



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF ISABELA  
City of Ilagan

## *Office of the Governor*

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 07  
Series of 2025

### **AN ORDER DIRECTING THE YEAR-ROUND DISTRIBUTION OF CHLORINE TABLETS IN RURAL AREAS OF ISABELA TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF SAFE AND POTABLE DRINKING WATER**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates local government units (LGUs) to promote the general welfare, including adopting measures to protect public health and safety;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9275, or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, requires the government to establish and enforce water quality standards, particularly for drinking water sources, to safeguard public health;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water (PNSDW) of 2017, issued by the Department of Health (DOH), sets quality guidelines to ensure access to safe and potable water for all communities;

**WHEREAS**, many rural barangays in Isabela rely on open wells, locally known as “*balon*”, as their primary water source. The open nature of these wells makes them highly susceptible to contamination from environmental pollutants and human activities, posing a year-round risk to public health;

**WHEREAS**, during the summer months, water table levels drop significantly, causing residents to manually deepen their balon to access water. This practice further increases the risk of contamination and compromises the safety of drinking water;

**WHEREAS**, the use of chlorine tablets is a widely accepted and DOH-endorsed method of water disinfection, proven effective in ensuring potable drinking water in communities with limited access to safe sources;

**WHEREAS**, upon the recommendation of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) and the Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO), the Provincial Government of Isabela (PGI) deems it necessary to implement a proactive and continuous measure to ensure the availability of safe drinking water in vulnerable rural areas;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III**, Governor of the Province of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order the following:

**Section 1. Year-Round Distribution of Chlorine Tablets.** The Provincial Government of Isabela (PGI) shall procure and ensure the continuous distribution of chlorine-based and/or sodium-based water purification tablets to barangays reliant on deep wells and other water sources prone to contamination. The distribution shall be conducted year-round, with increased allocation during periods of drought and low water table levels.

*Nagkaisa para sa Isabela*

**Section 2. Implementation and Coordination.** The PDRRMO, in coordination with the Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO) and local government units (LGUs), shall:

- a) Oversee the year-round distribution of chlorine tablets to identified barangays;
- b) Provide comprehensive guidelines on the proper usage and dosage of chlorine tablets;
- c) Conduct public awareness campaigns to educate residents on safe water practices and the importance of water sanitation.

**Section 3. Role of the IPHO.** The Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO), through its city and municipal health offices, shall be responsible for the local-level distribution of chlorine tablets, ensuring proper allocation and usage in each municipality and city.

**Section 4. Monitoring and Evaluation.** The IPHO shall regularly monitor the potability of drinking water in the targeted communities and evaluate the effectiveness of the chlorine tablet distribution. Findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the Office of the Governor for review and necessary action.

**Section 5. Additional Mitigation Measures.** To further ensure access to safe drinking water, the PDRRMO shall work closely with local water districts and barangay officials to implement the following interventions:

- a) Regular inspection and maintenance of deep wells to prevent contamination;
- b) Identification of alternative water sources for communities at risk;
- c) Deployment of water rationing assistance in severely affected areas when necessary.

**Section 6. Funding.** The necessary funding for the procurement and distribution of chlorine tablets shall be sourced from the appropriate budgetary allocations of the Provincial Government of Isabela, subject to existing accounting and auditing regulations.

**Section 7. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signing and shall remain in force unless otherwise repealed or amended.

Issued this 27<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2025, in the City of Ilagan, Isabela.

  
**RODOLFO T. ALBANO III**  
Governor