - Any person owning an existing or a new TSDP of hazardous or
2 radioactive wastes identified or listed pursuant to this Act is required to secure a permit or
3 license pursuant to this section. The Department and the PNRI shall prescribe reasonable fees for
4 the issuance of said permit or license.

5 (b) Duration of Permit - Any permit under this section shall be issued annually during the first
6 three (3) years of operation as a TSDF. Thereafter, the Department and the PNRI may issue a
7 permit or license which is valid for five (5) years to a TSDF who has satisfactorily complied with
8 the rules and regulations issued pursuant to this Act for three (3) consecutive years: *Provided,*
9 That an annual audit shall be conducted by a multidisciplinary body constituted and authorized
10 by the IATAC created pursuant hereof.

11 (c) Permit Modification, Suspension and Revocation - The Department and the PNRI shall
12 modify, suspend and revoke such permit upon a determination of noncompliance by a TSDF
13 with the relevant provisions of this Act or the terms and conditions of the permit.

14 (d) Interim Status - Any person who owns a TSDF in existence prior to this Act which is
15 required to have a permit under this section shall be treated as having been issued such permit for
16 a period of twelve (12) months after the effectivity of this Act: *Provided,* That the required
17 application for a TSDP permit or license shall have been filed within the said twelve (12)-month
18 period: *Provided, further,* That this paragraph shall not apply to any facility which has been
19 previously denied a TSDF permit or license or if authority to operate the facility has been
20 previously terminated.

21 **SEC. 43. Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Transporter License. --**

22 (a) Any person transporting any hazardous and radioactive waste is required to secure a waste
23 transporter license from the Department, subject to the payment of a reasonable fee.

24 (b) Duration of License - A waste transporter license issued under this section shall be valid for a
25 period of one (1) year.

26 (c) License Modification, Suspension and Revocation - The Department and the PNRI shall
27 modify, suspend and revoke such license upon a determination of noncompliance by a
28 transporter with the relevant provisions of this Act or the terms and conditions of the permit. A
29 license is not required for the transport of any hazardous or radioactive waste on the premises

1 where it is generated or onto a property owned by the generator thereof located within a one (1)
2 kilometer radius from said premises or within the same industrial estate: *Provided*, That the
3 Department is notified in writing prior to the transfer and a week after the transfer has been
4 completed. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to preclude the Department and the PNRI
5 from inspecting unlicensed hazardous waste transporting equipment and to require that it be
6 adequate to provide protection for the health of humans and the environment.

7

8 **SEC. 44. Hazardous Wastes Disposal Fee.** - All hazardous wastes disposal facilities
9 shall collect, on behalf of the government, from each hazardous waste generator or transporter
10 disposing such wastes at the disposal site, a fee that shall accrue to the hazardous wastes
11 management fund. The fee shall be established by the Department, taking into consideration the
12 following:

13 (a) To provide strong economic inducement for generators to modify their production or
14 management processes;

15 (b) To cover the cost of administering hazardous and radioactive wastes management;

16 (c) Reflect damages caused by hazardous and radioactive wastes on the surrounding
17 environment, including the cost of rehabilitation;

18 (d) Category of wastes; and

19 (e) Classification of wastes.

20 The fee, which shall be established after due public consultation, shall be based on the quantity
21 of wastes disposed.

22 **CHAPTER VIII**
23 **FINANCING HAZARDOUS WASTES MANAGEMENT**
24

25 **SEC. 45. Financial Liability for Environmental Rehabilitation.** - The Department shall
26 require generators and owners of TSDFs to put up Environmental Guarantee Fund (EGF) as part
27 of the Environmental Management Plan attached to the Environmental Compliance Certificate
28 (ECC), pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1586 and its implementing rules and regulations. The
29 EGF shall finance the needs of emergency response, clean up or rehabilitation of areas that may
30 be damaged during the generation, transport, treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous and

1 radioactive wastes. Liability for damages shall continue even after the termination of the project
2 and until the lapse of a given period indicated in the ECC, as determined by the Department.

3 The EGF may be in the form of a trust fund, environmental insurance, surety bonds,
4 letters of credit, self-insurance and any other instrument which may be identified by the
5 Department. The choice of the guarantee instrument or combinations thereof shall depend,
6 among others, on the assessment of the risks involved. Proponents required to put up guarantee
7 instruments shall furnish the Department with evidence of availment of such instruments.

