



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

FEB 15 2010

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. DC2010- 02 - 0002

q/s

**CREATING A POWER TASK FORCE ELECTION 2010
TO ENSURE ADEQUATE AND RELIABLE ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY
BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE MAY 10, 2010 AUTOMATED NATIONAL
AND LOCAL ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to ensure the reliability, quality and security of supply of electric power;

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) is mandated to provide a mechanism for the integration, rationalization, and coordination of the various activities to carry out the energy policy of the State;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), pursuant to the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, and other related election laws, has prescribed the rules and procedures to ensure the holding of a free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible automated national and local elections on May 10, 2010;

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2009, the COMELEC promulgated Resolution No. 8715, which deputizes the National Electrification Administration (NEA), the National Power Corporation (NPC) and the Local Electrification Cooperatives, to perform specific duties and functions for the conduct of the automated national and local elections on May 10, 2010;

WHEREAS, Section 2(1) of COMELEC Resolution No. 8715 requires the NEA, NPC, and the Electric Cooperatives to provide and maintain stable and continuous nationwide electric power requirements from May 10 to 16, 2010 that will be used in the voting and counting of votes, transmission and consolidation of results and proclamation of winning candidates;

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2009, the COMELEC also issued Resolution No. 8716, which deputizes certain Departments under the Executive Branch, Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations and Financial Institutions in connection with the May 10, 2010 automated national and local elections;

WHEREAS, Section 5 of COMELEC Resolution No. 8716 designates the DOE and its Secretary and other agencies under it, and electric cooperatives in the local government units to provide uninterrupted power supply on the day before and on election day, until the termination/conclusion of the canvassing of the election returns and proclamation of the elected officials; and to perform such other functions that the COMELEC may prescribe from time to time;

WHEREAS, premises considered, the DOE deems it necessary to adopt measures to supplement the COMELEC Resolution No. 8715 to ensure provision of stable and continuous supply of power during the automated national and local elections for the period of May 10 to 16, 2010;

NOW THEREFORE, the DOE, in support to the government's aim of holding a successful election, is issuing this Circular to create a Power Task Force Election 2010 to ensure adequate, stable and reliable power supply before, during and after the national and local elections.

Section 1. Composition. The Power Task Force Election 2010 shall be composed of the following, with the organizational structure and reporting flow attached hereto as Annex A:

a. Core Group Team

Head : Department of Energy

Members : National Power Corporation (NPC)
National Transmission Corporation (TransCo)
National Electrification Administration (NEA)
Power Sector Assets & Liabilities Corporation (PSALM)
Philippine Electricity Market Corporation (PEMC)
National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP)
Manila Electric Company (MERALCO)

b. Supporting Organizations

Philippine Independent Power Producers Association (PIPPA)
Philippine Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (PHILRECA)
Private Electric Power Operators Association, Inc. (PEPOA)
Other associations of distribution utilities not explicitly mentioned in this Circular.

All power suppliers and service providers particularly the distribution utilities (DUs) (privately-owned, electric cooperatives (ECs) and LGU-owned) and the power generation companies are directed to provide full support and participation to ensure the attainment of the objective of this Circular.

Section 2. General Responsibilities. The members of the Power Task Force on Elections 2010 shall have the following general responsibilities:

1. As head of the Power Task Force Election 2010, the DOE shall be responsible for the following:

- a. Overall management of the Power Task Force 2010;
 - b. Establishment of a systematic monitoring and reporting scheme that will ensure power interruptions are immediately acted upon by concerned agencies/ organizations;
 - c. Cause the establishment of mitigating measures to minimize, if not prevent, power outages on election day and the critical period prior to and after election;
 - d. Provide the general public with fast and accurate information on the status of power supply; and
 - e. Assign Focal Persons to coordinate with COMELEC.
2. The members shall be responsible for the following:
- a. Ensuring operation of their respective facilities/systems and for establishing communication links with Command Center and their Contingency Teams under heightened alert status on 24/7 basis.
 - b. Instituting mitigating measures to preclude abnormal situations in their respective areas of responsibilities.
 - c. Regularly reporting the status of their facilities/systems/areas as well as immediately reporting any problem that may affect power supply.
 - d. Immediately addressing potential or actual problems that may affect power supply.
3. The members of the Power Task Force Election 2010 shall establish their contingency teams and designate their representatives to support the Sub-Task Force on Power 2010.

Section 3. Specific Responsibilities. In addition to the general responsibilities, each member of the Power Task Force Election 2010 has the following specific responsibilities:

NPC/PSALM

1. Ensure availability of generating units (including those already privatized) to meet demand and required reserves (regulating, spinning and back-up);
2. Ensure maximum reservoir level for Kalayaan I & II prior to election day;
3. Suspend preventive maintenance and testing of generating units one week before and after election day. Defer already scheduled plant maintenance and tests;
4. Ensure availability of its quick start units, if any.
5. Secure adequate fuel supplies and maintain reasonable fuel inventories.
6. Arrange for back-up personnel in power plants and additional maintenance crew to assist in case of emergencies.
7. Augment security forces in major plant installations.
8. If necessary, lease-rental of gensets to ensure adequate, stable and reliable power supply of Visayas.

