

NEA deepens ties with power coops, consumer groups nationwide in NEA-ECs conference

Motivated by the common desire to pursue meaningful reforms in the rural energy sector, the National Electrification Administration (NEA) strengthened its partnership with the 121 electric cooperatives (ECs) under its watch, the ECs' respective Member-Consumer-Owners (MCOs), and vowed to spearhead programs aimed at addressing key issues affecting the power sector.

Around 1,200 EC delegates from all over the country attended the consultative conference organized by the NEA at the Big 8 Corporate Hotel on April 27-28, 2017. The agenda included, among others, proposed plans concerning power distribution utilities and their customers.

The annual gathering also sought to update the ECs and other industry stakeholders regarding the latest vision, policy thrusts, and strategic initiatives of the NEA anchored on the pro-poor agenda of President Rodrigo Duterte.

NEA Chief Edgardo R. Masongsong extended his deep gratitude to EC



Administrator Edgardo R. Masongsong leads the oath-taking of around 6,000 MCOs as National Center of Electric Cooperative Consumers, Inc. (NCECCO) members at the Tagum City Hall on April 26, 2017 (Inset) Ret. General GM Akmad Mamalinta (2nd from left) is the National Chairman

representatives and MCOs for their unwavering support for the rural electrification program of the agency, which was made more evident by the recent

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97 power coops move up in latest NEA assessment

Ninety-seven electric cooperatives (ECs), or 80% out of the 121 ECs in the country are now categorized A or higher, as the NEA released this week the results of the 2016 EC Overall Assessment Performance.

NEA Administrator Edgardo Masongsong said "the results of the assessment attest to NEA's successful campaign efforts to make the ECs more operationally reliant to better serve their MCOs."

"The NEA, together with the 121 ECs nationwide, is one with the thrust of President Rodrigo Duterte in intensifying rural development as a vital component of economic growth. To achieve this, we endeavour to institute more capacity-building programs for the ECs and activate local consumer groups that will help us sustain electrification in the grassroots level," he noted.

All ECs in Western and Central Visayas and Caraga have kept their AAA status, which according to the Administrator have "resulted from the ECs' initiatives to consistently increase efficiencies on financial, institutional, and technical areas of their operations."

Meanwhile, the number of AAA-rated ECs jumped to 77 in 2016 from 70 in

2015. Sixty-nine ECs maintained their AAA status, while eight ECs were able to improve their rating to AAA from either AA, A, or B.

These eight ECs include Panelco I, Beneco, Fleco, Romelco, Canoreco, Ceneco, Noceco, and Doreco.

Of the 77 ECs rated as AAA, 24 scored 100 points, namely Iseco, Luelco, Cagelco I, Tarelco II, Neeco I, Nueva Neeco II – Area 1, Neeco II – Area 2, Presco, Pelco I, Penelco, Ileco II, Cebeco II, Cebeco III, Prosielco, Boheco I, Boheco II, Leyeco V, Socoteco I, Socoteco II, Aselco, Siarelco, Dielco, Surseco I, and Surseco II.

The performance rating is based on two criteria, namely

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Gonzales appointed as new NEA board member

NEA has welcomed the appointment of **Rene M. Gonzales** as new member to the Board of Administrators.

NEA Administrator Edgardo Masongsong introduced Gonzales to the agency's officials and employees during Monday's flag-raising ceremony.

President Rodrigo R. Duterte appointed Gonzales as member of the NEA Board of Administrators, to serve the unexpired term of office ending on June 30, 2017, replacing Victor Chiong last May 22, 2017.



His appointment papers were signed last May 10.

A graduate of Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1978, Gonzales has been in government service for more than 30 years.

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NEA assures intensified collaboration with various power coops

NEA remains focused on building better partnerships with the ECs under its helm as President Rodrigo Duterte is bent on taking the rural electrification drive of the government to another level.

Administrator Edgardo Masongsong issued this statement on April 7, 2017 when he met with the officials and employees of the South Cotabato I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Socoteco I) during his visit at their main office in Koronadal City.

"Let me assure you, I will work really hard for the best interest of the electric cooperative consumers and the electric cooperatives," said Masongsong, who was there to grace the dedication ceremony for the new MCO Center of Socoteco I.

Masongsong also took the opportunity to keep them abreast of the latest policies of NEA under his leadership guided by the 9-point agenda of Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi, which includes, among others, the 100 percent electrification of all Philippine households.

