

The Constitutional Policy on Natural Resources: A Survey

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This Note outlines the evolution of the constitutional policy on natural resources and how the basic premises first found in the 1935 Constitution remain valid today. The Note defines the various issues involved, including: the inequitable distribution of land, the question of alien domination in the exploitation of natural resources, and the problem of land and agrarian reform. After defining the issues, the Author presents a Note that advocates the constitutional provisions which promote small-scale farming, equitable land distribution, and smaller sustenance fishing. In contrast, the Author picks a few constitutional provisions to discuss how they seemingly counter the goals set forth by the framers of the 1935 Constitution. These include the opening up to foreign capital and investment and decentralization. The Author concludes by reminding the reader that while the Constitution sets the general principals and policies, it is up to the Filipino citizen to do the rest.