

**CONVERSION ORDER/CLEARANCE; REQUIRED BEFORE CHANGING  
THE CURRENT USE OF A LANDHOLDING**

- It is the DAR's mandate to preserve and maintain agricultural lands with increased productivity. Any act of changing the current use of a landholding is tantamount to conversion which requires a conversion order/clearance from DAR. An absence of said order/clearance is prohibited by law.

DAR Opinion No. 27, s. 2005  
November 10, 2005

**CONVERSION ORDER; NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PROPERTIES  
RECLASSIFIED AS NON-AGRICULTURAL PRIOR TO JUNE 15, 1988**

- A conversion order is no longer necessary for properties already reclassified as non-agricultural prior to June 15, 1988 or before the effectivity of CARP. However, an exemption clearance is required. On the other hand, a conversion order is necessary for those agricultural properties reclassified as non-agricultural from June 15, 1988 onwards. Please note that a conversion order is necessary before any conversion activities may be performed on the subject lands.

DAR Opinion No. 11, s. 2001  
August 7, 2001

**COVERAGE; DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS**

- This office concur with the opinion of the Land Bank of the Philippines that there is no substitute for the form for Land Valuation and Farmer's Undertaking since it is in such document that the amount in which the farmer beneficiary acknowledges/undertakes to pay the amortization is fixed and determined.

DAR Opinion No. 18, s. 2006  
June 29, 2006

**COVERAGE**

- Coverage under CARP does not cancel the right of the mortgagee to foreclose said properties. In a contract of mortgage, the mortgagor is duty bound to fulfill his obligation with the mortgagee. Accordingly, in case the mortgagor defaults in his obligation with the mortgagee, the latter has the legal right to demand payment from the former or to foreclose the mortgage, as the case may be. However, Section 71 of R.A. No. 6657 on bank mortgages must be taken into consideration where it provides that agricultural properties mortgaged to banks and other financial institutions are subject to existing laws on compulsory transfer of foreclosed assets and acquisition as prescribed under Section 16 of said law.

DAR Opinion No. 13, S. 2005  
March 22, 2005

- DAR need not to be informed of the mortgage. Nonetheless, DAR may still proceed with CARP coverage regardless of whether or not it was informed thereof in view of its legal mandate under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (CARL) to acquire all public and private agricultural lands falling outside the 5-hectare retention area of landowners for redistribution to qualified beneficiaries.

DAR Opinion No. 13, S. 2005  
March 22, 2005