

## **PHILRECA commits to sustainable community development; supports DOE-EC partnerships for electrification**

August 19, 2025

The Philippine Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc. (PHILRECA) participated in a hybrid public consultation on the [Department of Energy Philippines](#) (DOE) proposed Enhanced Energy Regulations (Enhanced ER), which aims to improve the provision of benefits to host communities and promote the utilization of indigenous energy resources.

During the consultation, the DOE outlined the key provisions of the Enhanced ER, mainly on the allocation of financial benefits to local government units (LGUs) and communities hosting energy facilities, promoting full accountability among all beneficiaries and stakeholders.

The public consultation was formally opened and facilitated by Energy Undersecretary Mario Marasigan, emphasizing on the importance of inclusive energy development.

Energy Secretary Atty. Sharon Garin, as the keynote speaker, shared the sentiments of local communities that are currently hosting major generation plants. She believes that this proposed issuance, which streamlines the documentary and procedural requirements, will enable a better collaboration among generation companies and host communities.

At a quick glance, the proposed draft circular delegates majority of the roles and responsibilities—from project planning up to its completion—to the Host LGUs, while the designated distribution utilities (DUs) or electric cooperatives (ECs) covering these localities are mainly tasked to implement the Electrification Fund (EF) programs.

Upon further review and coordination with its member-ECs, PHILRECA shall provide collective comments and recommendations relative to the proposal.

Earlier, the Association also witnessed the agreement ceremony of the DOE and five ECs for the first batch of total electrification projects in 2025, which will finance microgrid construction and distribution line extensions within the ECs' franchise areas.

Board presidents and general managers represented their respective ECs: [Aklan Electric Cooperative, Inc.](#) (AKELCO), [Aurora Electric Cooperative, Inc.](#) (AURELCO), [La Union Electric Cooperative, Inc.](#) (LUELCO), and [Quezon II Electric Cooperative, Inc.](#) (QUEZELCO II). Also part of the first batch is [Southern Leyte Electric Cooperative, Inc.](#) (SOLECO).

PHILRECA expresses gratitude to the DOE for acknowledging the crucial role of the ECs and the National Electrification Administration (NEA) in achieving "Bawat Bahay Maliwanag." The Association also believes that the financial support will enhance existing efforts to energize Filipino communities through improved facilities.

Other officials present included DOE Director Lunyngning G. Baltazar, NEA Deputy Administrator Atty. Rossan Rosero-Lee, and other representatives from the energy sector.