Socoteco I is a mega large coop rated AAA by NEA serving the towns of Banga, Surallah, Santo Niño, Norala, Lake Sebu, T'boli, Tampakan, Tantangan and Koronadal City in South Cotabato, Lutayan in Sultan Kudarat, and the municipalities of Panapan and Buluan in Maguindanao.

The NEA chief, at the same time, encouraged the MCOs in Koronadal City to support President Duterte who has been pushing for a federal form of government to spur local economic growth, especially in Mindanao.

Lastly, Masongsong invited them to participate in the upcoming first National Summit of Electric Consumers this April 26 in Tagum City, Davao del Norte, where around 5,000 delegates from different ECs are expected to gather.

The event is jointly organized by NEA and the National Center of Electric Cooperative Consumers (NCECCO) aimed at formulating action plans that would address long drawn out issues besetting the electricity consumers.

NCECCO is a newly established organization that hopes to unite more than 11 million EC consumer members nationwide towards lobbying for cheaper electricity rates provided by the power generation companies, the grid and the distribution utilities.

NEA rallies NAGMEC support for its legislative agenda

Administrator Edgardo Masongsong rallied all electric cooperatives under its supervision to support the agency's legislative agenda, including the possibility of expanding its authority over all power distribution utilities (DUs).

Masongsong asked the general managers of the electric cooperatives to help him lobby Congress to increase its mandate by putting private investors owned utilities (PIOUs) and private distribution utilities (PDUs) under its charge as well.

"A National Electrification Authority, one body to supervise all DUs whether you are electric cooperative or you are private," he said at the 20th National Conference of the National Association of General Managers of Electric Cooperatives (Nagmec) on June 15.

"Maybe we can do that especially (now) that we have a President who is pro-people, pro-electricity consumers. Maybe this is the time for us to lobby that we will have one agency supervising all DUs," the NEA chief added.

Masongsong also asked the ECs to endorse the refile of House Bill 6080, which hopes to modify the qualifications for, and create a screening committee in the election or appointment of their directors and officers.

Further, the NEA chief said they may also seek funding for the development of renewable energy in their respective franchise areas and push for the creation of a standard charter for the ECs, a magna carta for energy workers, as well as the establishment of Linemen Training Academy.

NEA deepens ties...from page 1

launch of the NCECCO.

NCECCO was formally introduced to the public on April 26, 2017 during the first National Summit of Electric Consumers held at the Atrium of Tagum City Hall, where nearly 6,000 energy users showed up to establish themselves as vital players in the power industry.

This "dramatic exercise of force and fortitude," as Masongsong put it in his speech, was not lost on the NEA. The administrator considered it a "laudable feat" that could significantly help the agency fulfill its mandate of not just to energize the last household but the realize rural development in the country.

"The event is a living proof that indeed the national movement to carve history to change the power industry is now in the making. Change has begun towards realizing the dream of the President to level the playing field in the power industry, thereby uplifting the lives of the vast majority of Filipinos," he said.

Masongsong honored key NCECCO figures during the morning session of the conference led by its National Chairman Akmad Mamalinta, Vice Chairman Reynaldo Lazo, Secretary-General Erico Bucoy, and other officials of the newly-established organization.

Davao del Norte Governor Anthony del Rosario also welcomed the formation of the NCECCO, especially as the movement is seen to gun for solutions that hopefully will improve the power situation in Mindanao, particularly in Davao.

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Task Force Duterte Rinconada lauded for accomplishments



NEA Chief Masongsong (inset) administers the oath of new NCECCO members during the CASURECO III AGMA in Iriga City on June 10, 2017

NEA commended the Task Force Duterte for its efforts to improve the operational performance of the Camarines Sur III Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Casureco III) that resulted in an increase in collection efficiency and reduction in system loss.

During his visit to Casureco III on June 10, NEA Administrator Edgardo Masongsong has nothing but good words for Task Force Duterte Rinconada Power, which has made strides towards improving the management and operations of Casureco III since it took over the cooperative last February.

These accomplishments include improved system loss (14.66 percent as of May), increased collection efficiency (92 percent), and reduced debt (from PhP1.2 billion to PhP900 million). The coop was also able to hold an AGMA, the first time after 30 years.

"This activity is a good indicator after four months of operation and management by the Task Force Duterte Rinconada Power," Masongsong said.