8

9 **SEC. 46. Performance Bond.** - Prior to issuance of the required permit to operate, the
10 Department shall require transporters, owners of treatment/storage facilities to post performance
11 bond. The performance bond shall be forfeited in the event of abandonment of sites and/or non-
12 performance of post-closure requirements issued pursuant to Section 15 hereof: *Provided*, That
13 this provision shall not apply to State-owned treatment/storage facilities and to recyclers
14 identified and listed as such, pursuant to this Act.

15

16 **CHAPTER IX**
17 **INCENTIVES**
18

19 **SEC. 47. Rewards.** - Rewards, monetary or otherwise, shall be provided to individuals,
20 private organizations and entities, including NGOs that have undertaken outstanding and
21 innovative projects, technologies, processes and techniques or activities in hazardous and
22 radioactive wastes management. Said rewards shall be sourced from the Hazardous and
23 Radioactive Wastes Management Fund herein created.

24

25 **SEC. 48. Incentives Scheme.** - An incentive scheme is hereby provided for the purpose
26 of encouraging enterprises, private entities, LGUs and NGOs to develop or undertake an
27 effective hazardous and radioactive wastes management, or actively participate in any program
28 geared towards the promotion thereof, consistent with the objectives of this Act.

29 (a) Tax and Duty Exemption on Imported Capital Equipment and Vehicles - Within five (5)
30 years upon the effectivity of this Act, registered enterprises, LGUs and NGOs shall enjoy tax and

1 duty-free importation of machinery, equipment, technology and spare parts used for the
2 processing, storage and treatment of hazardous and radioactive wastes, including cleaner
3 production and waste minimization technologies: *Provided*, That the importation of such
4 machinery, equipment, technology and spare parts shall comply with the following conditions:

5 (1) They are not manufactured domestically in sufficient quantity, of comparable quality and at
6 reasonable prices;

7 (2) They are reasonably needed and will be used actually, directly and exclusively, for the
8 abovementioned activities; and

9 (3) There is an approval from the Board of Investment (BOI) of the DTI for the importation of
10 such machinery, equipment, technology and spare parts: *Provided, further*, That the sale, transfer
11 or disposition of such machinery, equipment, technology and spare parts, without prior approval
12 of the BOI, within five (5) years from the date of acquisition shall be prohibited; otherwise, the
13 registered enterprise, LGU or NGO concerned and the buyer, transferee or assignee shall be
14 solitarily liable to pay twice the amount of tax and duty exemption given it.

15 (b) Tax Exemption on the Sale of Domestic Capital Equipment - Within five (5) years from the
16 effectivity of this Act, the sale of domestic capital equipment, including its spare parts to
17 registered enterprises, LGUs and NGOs to be used for the processing, storage and treatment of
18 hazardous and radioactive wastes, shall be exempted from any applicable taxes imposed
19 under the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended: *Provided*, That said incentive
20 shall be subject to the same conditions and prohibition cited in the preceding paragraph,

21 (c) Tax Exemption of Donations, Legacies and Gifts – All donations, gifts and legacies made by
22 any person or entity in favor of the registered enterprises, LGUs and NGOs, for the support and
23 maintenance of the program for effective hazardous and radioactive wastes management, shall be
24 exempt from donor's tax and such amount of donations shall be deductible from the gross income
25 of the donor pursuant to Section 34, paragraph (H) of the National Internal Revenue Code of
26 1997, as amended.

27 (d) Financial Assistance Program - Government financial institutions such as the Development
28 Bank of the Philippines (DBP), the Landbank of the Philippines (LBP), the Government Service
29 Insurance System (GSIS) and such other government institutions providing financial services

1 shall, in accordance with and to the extent allowed by the enabling provisions of their respective
2 charters or applicable laws, accord high priority to extend financial services to individuals,
3 enterprises or private entities engaged in hazardous, radioactive, medical and hazardous special
4 wastes management.

5 (e) Extension of Grants to LGUs - Cities or municipalities whose special hazardous wastes
6 management programs have been duly accredited by the Department or have adopted innovative
7 wastes management programs may be entitled to receive grants for the purpose of developing
8 their technical capacities toward actively participating in the program for effective and
9 sustainable wastes management.

