



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
 Intramuros, Manila

GUIDELINES IN THE CLUSTERING/GROUPING OF ESTABLISHED PRECINCTS, INCLUDING ACCESSIBLE PRECINCT/S, IN CONNECTION WITH THE MAY 9, 2016 NATIONAL, LOCAL AND ARMM REGIONAL ELECTIONS

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| Chairman | BAUTISTA, J. Andres D. |
| Commissioner | LIM, Christian Robert S. |
| Commissioner | PARREÑO, Al A. |
| Commissioner | GUIA, Luie Tito F. |
| Commissioner | LIM, Arthur D. |
| Commissioner | GUANZON, Ma. Rowena Amelia V. |
| Commissioner | ABAS, Sheriff M. |

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Promulgated on December 1, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 10019

WHEREAS, the 1987 Philippine Constitution and the Omnibus Election Code (OEC) confer upon the Commission on Elections (hereinafter referred to as Commission) the power to promulgate rules and regulations in order to ensure free, honest, orderly and peaceful elections;

WHEREAS, Section 29¹ of Republic Act No. 6646 as amended by Section 28² of Republic Act No. 8436 authorizes the Commission to fix other dates for pre-election activities which include, among others, the period for the finalization of the Project of Precincts (POPs) containing the data on established and clustered/grouped precincts, registered voters, names and location of voting centers nationwide;

WHEREAS, the final POPs are necessary for the proper allocation of the voting and counting machines, consolidation and canvassing system machines (CCS), official ballots, election returns and other election supplies and paraphernalia, as well as the number of Special/Board of Election Inspectors (S/BEIs) to be constituted;

WHEREAS, taking into consideration the limited number of voting and counting machines, inadequacy/non-availability of public school buildings and other structures which may be used as voting centers, the lack of qualified individuals who shall serve as members of the S/BEIs, and the peace and order situation in critical areas identified by the Philippine National Police/ Armed Forces of the Philippines (PNP/AFP), there is a need to cluster/group established precincts.

¹ Sec. 29, Rep. Act No. 6646. Designation of Other Dates for Certain Pre-election Acts. - If it should no longer be reasonably possible to observe the periods and dates prescribed by law for certain pre-election acts, the Commission shall fix other periods and dates in order to ensure accomplishment of the activities so voters shall not be deprived of their right of suffrage.

² Sec. 28. Designation of other dates for certain pre-election acts. - If it shall no longer be reasonably possible to observe the periods and dates prescribed by law for certain pre-election acts, the Commission shall fix other periods and dates in order to ensure accomplishment of the activities so voters shall not be deprived of their suffrage.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission, by virtue of the authority vested upon it by the 1987 Philippine Constitution, Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 (otherwise known as the OEC), Rep. Act Nos. 8189, 6646, 8436 and other election laws, **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to promulgate the following guidelines on the clustering/grouping of established precincts for purposes of the May 9, 2016 National, Local and ARMM Regional Elections, to wit:

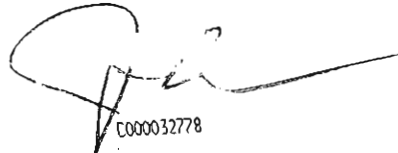
1. Established precincts that shall be clustered shall, as far as practicable, be contiguous and compact and located within the same barangay and voting center;
2. The original (mother) and its spin-off (daughter) precinct/s shall, as far as practicable, be clustered/grouped together;
3. A clustered/grouped precinct shall have no more than **seven (7) established precincts with not more than eight hundred (800) registered voters**;
4. Accessible precinct/s shall be clustered/grouped, with regular precinct/s having the least number of voters, in accordance with the preceding rule;
5. Each established precinct, including accessible precinct/s, in every clustered/grouped precinct shall retain their individual precinct number, Election Day Computerized Voters' List (EDCVL), Precinct Computerized Voters' List (PCVL) and Book of Voters (BOVs);
6. The Election Officer (EO) shall, after clustering/grouping the precincts in accordance with the foregoing rules, prepare and submit the Project of Precincts (POPs) and SNPDAT in connection with the May 9, 2016 National, Local and ARMM Regional Elections, for verification of the personnel of the Election and Barangay Affairs Department (EBAD) assigned in their area during the conduct of On-Site Verification from **Thursday, November 26, 2015 (Thursday) to December 9, 2015 (Wednesday)**;
7. EBAD shall consolidate and submit the nationwide POPs, for the approval of the Commission En Banc on or before **December 15, 2015 (Tuesday)**;
8. The voters shall be notified of the location of their polling place by posting the final and approved POPs in the bulletin boards of the Office of the Election Officer (OEO), district/city/municipal hall and all barangay halls within its area of jurisdiction, copy furnished all local representatives of political parties and citizen's arms; and
9. EBAD with the assistance of Information Technology Department (ITD) shall cause the posting of the final and approved nationwide POPs at the official Comelec website www.comelec.gov.ph.



All Regional Election Directors/Assistant Regional Election Directors (REDs/AREDs) and all Provincial Election Supervisors (PESs) shall closely monitor and supervise the preparation and verification of the POPs and ensure their submission on time.

Let the EBAD implement this Resolution.

SO ORDERED.



J. ANDRES D. BAUTISTA
Chairman


CHRISTIAN ROBERT S. LIM
Commissioner
AL A. PARREÑO
Commissioner
LUE TIFO F. GUIA
Commissioner

(On Official Business during the deliberation of this matter)
ARTHUR D. LIM
Commissioner

(On Official Business during the deliberation of this matter)
MA. ROWENA AMELIA V. GUANZON
Commissioner


SHERIFF M. ABAS
Commissioner