While Task Force Duterte has made significant progress during the past four months, the NEA chief said more work still needs to be done. "Much is still to be done especially those which would involve the electric consumers," he said.

Task Force Duterte presented its accomplishments to thousands of member-consumers who attended Casureco III's AGMA, which was held at the University of Saint Anthony in San Miguel, Iriga City with the theme "Pagbabago Pasiring sa Pag-aseño."

NEA created Task Force Duterte Rinconada Power in a move to improve the management and operations of Casureco III. The agency aims to re-engineer Casureco III into an excellently performing electric cooperative.

Rinconada is the fifth district of Camarines Sur composed of Iriga City and the towns of Baao, Balatan, Bato, Bula, Buhi, Nabua.

97 power coops move up...from page 1

the Key Performance Standards (80%) and the Electric Cooperatives Classification (20%).

The KPS cover 32 financial, institutional, technical, and reportorial compliances indicators and standards, while the EC Classification covers seven financially-driven standards and parameters including power accounts to the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP).

Using the KPS and EC Classification, corresponding ratings were given to scores garnered by ECs, as follows: 95-100 = AAA; 90-94 = AA; 85-89 = A; 75-84 = B; 50-74 = C; and 49 and below = D.

"As we congratulate the best performing ECs in the country, I wish to encourage them to sustain their operations, as well as address the pressing demand for lowering power rates," NEA Administrator Masongsong said.

He added that "the ECs must innovate and not allow their performance to retrogress, as it is through rural electrification that the Member-Consumer-Owners can begin to have access to social services and quality investment and jobs."

Caraga power coop bags NEA support

Citing its compliance to the flagship programs of the NEA, the Surigao del Sur II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Surseco II) has been guaranteed of its 10 percent subsidy funds and other incentives from the agency.

Administrator Edgardo Masongsong gave this assurance following his dialogue with Surseco II Board of Directors (BOD) and Management Staff at their main office in Tandag City, Surigao del Sur on June 2.

Masongsong said the EC has fully liquidated its cash advances for the Barangay Line Enhancement and Sitio Electrification Programs, making it eligible to fresh incentives from the NEA on top of government funding it receives regularly.

The administrator considered this a logical step especially since Surseco II had been addressing its capital expenditure (CapEx) needs through internally-generated funds amid the Energy Regulatory Commission's (ERC) constant inattention to their applications.

The NEA chief advocates for a single-digit system loss for all ECs in accordance with President Rodrigo Duterte's aim to reduce the price of electricity service in the country.

On June 3, the administrator was the guest speaker at the 28th AGMA of Surseco II held at the San Miguel Municipal Gymnasium. For this year, Surseco II adopted the theme "Strengthening the Electric Cooperative through MCO Empowerment".

A total of 4,390 MCOs gathered for the AGMA, which was also held in two other remote locations, the Surseco II headquarters in Tandag City and the Municipality of Madrid. The attendance is more than seven percent of the 64,000-plus billed consumers of the said EC.

Gonzales appointed...from page 1

In his brief remarks, the newly-appointed board member expressed his readiness to help NEA achieve its mission and accomplish its goals.

"I am here to help everybody, to help in the accomplishment of our mission. I am here to promote what is needed for us to achieve and most especially to be of assistance to everybody," Gonzales said.

Gonzales currently serves as Security Executive Director at CIRCA Security and Investigation, Inc. He also previously worked at Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) as Division Chief Intelligence.

He also served in the past as Department Manager for Intelligence and ID and Pass Control Department; and Assistant General Manager for Security and Emergency Services at the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA).



2017 NEA-EC CONFERENCE AND RECOGNITION

Big 8 Corporate H

April 26 -

Cebeco III bags multiple honors at the 2017 Lumens Awards

The Cebu III Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Cebeco III) once again took home top prizes at the recently concluded 2017 Lumens Awards of the NEA, thus cementing its position as the most acclaimed rural electric utility company in the Philippines.

Administrator Edgardo R. Masongsong said, "We congratulate Cebeco III for receiving the Ultra Diamond Award, the highest level of recognition given to an electric cooperative, for its exceptional track record bolstered by its great customer service standards and strong corporate social responsibility."

The coop also bagged six other special awards and citations for garnering consistent AAA categorization rating, posting single-digit system loss, achieving 100% collection efficiency, being compliant in the audit evaluation and attaining the highest level of consumer connections.