10 (f) Incentives to Host LGUs - LGUs which host common hazardous and radioactive wastes
11 management facilities shall be entitled to incentives as provided for under this Act.

12 (g) Tax Exemption on Hazardous Wastes Generated Within PEZA Areas, Freeports and Other
13 Special Ecozones - Hazardous waste materials generated within PEZA areas, freeports and other
14 special ecozones shall be allowed to be brought to the Philippine customs territory for the sole
15 intention of recycling and treatment, and shall be exempted from payment of any tax due on said
16 hazardous wastes: *Provided*, That said recyclable hazardous waste materials are identified and
17 listed in accordance with Section 5 of this Act.

18

19

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21

CHAPTER X CIVIL LIABILITY AND PENAL PROVISIONS

22 **SEC. 49. *Generator's Liability.*** - The generator is primarily responsible for the
23 management of hazardous and radioactive wastes until said waste has been certified as properly
24 treated or disposed by duly accredited TSDFs: *Provided*, That wastes that are exported outside of
25 the country and treated and disposed in accordance with international agreements, the TSDFs in
26 the country of destination shall issue the certificate of treatment and disposal. All other
27 environmental service providers involved in the transport, treatment, storage and disposal of said
28 waste shall be jointly and severally liable with the generator in the event of any adverse
29 environmental impacts due to the improper management of the waste.

30

1 **SEC. 50. Prohibited Acts.** - The following acts are prohibited:

- 2 (a) Discarding, throwing or dumping of hazardous or radioactive wastes, as listed pursuant to this
3 Act in public places, such as roads, sidewalks, canal, *esteros*, parks, establishments and
4 municipal solid waste facilities, or causing or permitting the same; (b) Undertaking activities
5 involving the collection or transport of hazardous or radioactive wastes in violation of the
6 standards and other requirements or permits set forth in this Act;
- 7 (c) Causing or permitting the collection of non-segregated or unsorted hazardous wastes;
- 8 (d) Operating TSDFs without permits issued pursuant to this Act;
- 9 (e) Transporting hazardous or radioactive wastes without the required permit or license pursuant
10 to this Act;
- 11 (f) The mixing of source-separated recyclable material with other hazardous wastes in any
12 vehicle, box, container or receptacle used in hazardous or radioactive wastes collection or
13 disposal;
- 14 (g) Disposal of hazardous or radioactive wastes in open and controlled dumps as enjoined in this
15 Act, or causing and permitting the same;
- 16 (h) Establishment and operation of open and controlled dumps for hazardous and radioactive
17 wastes;
- 18 (i) Transporting and dumping of collected hazardous or radioactive wastes in areas other than
19 facilities prescribed under this Act;
- 20 (j) Open burning of hazardous or radioactive wastes;
- 21 (k) Transporting any hazardous or radioactive wastes to a TSDF which is not authorized to
22 receive such waste pursuant to this Act;
- 23 (l) Treating, storing or disposing of any hazardous or radioactive waste either: (1) without permit
24 or license to do so pursuant hereof; or (2) in knowing violation of any material condition or
25 requirement of such permit or license; or (3) in violation of any standard promulgated pursuant
26 to this Act;
- 27 (m) Making any false material statement, representation or certification in any application, label,
28 permit, record, report, manifest or other document filed, maintained or required to be maintained
29 under this Act;

- 1 (n) Falsifying, tampering with or rendering inaccurate any monitoring device or result therefrom
2 used, filed, maintained or required to be maintained under this Act;
- 3 (o) Generating, treating, storing, transporting, disposing of or handling any hazardous or
4 radioactive waste, and who, in connection therewith, knowingly destroying, altering or
5 concealing any record required to be maintained pursuant to this Act;
- 6 (p) Owning, maintaining or operating any hazardous or radioactive waste disposal facility in a
7 manner which permits any acts or hazardous waste management practices in violation of
8 standards or rules and regulations issued pursuant to this Act;
- 9 (q) Failing to notify the Department, the DOH and the PNRI of hazardous or radioactive wastes
10 activities pursuant to Section 6 hereof;
- 11 (r) Importing or causing or permitting the entry, even in transit, into Philippine territory in
12 violation of the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations, and relevant
13 international agreements and protocols;
- 14 (s) Constructing, substantially altering or operating, including all post-closure activities and
15 operations specified in the rules and regulations, a hazardous or radioactive waste TSDF without
16 first obtaining a permit as specified in this Act; and
- 17 (t) Site preparation, construction, expansion or operation of TSDFs without an ECC required
18 pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1586 and this Act.
- 19 For purposes of this provision, the term "hazardous wastes" shall include special hazardous and
20 healthcare wastes.

