

GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

Environmental Technology Verification

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ETE/ETV GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

General

It is absolutely essential that the ETE/ETV evaluation process remains completely impartial and is carried out with the utmost concern to fulfill the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct. Accordingly, all participants who are involved directly or indirectly in the management and operation of the ETV evaluation process shall comply with the following standards when dealing directly or indirectly with any ETV related matter.

Public Confidence

Participants shall conduct themselves so as to maintain the utmost public confidence in ETV and the ETV evaluation process.

Conflicts of Interest

Participants shall not have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business, transaction or professional activity that is in conflict with the proper and impartial discharge of official ETV responsibilities. For this purpose, conflict of interest means any position, including as an employee, officer, director, adviser or agent to any other person, company or other entity, or any financial or other interest which does or may conflict with the service of the individual to ETV in the capacity(ies) contemplated because it could impair the individual's objectivity or impartiality or could create an unfair competitive advantage for any person or organization.

Clearly, conflicts of interest must be construed in the context of the distinctively different duties and responsibilities associated with the participant's specific ETV assignment, such as a member of an ETV Technical Panel.

Members of the ETE/ETV Technical Panels shall disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest prior to the initial meeting of the evaluation panel and thereafter at any time as they arise, for the duration of the evaluation process.

All participants shall disclose any potential conflicts of interest when initially affiliated with the ETV program or assigned to an ETV activity as appropriate, and hereafter as they arise.

Participants shall not disclose any information or data related to an official ETV matter to any other individual for the purpose of them investing or taking any investment action.

In the event a conflict of interest is brought to ETV's attention, the matter shall be taken care of by the ETV Advisory Council and if ETV deems necessary or desirable steps may be taken (with which the participant concerned shall comply) to assure the integrity of the ETV process in the particular case.

Bias

The ETV evaluation process may consider technical matters relevant to issues of public interest or policy that may contain findings and conclusions that rest upon professional value judgements, as well as upon findings arguable on purely scientific or technical grounds.

Consequently, all participants shall disclose any potential sources of bias that might constitute a conflict in the performance of that participant's ETV responsibilities. In this context, bias refers to views stated or positions taken that are largely intellectually motivated or that arise from the close identification or association of an individual with a particular point of view or the positions or perspectives of a particular group. Such potential sources of bias are not necessarily disqualifying *per se*; however, they must be specifically considered in assigning participants to specific ETV duties and responsibilities.

Confidentiality

Unless specifically authorized in writing by ETV, participants shall not themselves use or disclose to anyone else any non-public information or data provided by an applicant to ETE/ETV or developed in the course of the evaluation process; and shall not release any draft or final Evaluation Report or parts thereof.

It is important to note, however, that this guideline is not intended to discourage participants from publicizing or promoting the ETV program or the ETV process.

Intellectual Property Rights

Participants shall scrupulously respect and protect the applicant's rights to any product-specific intellectual property rights associated with any technology or product being evaluated by ETV. Any improvements made to any product submitted to ETV in the course of the ETV evaluation process shall belong jointly to the applicant and, if different, the owner of the intellectual property in the product. Participants shall execute and deliver, at the requester's the applicant or owner to confirm and perfect full rights of applicant and/or owner therein reasonably requests expense, such assignments and other instruments as.

Gifts

Participants shall not directly or indirectly solicit or accept any gift or compensation whether it be money, services, loans, travel, entertainment or hospitality where it could be reasonably inferred that it was intended to influence them in the performance of their ETV duties, or was intended to induce or to serve as a reward for any official action on their part.

Note this guideline is not intended to apply to "*de minimis*" situations, where for example, the value of the gift is less than ₱500. Likewise, this guideline is not intended to isolate participants from normal social practices where gifts among friends, associates and relatives are appropriate for certain occasions.

Endorsements

Participants shall not endorse commercial products or services supplied by any applicant to ETV, by agreeing to or allow use of their photograph, endorsement or quotation in paid or other commercial advertisements, whether or not for compensation.

Personal Relationships

Participants shall disclose any personal relationship to ETV in any instance where there could be the appearance of a conflict of interest. For example, if a participant's spouse works for a company or holds a financial interest in a company that has applied to ETV for a product evaluation, that fact should be reported to ETV.

Compliance

All participants directly or indirectly involved in the ETV program and in specific ETV evaluations will be required to complete and sign an ETV Disclosure Form for his or her specific assignment to ETV. The purpose of the Disclosure Form is to identify potential conflicts of interest or sources of bias, and to evidence a commitment to comply with these Governing Principles.

Any alleged violations of these guidelines should be reported to the Director of ITDI, as appropriate, who will take the necessary actions to research the alleged violations.