Cebeco III General Manager Virgilio Fortich, Jr. was also given the EC Management Award and named Best GM in Visayas for his ideal leadership and commitment to the rural electrification program of the agency.

Based in Toledo City, Cebeco III has been at the forefront of service excellence in the retail power industry for nearly four decades now because of its financial stability, institutional strength and technical efficiency in its operations.

Its sister coops in the Cebu province, Cebeco I and II, also did not go empty-handed as both were granted the Mega Diamond Award. They received other special awards and citations as well in virtually the same categories as Cebeco III.

Other recipients of the Mega Diamond Award were Boheco I, Tarelco II, Pelco I, Penelco, Moresco I, Dasureco and Siarelco.

Dielco, meanwhile, got the Diamond EC for the Emmanuel N. Pelaez (ENP) Award for its exemplary performance in all facets of operations and promoting the best interest of its members, consumers and owners (MCOs).

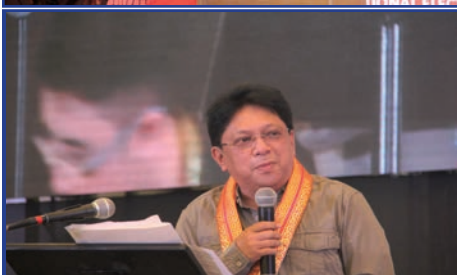
The ENP Award for the Best EC of the Year went to Aselco for its outstanding record and championing the cause of the rural electrification program through the introduction of unconventional yet effective strategies, which other ECs may emulate.

Both the Neeco II-Area 1 and Batelec II were recognized as the Most Improved EC due to a dramatic leap in their overall operational efficiency that led to better services to their MCOs.

Leyeco III, on the other hand, received the EC of the Year Award. This was given to the rural electric utility company that garnered the highest score after the ENP Award has been determined provided that its rating was at least 95 percent.

The winners of all the major awards this year were chosen based on their final scores in the 2016 overall performance assessment, track record over the last three years, consumer connections made, implementation of the sitio electrification program and other best practices.

The awards for the best ECs were attributed to former Vice President Emmanuel N. Pelaez who, as a senator, sponsored Republic Act No. 6038, which called for a nationwide rural electrification program that eventually led to the creation of NEA in 1969.



Top to bottom: (1 & 2) Adm. Masongsong, ASec Jonas Jorge Soriano of the Office of Cabinet Secretary give inspirational messages to the delegates of the NEA-ECs Conference in Tagum City; (3 & 4) Davao del Norte Governor Anthony Del Rosario and Tagum City Mayor Allan Rellon welcome the delegates; (5 & 6) SOCOTECO I & II employees showcase their dance prowess to add color to the celebration; (7) the NEA Lights and Sounds Chorale render meaningful songs to the delight of the participants

AWARDS OF OUTSTANDING ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

Tagaytay Hotel, Tagum City
June 23, 2017

LIST OF MAJOR AWARDEES

Hall of Fame for Diamond EC Award

Ultra Diamond EC

CEBECO III

Mega Diamond EC

BOHECO I
CEBECO I
CEBECO II

DASURECO
MORESCO I
PELCO I

PENELCO
SIARELCO
TARELCO II

Diamond EC Award

DIELCO

Emmanuel N. Pelaez Award for the Best EC of the Year

ASELCO

EC of the Year Award

LEYECO III

Most Improved EC Award

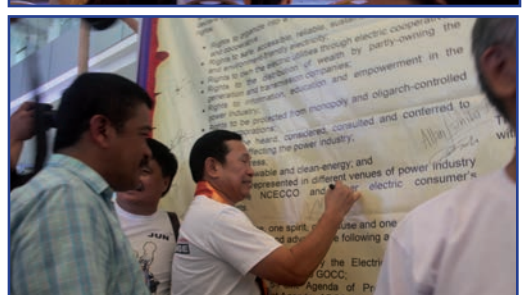
NEECO II-Area 1
BATELEC II

EC Management Award for Exemplary General Manager

Luzon - Gerardo P. Verzosa (BENECON)
Visayas - Virgilio C. Fortich, Jr. (CEBECO III)
Mindanao - Santiago C. Tudio (SOCOTECON I)