21

22 **SEC. 51. *Fines, Damages and Penalties.*** - Unless otherwise provided herein, any person
23 who commits any of the prohibited acts provided in the immediately preceding section or
24 violates any of the provisions of this Act or its implementing rules and regulations shall be fined
25 by the Pollution Adjudication Board (PAB) in the amount not less than Ten thousand pesos
26 (P1,000.00) but not more than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) for every violation:
27 *Provided,* That for violation of Section 52 involving prohibited acts under paragraphs (a), (g),
28 (h), (i), (l), (p), (s) and (t) of the immediately preceding section, the fine shall be imposed for
29 every day of violation.

1 For purposes of the application of the fines, the PAB, within one (1) year upon the effectivity of
2 this Act, shall establish a fine rating system to adjust the maximum fine based on the violator's
3 ability to pay, degree of willfulness, degree of negligence, degree of severity of the offense,
4 history of noncompliance and degree of recalcitrance.

5 The fines herein prescribed shall be reviewed and revised, whenever necessary, every
6 three (3) years to compensate for inflation and to maintain the deterrent function of such fines:

7 *Provided,* That the PAB may order the closure, suspension of development or construction, or
8 cessation of operations until such time that proper environmental safeguards are put in place
9 and/or compliance with this Act or its rules and regulations are undertaken. This paragraph shall

10 be without prejudice to the issuance of an *ex parte* order for such closure, suspension of
11 development or construction, or cessation of operations during the pendency of the case:

12 *Provided, further,* That if the prohibited act undertaken shall require cleanup and rehabilitation,
13 the offender shall also be required to restore or compensate for the restoration of the area. The
14 PAB may also award such damages as it may deem just under the circumstances in favor of the
15 private complainant in the case.

16 In case of gross violation of this Act, the PAB shall issue a resolution recommending that
17 the proper government agencies file criminal charges against the violators. Gross violation shall
18 mean any of the following:

19 (a) Deliberate disposal of hazardous or radioactive wastes without the required permit issued
20 pursuant to this Act;

21 (b) Three (3) or more violations referred to in paragraphs (a), (d), (g), (k), (l) and (m) of Section
22 50 hereof within a period of two (2) years; or (c) Blatant disregard of the orders of the PAB, such

23 as the nonpayment of fines, breaking of seals or operation of the source of pollution despite the

24 existence of an order for closure, discontinuance or cessation of operation, or unjustified, refusal

25 for the entry or access to any premises of an authorized Department representative, In which

26 case, offenders shall be punished a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos

27 (P100,000.00) but not more than Three million pesos (P3,000,000.00) and/or with imprisonment

28 of not less than three (3) years but not more than ten (10) years, at the discretion of the court. If

29 the offender is a juridical person, the chief executive officer and the pollution control officer or

1 its equivalent shall suffer the penalty herein provided: *Provided*, That the officers and
2 incorporators of the TSDFs who violated the post-closure requirements issued pursuant to
3 Section 15 hereof shall be banned from setting up TSDFs and hazardous and radioactive waste
4 transport companies and engaging in the operation of the same.

5 If the offender is an alien, he or she shall, after service of the sentence prescribed above, be
6 deported without further administrative proceedings. The fines herein prescribed shall be
7 reviewed and revised, whenever necessary, every three (3) years to compensate for inflation and
8 to maintain the deterrent function of such fines.

9

10 **SEC. 52. *Administrative Sanctions.*** - Local government officials and officials of
11 government agencies concerned who fail to comply with and enforce rules and regulations
12 promulgated relative to this Act shall be charged administratively in accordance with Republic
13 Act No. 7160 and other existing laws, rules and regulations.

