



Legal Watch

CUSTOMS OCOM MEMO 65-2026



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SUMMARY

This memorandum addresses growing concerns regarding import and export shipments utilizing fraudulent, altered, expired, or illegitimate permits purportedly issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). To safeguard environmental protection and customs control, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) mandates that all shipments requiring DENR permits, clearances, or certifications undergo centralized validation by the Environmental Protection and Compliance Division (EPCD). The EPCD, established under Customs Memorandum Order No. 38-2019, is permanently mandated to monitor regulated goods—such as chemicals, hazardous wastes, wildlife, and mineral ores—and recommend enforcement actions against non-compliance.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Importers, exporters, and customs brokers dealing with DENR-regulated shipments must ensure their permits, clearances, and certifications are entirely authentic, valid in scope and quantity, and completely free from alterations before presentation. Customs personnel must immediately forward any submitted DENR permit to the EPCD for final verification, regardless of the processing office, channel, or any prior DENR validation. District Collectors and port personnel must likewise strictly ensure that no covered import or export shipment is released, exported, or otherwise cleared without an explicit positive validation or clearance confirmation from the EPCD.

* Agency Name

Bureau of Customs (BOC)

* Issuance Title

Mandatory Validation by the Environmental Protection and Compliance Division, Enforcement and Security Service of Shipments Regulated by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources

* Issuance Date

22 May 2026

* Link

<https://customs.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/2026-65-OCOM-MEMO-1.pdf>