EC Consumers Leadership Award for MCO Empowerment

Reynaldo M. Lazo - ABDEC, NCCECCO
Akmad M. Mamalinta, Ph.D. - RECOBODA, NCECCO



Top to bottom (1) CEBECO III garners the Ultra Diamond Award; (2, 3, & 4) BOHECO I, CEBECO I and DASURECO receive their respective Mega Diamond Awards; (5) DIELCO accepts its Diamond Award; (6) Administrator Masongsong leads the NCECCO members in inking their commitment to the Tagum Declaration; (7) the NEA Team



NEA chief wants 'comprehensive' emergency fund for power coops, consumers

NEA chief Edgardo Masongsong has expressed his desire to establish a "comprehensive" emergency fund for electric cooperatives and its member-consumers to assist them in their disaster relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts.

Masongsong visited Iligan City, Lanao del Norte on June 22 to lead the turnover of relief goods and financial assistance to the employees of Lanao Sur Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Lasureco) affected by the continuing military operations against members of the Maute terror group in Marawi City.

In his message before the Lasureco employees, the NEA chief said while he supports the bill that seeks to establish Php750 million fund to enhance the resiliency of the electric cooperatives, the proposed measure only covers the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the distribution lines damaged during disasters.

Masongsong was referring to Senate Bill No. 1461, also known as Electric Cooperatives Emergency and Resiliency Fund Act of 2017.

The former party-list representative for electric cooperatives said his concept of a disaster fund is a comprehensive measure covering the four phases – recovery, relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

"When I was in Congress, I proposed a House Bill creating a disaster fund for electric consumers and electric cooperatives. My concept was a comprehensive disaster fund from recovery to relief to rehabilitation to reconstruction," the NEA chief said.

In the meantime, the NEA chief revealed the agency's plan for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged power lines in the conflict-torn Marawi City. "We will reconstruct the damaged distribution lines in Marawi. We will, likewise, rehabilitate the affected lines surrounding the city," he said.

Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi earlier announced the creation of an inter-agency group to rehabilitate the energy facilities damaged by the ongoing hostilities in Marawi. Members of the group are the Department of Energy, National Power Corporation, Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation, NEA and Lasureco.

Displaced Lasureco employees in Marawi get financial assistance, relief aid

Employees of Lasureco displaced by the month-long armed clashes between the government forces and members of the Maute terror group in Marawi City have received financial assistance from different ECs.

NEA chief Masongsong on June 22, 2017 spearheaded the turnover of relief goods and financial assistance to Task Force Duterte Lanao Sur Power, which currently manages Lasureco, in a simple ceremony held at the cooperative's satellite office in Iligan City.

It was a joint undertaking of NEA and various electric cooperatives' organizations such as the NCECCO,



NEA Chief Masongsong (5th from left and ECMS Deputy Administrator Goldelo R. Rivera (rightmost) join leaders of various EC organization for the turnover of relief goods and financial assistance to displaced Lasureco employees requested by Acting GM Nordjiana Ducol

the Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors Association, Inc. (Recoboda), and the Association of Mindanao Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (Amreco).

They turned over some P130,000 in cash and Php300,000 in checks for a total of Php430,000 to Task Force Duterte Lanao Sur Power headed by Acting General Manager Nordjiana Ducol.

"I am really very thankful to the four groups here present together with the electric cooperatives, helping one another and showing their concern and support," Masongsong told Lasureco employees.

Administrator Masongsong said the NEA has also approved the grant of financial assistance to Lasureco convertible to subsidy and it will be released on staggered basis starting next week for working capital use.

The employees of Lasureco were among the thousands of civilians affected by



NEA Chief Masongsong, together with NCECCO National Chairman Mamalinta and AMRECO President Sergio Dagooc hand over the check to Acting GM Ducol as financial assistance to displaced Lasureco employees.

hostilities in Marawi City. Since the fighting erupted on May 23, the Task Force Duterte has been continuously mobilizing its personnel to ensure the unhampered delivery of basic electricity services to the consumers within its franchise area.

Biselco's 34th AGMA

For exhibiting exemplary performance, Busuanga Island Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Biselco) received commendation from NEA chief Edgardo Masongsong during its 34th Annual General Membership Assembly on June 27.

Biselco held its AGMA at the Coron Coliseum in Barangay Poblacion, Coron, Palawan under the theme "A Breakthrough: Through Unity, Perseverance and String Relations with Member-Consumers and Stakeholders." About 1,200 MCOs of Biselco gathered to attend the event.