14

15 **SEC. 53. *Administrative Action.*** - Without prejudice to the right of any affected person
16 to file an administrative action, the Department, the [>OR and the PNRI shall, on its own
17 instance or upon verified complaint by any person, institute administrative and civil proceedings
18 against any person who violates:

19 (a) Standards or limitations provided under this Act; or

20 (b) Any order, rule or regulation issued by the Department: the DOH or the PNRI with respect to
21 such standard or limitation.

22

23 **SEC. 54. *Citizen Suits.*** - For purposes of enforcing the provisions of this Act or its
24 implementing rules and regulations, any citizen may file an appropriate civil, criminal or
25 administrative action in the proper courts or bodies against the following:

26 (a) Any person who violates or fails to comply with the provisions of this Act or its
27 implementing rules and regulations; or

28 (b) The Department or other implementing agencies with respect to orders, rules and regulations
29 issued inconsistent with this Act; or

1 (c) Any public officer who willfully or grossly neglects the performance of an act specifically
2 enjoined as a duty by this Act or its implementing rules and regulations; or abuses his authority
3 in the performance of his duty; or, in any manner, improperly performs his duties under this Act
4 or its implementing rules and regulations: *Provided, however,* That no suit can be filed until after
5 a thirty (30)-day notice has been given to the public officer and the alleged violator concerned
6 and no appropriate action has been taken thereon.

7 The court shall exempt such action from the payment of filing fees, except fees for actions not
8 capable of pecuniary estimations, and shall, likewise, upon *prima facie* showing of the non-
9 enforcement or violation complained of, exempt the plaintiff from the filing of an injunction
10 bond for the issuance of a preliminary injunction.

11 Within thirty (30) days, the court shall make a determination if the complaint herein is malicious
12 and/or baseless and shall accordingly dismiss the action and award attorney's fees and damages.

13

14 **SEC. 55. Suits and Strategic Legal Action Against Public Participation (SLAPP) and**
15 ***the Enforcement of this Act.*** - Where a suit is brought against a person who filed an action as
16 provided for in Section 54 of this Act, or against any person, institution or government agency
17 that implements this Act, it shall be the duty of the investigating prosecutor or the court, as the
18 case may be, to immediately make a determination not exceeding thirty (30) days whether said
19 legal action has been filed to harass, vex, exert undue pressure or stifle such legal recourses of
20 the person complaining of or enforcing the provisions of this Act. Upon determination thereof,
21 evidence warranting the same, the court shall dismiss the case and award attorney's fees and
22 double damages. This provision shall also apply and benefit public officers who are sued for acts
23 committed in their official capacity, there being no grave abuse of authority, and done in the
24 course of enforcing this Act.

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**CHAPTER XI
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

1 **SEC. 56. *Mandatory Public Hearings.*** - Mandatory public hearings for the Framework
2 shall be undertaken in accordance with the process to be formulated by the Department.

3
4 **SEC. 57. *Research on Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes Management.*** – The
5 Department, after consultations with the cooperating agencies, shall encourage, cooperate with
6 and render financial and other assistance to appropriate government and private agencies,
7 institutions and individuals in the conduct and promotion of researches, experiments and other
8 studies on hazardous and radioactive wastes management, particularly those relating to:

9 (a) adverse health welfare effects of the release into the environment of hazardous and
10 radioactive wastes, and methods to eliminate said effects or minimize the health risks;

11 (b) the operation and financing of hazardous and radioactive wastes disposal programs;

12 (c) the planning, implementation and operation of resource recovery and resource conservation
13 systems;

14 (d) the production of usable forms of recovered resources, including fuel from hazardous wastes;

15 (e) the development and application of new and improved methods of collecting, separating and
16 disposing of hazardous and radioactive wastes and processing and recovering materials and
17 energy from hazardous and radioactive wastes;

18 (f) cleaner production technologies;

19 (g) improvements in land disposal practices for hazardous and radioactive wastes; and

20 (h) development of new uses of recovered resources and identification of existing or potential
21 markets of recovered resources.

22 In carrying out hazardous and radioactive waste researches and studies, the Department, the
23 DOH and the PNRI or their authorized representatives may award grants or enter into
24 contracts with government agencies, NGOs and private persons.