TransCo and NGCP

1. Ensure availability of all substation facilities/ transmission lines, to the extent possible, and assure their continued normal operation;
2. Suspend maintenance and testing works on substation facilities/ transmission lines, one week before and after election day, except in extreme emergency cases;
3. Ensure reliability of emergency diesel generators, station batteries and air compressor systems;
4. Place off-duty control center and substation personnel on "on-call" basis;
5. Ensure standby transmission line crew and power system maintenance personnel;
6. Secure communication hotlines between DOE and NGCP as well as with Market Operator (MO) and other electric power industry participants;
7. Provide standby transportation facilities to assist in the immediate inspection of tripped critical transmission lines;
8. Ensure all Area Control Center (ACC) dispatchers are prepared to implement islanding operation and power restoration;
9. Strategically deploy Network Protection, Power System Maintenance, District/Branches, SCADA and Telecom personnel;
10. Check proper function of installed fault clearance system, transient recorders and sequence of event recorders in all substations including all Special Protection Systems;
11. Update load shedding schedule in each grid to consider priority supply to polling places and local government offices;
12. Accelerate completion of corrective works on critical substation/transmission lines before election day;
13. Inspect the integrity of transmission line structures and clear obstructions, if any;
14. Inspect connection points of DUs/ECs to the grid;
15. Augment security forces in critical substations/ transmission facilities;
16. Coordinate with COMELEC, National Disaster Coordination Council (NDCC), Military, Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Regional Peace and Order Council, as necessary;
17. Ensure availability of tools and materials at satellite offices; and
18. Assign service vehicles/drivers to Regional and District Command Post.

NEA

1. Supervise the preparation and compliance of ECs to the directives herein; and
2. Ensure the full cooperation to the Power Task Force Election 2010.

PSALM

1. Ensure cooperation of successor generating companies and independent IPP administrators of NPC plants/IPP to the Power Task Force Election 2010 directives ; and
2. Ensure availability of its purchased generating plants or administered IPPs at their dependable capability and assure their continued normal operation.

PEMC

1. Ensure the continued operation of the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM); and

2. In coordination with NGCP-System Operator (SO), ensure availability of all supervisory controls and communication networks and effective management of the power system.

Distribution Utilities (DUs)

1. Ensure availability of all its substation facilities/distribution lines, to the extent possible, and assure their continued normal operation;
2. Ensure the adequacy of connection and service entrance facilities of polling places;
3. Accelerate completion of corrective/remedial works on critical distribution lines before election day;
4. Inspect integrity of distribution line structures and clear distribution lines from obstructions;
5. Inspect of connection points to polling places and local government offices;
6. Check electrical installation of polling places for proper breaker and fuse rating;
7. Conduct information dissemination on how to avoid power supply overload/short-circuits during election;
8. Standby line crews for immediate response to problems affecting power supply;
9. Ensure availability of tools and materials for line men;
10. Assign service vehicles and drivers to line crew;
11. Ensure availability and reliability of embedded generators within their franchise area, if any; and
12. Coordinate with NGCP on the appropriate load shedding to ensure that polling places and local government offices are excluded.

Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association (PEPOA)

Philippine Independent Power Producers Association (PIPPA)

Philippine Rural Electric Cooperative Association (PHILRECA)

Other Similar Associations/Federation of Electric Power Industry Participants

1. Establish respective satellite centers that will interface with distribution utilities; and
2. Provide support and assistance to distribution utilities to ensure their cooperation to Power Task Force Election 2010 directives.

In addition to the specific responsibilities of the members, the Head of the Power Task Force Election 2010 can delegate to any members other assignments, as necessary.

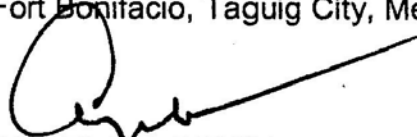
Section 4. Command Post. The Power Task Force Election 2010 shall establish its Main Operations Center at NGCP-Diliman, Quezon City and Satellite Operation Centers at NGCP-Banilad, Cebu City for Visayas and NGCP-Cagayan de Oro City, for Mindanao. These centers shall be equipped with monitoring facilities and communication link-ups with all electric power industry participants.

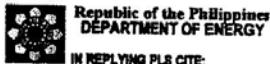
To establish communication links with the operations centers, the NPC, PSALM, TransCo, NEA, NGCP and PEMC shall create their contingency teams and designate their representatives to support the Power Task Force Election 2010 on a 24/7 basis. In addition, all DUs and ECs shall also create their own contingency teams and designate their representatives to support the Power Task Force Election 2010 on 24/7 basis.

Section 5. Logistics and Budgetary Requirement. The expenses to be incurred by the members of the Power Task Force Election 2010 in the performance of the responsibilities herein shall be charged to the respective accounts of the participating agencies/entities.

Section 6. Effectivity Period. This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, Metro Manila, 15 February 2010.


ANGELO T. REYES
Secretary



IN REPLYING PLS CITE:

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POWER TASK FORCE ELECTION 2010

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