Masongsong, commended Biselco for its exemplary performance especially when it continued serving the consumers despite the calamities such as Typhoon Yolanda in 2013.

He also presented the new NEA vision and directions anchored on the nine-point agenda of Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi and the five-point

First electric cooperative drive-through bill payment facility in the country inaugurated in Isabela



The ISELCO I drive-thru bill payment facility

An electric cooperative in Isabela has found a convenient, novel way for its customers to pay their bills quickly: the drive-through.

The Isabela I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Iselco-I) inaugurated the country's first drive-through bill payment facility on May 9, allowing customers to settle their accounts without leaving the comfort of their cars—a convenience that NEA Administrator Edgardo Masongsong hopes can be adopted in other parts of the country to make the payment of electricity bills easier and hassle-free for their member-consumers.

Montano said their customers no longer have to wait in long lines to pay for their power bills at the office, especially during the peak days of collection.

With the drive-thru collection office, it takes only "about a minute" for a consumer to settle his account. The facility also allows busy commuters to avoid the hassle of finding a parking space.

NEA deepens ties...from page 2

"We hope that with your presence here today—and, of course, with yesterday's activity with the electric consumers—we hope that in the last two days you will come up with solutions in order to help Mindanao realize its dream of having cheap supply of electricity," del Rosario said in his remarks.

The consultative conference this year carried the theme "NEA-ECs-MCOs: Forging Change Towards Nation Building." It is a two-day affair that also touched on the federalism plans of President Duterte and its potential impact on the rural electrification program.

The gathering concluded with the signing of the Tagum Declaration and the 2017 Lumens Awards, where top-performing ECs were given awards and citations.

Masongsong graces 41st AGMA and 45th founding anniversary of Laneco

Despite a rather turbulent situation in the south, NEA Chief Edgardo Masongsong pushed through with his scheduled trip to Lanao del Norte on 27 May 2017 to be with electric cooperative consumers for 41st AGMA and 45th founding anniversary of the Lanao del Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Laneco).

The twin events drew around 11,000 Laneco MCOs in attendance at the Mindanao Civic Center Gymnasium with whom the administrator shared updates on the NEA Rural Electrification Program.

Masongsong informed the Laneco MCOs about the strides it has taken leading up to the recent formation of the NCECCO with the plan to establish its own bank.

NCECCO is a movement seeking to unite over 11 million power coop patrons nationwide towards lobbying for cheaper electricity rates as endeavored in the five-point electricity program of President Rodrigo R. Duterte and the nine-point energy policy of Secretary Alfonso G. Cusi.

Masongsong also administered the oath of office of the three newly-elected members to the Laneco Board of Directors (BOD) as well as the membership of those in attendance to the 41st AGMA.

Laneco is a Category A electric cooperative and classified as mega large serving 19 municipalities in Lanao del Norte. It is currently

Panelco I's AGMA

NEA chief Edgardo Masongsong recently extolled the Pangasinan Electric Cooperative I (Panelco I) for empowering majority of its MCOs, which enabled it to reach almost a billion in total assets.

Masongsong met the executives of Panelco I when he graced its 10th Annual General Membership Meeting for the first time last April 1 at the Don Leopoldo Sison Convention Center in Alaminos City.

"I was looking at your annual report and I was pleased because, first of all, your electric cooperative is almost a billionaire electric cooperative with over P900-million assets. So, again, congratulations," the NEA administrator said in his speech.

Masongsong lauded Panelco I for already connecting almost 80,000 MCOs out of its estimated 90,000 potential customers, making it worthy of receiving the AAA rating from NEA in 2016.

He took note of its compliance with key performance standards set by the agency, which includes collection efficiency, financial viability, technical efficiency, system loss and institutional improvements, among others.



Administrator Masongsong (4th from left) receives a Certificate of Appreciation from PS/AGM Sherwin Manañada and the LANECO Board of Directors headed by BOD President Elmira Olavides (2nd and 3rd from left)

led by its BOD President Elmira Olavides and management staff headed by Project Supervisor/ Acting General Manager Sherwin Mañada.

According to the March 31, 2017 data of the NEA, Laneco has accomplished at least 73% or 93,294 of its estimated 127,500 potential connections. It also achieved 100 percent collection efficiency during the 1st quarter of this year and energized all of its 407 barangays and 858 or 74% of the potential 1,167 sitios in its area coverage.