25
26 **SEC. 58. *Public Education and Information.*** – The Department, the PNRI and the
27 DOH, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), the Technical Education and
28 Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Commission on Higher Education (CRED), the
29 DILG, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) and the LGUs, shall conduct a continuing

1 education and information campaign on hazardous and radioactive wastes management. Such
2 education and information program shall:

3 (a) Aim to develop public awareness of the impacts of hazardous and radioactive wastes and how
4 to prevent or minimize their adverse effects;

5 (b) Concentrate on activities which are feasible and which will have the greatest impact on
6 hazardous and radioactive wastes management; and

7 (c) Encourage the general public, accredited NGOs and POs to publicly endorse and patronize
8 environment-friendly products,

9

10 **SEC. 59. *Environmental Education in the Formal and Non-formal Sectors.*** – The
11 national government, through the DepEd and in coordination with concerned government
12 agencies, NGOs and private institutions, shall strengthen the integration of environmental
13 concerns in school curricula at all levels, with particular emphasis on hazardous and radioactive
14 wastes management principles in order to promote environmental awareness and action among
15 the citizenry.

16 **SEC. 60. *Business and Industry Role.*** - The Department, the DOH and the PNRI shall
17 encourage commercial and industrial establishments, through appropriate incentives other than
18 tax incentives, to initiate, participate and invest in integrated hazardous and radioactive wastes
19 management projects; to manufacture environment-friendly products; to introduce, develop and
20 adopt innovative processes that shall recycle and reuse materials, conserve raw materials and
21 energy, reduce waste and prevent pollution; and to undertake community activities to promote
22 and propagate effective hazardous and radioactive wastes management practices.

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CHAPTER XII FINAL PROVISIONS

28 **SEC. 61. *Appropriations.*** - The Secretaries of the DENR, the DOH and the DOST shall
29 include in their programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included
in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 In addition, the departments concerned may accept donations, contributions, grants,
2 bequests or gifts, in cash or in kind, from various sources, domestic or foreign, for purposes
3 relevant to hazardous and radioactive wastes management functions: *Provided*, That in case of
4 donations from foreign governments, acceptance thereof shall be subject to prior clearance and
5 approval of the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the Secretary of
6 Foreign Affairs.

7 Receipts from donations shall be accounted for in the books of the recipient government agency
8 in accordance with pertinent accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

9
10 **SEC. 62. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within one (1) year after the
11 effectivity of this Act, the Department, the DOH and the PNRI, in coordination with the
12 Committees on Environment and Ecology of the Senate and the House of Representatives,
13 respectively, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act: *Provided*, That
14 rules and regulations issued by other government agencies and instrumentalities relative to
15 hazardous and radioactive wastes management consistent with this Act shall supplement the
16 rules and regulations issued by the DENR, the PNRI and *the* DOH pursuant to the provisions of
17 this Act.

18 There shall be a mandatory review of the implementing rules and regulations and
19 standards set pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

20
21 **SEC. 63. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.*** - There is hereby created a Joint
22 Congressional Oversight Committee to monitor the implementation of this Act. The Committee
23 shall be composed of five (5) Senators and five (5) Representatives, to be appointed by the
24 Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. The Oversight
25 Committee shall be co-chaired by a Senator and a Representative designated by the Senate
26 President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively.

27
28 **SEC. 64. *Transitory Provision.*** - Pending the establishment of the Framework under
29 Section 8 hereof and the promulgation of the implementing rules and regulations of this Act,

1 pertinent existing laws, regulations, programs and projects on hazardous and radioactive wastes
2 management shall be enforced: *Provided*, That for specific undertaking, the same may be revised
3 in the interim in accordance with the intentions of this Act.

4
5 **SEC. 65. *Report to Congress.*** - The Department 'shall report to Congress not later than
6 March 30 of every year following the approval of this Act, detailed account of its
7 accomplishments and progress on hazardous and radioactive wastes management during the year
8 and make the necessary recommendations in areas where there is a need for legislative action.

9
10 **SEC. 66. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act or the application of such
11 provision to any person or circumstance is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or
12 the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected by such
13 declaration.

14
15 **SEC. 67. *Repealing. Clause.*** - Republic Act No. 6969, Executive Order No. 192,
16 Republic Act No. 9003, Republic Act No. 7160 and Republic Act No. 2067, as amended, are
17 partly modified. All laws, decrees, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent
18 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

19
20 **SEC. 68. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
21 at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,