

MWSS participates in Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program

Gone are the days when sunsets in Manila Bay interest tourists and locals alike because rubbish and smell that go with it have become more distinct than its beauty.

To avert this, the Supreme Court, in a landmark decision on 18 December 2008, ordered 13 government agencies, including MWSS to clean-up, rehabilitate and preserve Manila Bay, to restore and maintain its waters to SB level (as per DENR Administrative Order No. 34) fit for swimming and other forms of contact recreation.

As one of the Mandamus agencies, the Supreme Court ordered MWSS to:

- Provide, install, operate and maintain the necessary adequate waste water treatment facilities in Metro Manila, Rizal and Cavite to ensure that water being discharged from sewerages to Manila Bay passes effluent standards.
- Submit to the Court a quarterly progressive report of the activities undertaken based on the Mandamus.

Compliance of MWSS with the mandamus as contained in the Operational Plan for the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy (OPMBCS) 2017-2022 were reported, to wit:

- Treated wastewater discharged into Manila Bay complies with effluent (General Effluent Standard) and/or ambient water quality with the water quality guidelines;
- More than 16 million population served in NCR and Region IV-A with average water coverage at 94%, sewerage coverage at 17% and sanitation coverage at 20%. Non-revenue water averages at 25%, from 61% in 1997;
- Submitted quarterly accomplishment reports (consolidation of Manila Water and Maynilad reports) to Supreme Court, DENR EMB, DENR MBCO and DENR Region IV-A.
- Attended Senate/Congress Committee meetings and technical briefings for MWSS' presentation of accomplishments in relation to Manila Bay;
- Participated in inter-agency events/activities such as:
 1. Technical and Public Hearing of Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
 2. Technical and Public Hearing of Committee on Metro Manila Development of the House of Representatives
 3. Technical Committee Meeting for the Manila Bay Sustainable Development Master Plan of NEDA
 4. Manila Bay Technical Working Group (TWG) Consultative Workshop
 5. Manila Bay Site Coordinating Committee meetings of DENR-NCR and CALABARZON
 6. Liquid Waste Management Cluster Meeting of Manila Bay TWG
 7. Refresher Course on Environmental Laws in connection with the implementation of OPMBCS 2017-2022
 8. MBCRPP LGU Compliance Assessment Program of DILG

9. Malinis at Masaganang Karagatan Program of DA BFAR
 10. Manila Bay Coastal Clean-Up Operation
 11. San Juan River System Water Quality Management Area Governing Board Meeting and Action Planning Workshop
 12. Malabon-Navotas-Tullahan-Tinijeros River System Water Quality Management Area Governing Board Meeting and Action Planning Workshop
 13. Las Piñas-Parañaque River System Water Quality Management Area Governing Board Meeting and Action Planning Workshop
- Developed the Data Book on Water, Sewerage and Sanitation in partnership with Manila Water and Maynilad; and
 - Collaborated with Concessionaires Maynilad and Manila Water for other accomplishments outside of the Key Performance Indicators (KPI), mainly to raise awareness relative to Manila Bay such as:
 1. Manila Water's Lakbayan Toka-Toka 2018 and environmental exhibits, events and clean-up drives
 2. Maynilad's Public Consultations, Plant for Life Program, media releases, educational campaigns, community briefings, educational tours and plant visits.

In coordination with Concessionaires Manila Water and Maynilad, MWSS will continuously work to bring back the once splendid reputation of Manila Bay by restoring its beauty and ambience to its pristine beginnings.