Masongsong said this is vital because one of the aims of NEA under the Duterte administration is to energize all households especially in the rural areas.

"What President Rodrigo Duterte wants us to accomplish is for each house in the country to have access to electricity way before 2022," he noted.

The NEA chief mentioned that he is looking forward to working with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) to pull this off. Panelco I has been registered with the CDA since March 10, 1993.

Panelco I is the exclusive franchise holder to operate an electric light and power services in the City of Alaminos and Municipalities of Agno, Anda, Bani, Bolinao, Burgos, Dasol, Infanta and Mabini, all in the province of Pangasinan.



NEA chief leads mass oath-taking of new NCECCO members

NEA chief Edgardo Masongsong recently administered the mass oath-taking of the delegates from the Cagayan I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Cagelco I) for their membership to the NCECCO.

The ceremony took place during the Cagelco I's 38th AGMA wherein Administrator Masongsong served as a keynote speaker on May 6 at the Cagayan State University in Tuguegarao City, Cagayan.

Among those who took their oath of membership before the NEA Administrator were Cagelco I Board of Directors led by its president, Lorenzo L. Trinidad Jr., and the management staff led by General Manager Tito R. Lingan.

In his address to the more than 4,000 MCOs that attended the AGMA, Masongsong praised Cagelco I for maintaining its AAA category and for being one of the few ECs considered as billionaire cooperative.

At the same time, Administrator Masongsong also took the opportunity to talk about the new NEA direction and the agency's seven-point agenda under his administration.

"This new direction is necessary so that the ECs, under the NEA's leadership, can adopt to the challenge of change and serve as catalysts of President's oft-spoken desire for accelerated growth in the countryside," he said.

Moreover, Masongsong presented the background and the purpose of NCECCO, a movement that seeks to unite and empower the more than 11 million MCOs all over the country.

"Consumers, being the driving force behind cooperativism in the energy sector, must strive towards more involvement and participation in shaping the future of the ECs," the NEA chief said.

Biselco's 34th AGMA ... from page 6

electricity agenda of President Duterte. He also introduced the NCECCO and officiated the mass oath-taking for their membership to NCECCO.

Biselco is categorized as a medium-sized electric cooperative (EC) and an AA-rated EC with 100 percent collection efficiency, 10.38 percent system loss and a minimal unbundled average power rate for residential consumers of only PhP8.5449/kWh.

Though it still has to energize some 39 percent potential households or 9,000, Biselco is at present has a demand of more or



NEA head Masongsong receives a Certificate of Appreciation from the Biselco Board of Directors led by Board President Francisco S. Espina and GM Ruth L. Galang the coop's 34th AGMA

less 4.7MW served by the Calamian Islands Power Corp. (CIPC), which has an installed capacity of 7.5MW in Coron and 910kW in Busuanga.

Over 5,000 Beneco consumers take oath as new members of NCECCO

Some 5,300 member-consumers of the Benguet Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Beneco) on Saturday, June 17, took their oaths as new members of the NCECCO.

Administrator Edgardo Masongsong led the mass oath-taking during Beneco's 37th AGMA.

Established last January, NCECCO is a national organization that seeks to empower all the electricity consumers nationwide. It serves as a movement of the electric cooperatives (ECs) and member-consumer-owners (MCOs) towards strategic positioning in the power industry and in pursuit of socio-political-economic-cultural-environmental development through rural electrification.



NEA Chief Masongsong joins the new NCECCO members as they take oath during the 37th AGMA of BENECO in Baguio City on 17 June 2017.

Masongsong was the guest speaker at the coop's AGMA held at the Baguio City National High School. He was joined by Energy Undersecretary Benito Ranque, Beneco Board President Rocky Aliping, and General Manager Gerardo Verzosa.

He congratulated Beneco for earning several awards at the 2017 Lumens Awards of NEA held in Tagum City, Davao del Norte last April 28. Among the awards that Beneco bagged were AAA EC, Single Digit System Loss for the Year, Best in Collection Performance Award, Lowest Power Rate, and Model Headquarters Facilities Award.

The NEA chief also took the opportunity to thank Beneco for its active participation in the Task Force Kapatid in the aftermath of Typhoons 'Lawin' and 'Karen.' Beneco's AGMA this year carried the theme "A New Dawn for Beneco: Pursuing Global Competitiveness."

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