SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session



SENATE

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 426	5
Submitted by the Committees on Energy and Finance AUG 28 2018	
Re: Senate Bill No1950	
Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 924	
Sponsor: Senator Sherwin T. Gatchalian	

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Energy and the Committee on Finance, to which was referred **Senate Bill No. 924**, introduced by Senator Ralph Recto, entitled:

"AN ACT REDUCING ELECTRICITY RATES BY ALLOCATING THE NET NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM THE MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS PROJECT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE STRANDED CONTRACT COSTS AND STRANDED DEBTS OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION"

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, **Senate Bill No.** 1950 entitled:

"AN ACT REDUCING ELECTRICITY RATES BY ALLOCATING THE NET NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM THE MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS PROJECT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE STRANDED CONTRACT COSTS AND STRANDED DEBTS OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION"

be approved in substitution of **Senate Bill No. 924**, with **Senators Recto** and **Gatchalian** as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

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Committee on Finance; Member, Committee on Energy SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN

Committee on Energy;

Member, Committee on Finance

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President Senate of the Philippines

Seventeenth Congress of the Republic of the Philippines

Third Regular Session



SENATE

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s.b. No. 1950

(In Substitution of Senate Bill No. 924)

RECEIVEDE

Prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Energy and Finance with Senators Recto and Gatchalian, as authors thereof

AN ACT

REDUCING ELECTRICITY RATES BY ALLOCATING THE NET NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM THE MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS PROJECT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE STRANDED CONTRACT COSTS AND STRANDED DEBTS OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

- 1 Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Murang Kuryente
- 2 Act".

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- 4 Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State
- 5 to protect public interest by ensuring the provision of reliable, secure, and
- 6 affordable supply of electric power to consumers. Towards this end, the State
- 7 shall implement policies and programs to ensure transparent and reasonable
- 8 prices of electricity to consumers by minimizing the universal charges for
- 9 stranded contract costs and stranded debts.
- 11 Section 3. Definition of Terms. For purposes of this Act, the following
- terms shall be defined as stated below:
- a) **Energy Regulatory Board** (ERB) refers to the independent, quasijudicial regulatory body created under Executive Order No. 172 "Creating the Energy Regulatory Board";
- b) **Energy Regulatory Commission** (ERC) refers to the independent quasi-judicial body created under Republic Act No. 9136 otherwise known as the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001":

- c) **Department of Budget and Management** (DBM) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Title XVII, Chapter 1, Section 3 of Executive Order No. 292 or the "Administrative Code of 1987";
- d) **Department of Energy** (DOE) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Republic Act No. 7638 or the "Department of Energy Act of 1992", and whose functions were expanded by Republic Act No. 9136 or the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001";

- e) **Department of Finance** (DOF) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Title II, Chapter 1, Section 1 of Executive Order No. 292 or the "Administrative Code of 1987";
- 11 f) **Joint Congressional Power Commission** (JCPC) refers to the 12 congressional commission constituted under Section 62 of Republic Act 13 No. 9136 or the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001";
 - g) Malampaya Fund refers to the existing and future net government share from the net production proceeds of the Malampaya Natural Gas Project pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 87 or the "Oil Exploration and Development Act of 1972" and Service Contract 38. This government share forms part of a Special Fund used to finance energy resource development and exploitation programs pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 910 "Creating an Energy Development Board, Defining Its Powers and Functions, Providing Funds, Therefor, and For Other Purposes";
 - h) Malampaya Natural Gas Project refers to Service Contract 38 in offshore Northwest Palawan;
 - i) **National Power Corporation** (NPC) refers to the government corporation created under Republic Act No. 6395 otherwise known as "An Act Revising the Charter of the National Power Corporation", as amended, and whose additional mandate is further set in Republic Act No. 9136 otherwise known as the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001";
 - j) **Net Government Share** refers to the sixty percent (60%) share of the national government from the net production proceeds of Service Contract 38 pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 87 or the "Oil Exploration and Development Act of 1972" after the deductions provided by Presidential Decree No. 910 "Creating an Energy Development Board, Defining Its Powers and Functions, Providing Funds, Therefor, and For Other Purposes";

k) Net National Government Share – refers to the share of the national government from the net government share after the deduction from the net government share of the local government share pursuant to Section 290 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991";

- l) Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM) refers to the government corporation created pursuant to Section 49 of Republic Act No. 9136 otherwise known as the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001" which assumed all of NPC's obligations and stranded contract costs;
- m) Stranded Contract Costs of NPC or Distribution Utility refer to the excess of the contracted cost of electricity under eligible independent power producer contracts over the actual selling price of the contracted energy output of such contracts in the market. Such contract shall have been approved by the ERB as of December 31, 2000; and
- n) **Stranded Debts of NPC** refer to any unpaid financial obligations of the NPC which have not been liquidated by the proceeds from the sales and privatization of NPC assets.

Section 4. Use of Malampaya Fund for Payment of Stranded Contract Costs and Stranded Debt. - All proceeds of the Net National Government Share from the Malampaya Fund, shall be allocated solely for the payment of Stranded Contract Costs and Stranded Debts transferred to and assumed by the PSALM pursuant to Section 49 of Republic Act No. 9136, otherwise known as the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001", including all anticipated shortfalls in the course of payment of such liabilities after applying the PSALM's collections from privatization of the NPC's assets, independent power producers' contracts, and proceeds from operations of existing assets: Provided, That upon final resolution in favor of the National Government of any ongoing dispute over the Net National Government Share, the amount shall be allocated solely for the purpose specified in this Act.

The Net National Government Share from the Malampaya Fund shall be remitted to a Special Trust Fund to be administered by the PSALM: *Provided*, That the amounts herein allocated shall be included in the General Appropriations Act. The DBM shall provide a timely release of the amounts

1 allocated and appropriated to the PSALM in accordance with its debt and

independent power producer payment schedule.

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4 When the Stranded Contract Costs, Stranded Debts, and anticipated shortfalls

5 in the course of the payment of such liabilities are fully paid before the

termination of the corporate life of the PSALM, the Net National Government

Share, shall accrue back to the Special Fund used to finance energy resource

8 development and exploitation programs created under Presidential Decree No.

9 910 "Creating an Energy Development Board, Defining Its Powers and

10 Functions, Providing Funds, Therefor, and For Other Purposes".

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- Section 5. Regular Reports. The PSALM shall submit an annual projected cash flow statement and actual cash flow statement of the Stranded Contract Costs, Stranded Debts, and anticipated shortfalls as well as its debt payment and independent power producer contract payment schedule to the DOE, ERC, DOF, DBM, and the JCPC; *Provided*, That the submission of the annual projected cash flow statement shall be on or before June 30 of the preceding year and that of the annual actual cash flow statement shall be on or before June 30 of the succeeding year. The PSALM shall regularly coordinate with the
- June 30 of the succeeding year. The PSALM shall regularly coordinate with the DOE, DOF, and the DBM to ensure consistent record-keeping of remittances to

21 and disbursements from the Malampaya Fund and the Special Trust Fund

created under this Act. The PSALM shall make all reports available to the

public through its website.

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Section 6. Congressional Oversight. – Upon the effectivity of this Act, the JCPC shall exercise oversight powers over its implementation.

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- 28 Section 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days
- 29 from the effectivity of this Act, the DOF, in consultation with DOE, DBM, and
- 30 the PSALM shall provide the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
- 31 disposition of the said funds and the effective implementation of this Act.

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- **Section 8. Repealing Clause. -** All laws, decreed, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
- 35 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

- 1 Section 9. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the
- 2 date of publication in the Official gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
- 3 general circulation.

5 Approved,