

29 MARCH 2022, TUESDAY



DENR

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR Receives Bronze Excellence Award from PACC



Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna (right) receives the Anti-Corruption Committee Bronze Excellence Award conferred to the [DENR](#) by the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) from DENR Assistant Secretary for Enforcement, Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Atty. Daniel Darius M. Nicer during the flag-raising ceremony at the DENR Central Office on March 14, 2022. The award is in recognition of the agency's continuing efforts in strengthening its anti-corruption systems and processes in support of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte administration's campaign for good governance, and public accountability, and as reflected by its accomplishments as partner agency of the PACC under Project Kasangga: Aksyon Kontra Korapsyon program. The PACC recognition day was held in celebration of its 4th Founding Anniversary.



Boracay rehabilitation finished by June 30

by Tara Yap



ILOILO CITY—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) assured that the rehabilitation programs at world-famous Boracay Island will be completed by June 30, the end of the Duterte administration.

“If not for the Covid-19 pandemic, the rehabilitation programs would have already been completed. But we’re almost there,” said Martin Jose Despi, the new general manager of the DENR-led Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation Management Group (BIARMG).

Despi told Manila Bulletin in a phone interview that the overall rating for the rehabilitation program is around 8.5 in the scale of 10.

“Based on laboratory works, the safety level of the water at the front beach has greatly improved,” Despi said.

Despi added that the BIARMG recently conducted a three-day meeting for assessing the remaining works needed to be done at the resort island in Malay town, Aklan province.

The various government agencies reviewed the parameters of the Boracay Action Plan (BAP), which is the guidebook for the rehabilitation works that began in April 2018 when the country’s most famous beach destination was temporarily closed to tourists for six months.

Some of the remaining works that need to be ironed out involve the alleged illegal structures in the forestlands, wetlands or near the shoreline.

“We are prioritizing the removal of commercial structures and not the residential structures due to human considerations,” said Despi.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was inked with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), National Housing Authority (NHA), provincial government of Aklan, and municipal government of Malay for relocation of local residents affected by the rehabilitation program.



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LIVE sa dzBB: USec Jonas Leones, Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs ng DENR.

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 USec Leones, DENR kaugnay sa Dolomite beach: Sa amin ay gusto na naming buksan pero ang nagiging problema ay yung mga on going works pa roon, may mga inaayos pa.

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 USec Leones, DENR kaugnay sa Dolomite beach: Kinukumpleto pa natin ang Dolomite beach, ang gagawin natin pag nagbukas tayo sa katapusan ng April ay hanggang 500 meters na, may CR ng nakahanda at may tubig na pangligo na galing sa Maynilad.

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DZBB Super Radyo @dzbb · 13h
 USec Leones, DENR kaugnay sa Dolomite beach: Maglalagay din tayo ng mga umbrella, nakabili na tayo ng 20 dahil napakainit doon.

DZBB Super Radyo @dzbb · 13h
 USec Leones, DENR kaugnay sa Dolomite beach: May oras lamang ang pagdalaw sa Dolomite, kailangan magregister online, parang sinehan na after 2 hours maglilinis tayo para sa mga susunod na papasok.

Source:

<https://twitter.com/dzbb/status/1508364486796709892?s=20&t=tgDFdVrvBF6QWiKhcUjNH0g>

Legarda pushes for mangrove greenbelts in coastal communities



Senator Loren Legarda pushed for the planting and rehabilitation of mangroves along the shorelines of vulnerable coastal communities to serve as natural buffers against storm surges, flooding, erosion, and other climate hazards.

Legarda also called on the Climate Change Commission, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and other national and local government agencies to follow a “Building with Nature” approach to develop and implement ecosystem-based coastal defense measures alongside existing risk reduction measures.

“We have long understood the workings of nature and learning once more from the experience from Typhoons Odette and Yolanda. In natural settings, mangroves have effectively protected our most vulnerable communities, lowering the storm surge and dampening the waves within the first few hundreds of meters of forest. A mangrove greenbelt of hundreds of meters wide can play a critical role in reducing wind or swell waves, thus reducing erosion, flooding, and storm surges and preventing loss of life and damage to properties.” Legarda said.

“We need to work with and alongside natural processes. Nature-based solutions, such as planting mangrove greenbelts, are right in front of us and have been very effective in preventing further loss and damage. Our development plans should support a more extensive planting and rehabilitation of mangroves and recognize them as a fundamental part of the local economy in growing fish population and biodiversity, capturing carbon, and providing forest products and recreation,” Legarda added.

Legarda recalled that during the onslaught of Typhoon Odette, which brought torrential rains, violent winds, and storm surges in Surigao del Norte and Dinagat, provinces in Central Visayas, and the island of Palawan, the coastal municipality of Del Carmen in Siargao was miraculously spared from storm surges because it is home to 4,871 hectares of mangroves, the largest such forest in the Philippines.

She added that during Typhoon Yolanda, the world’s deadliest storm in 2013, Barangay Parina in Giporlos, Eastern Samar, was also saved from storm surges by its mangrove forests of nine hectares. The forest served as the community’s protective cover when water surged inland. On the other hand, Bacjao, a nearby barangay but located outside the mangrove area, was completely destroyed.

As Chair of the Senate Committees on Finance and Climate Change in 2016, then Senator Legarda had pushed for the prioritization and earmarking of funds under the National Greening Program for mangrove reforestation.

Still, Legarda recognizes that there remains a need for a comprehensive and integrated policy on mangroves that could support nature-based and sustainable climate adaptation measures to protect vulnerable communities and their livelihoods from the devastating impacts of extreme weather and disasters.



“We need to invest in nature’s solutions. Integrated coastal zone management will help address the root causes of coastal vulnerability. We need to involve local communities and stakeholder groups in both the design and implementation of zoning plans and management plans. We must provide incentives to the community to act as local custodians of the mangrove forests, or offer climate-resilient livelihoods linked to the management of the greenbelt,” Legarda said.

“For those living along our coastlines, the risks are growing, as climate change drives rising sea levels, warmer oceans and increasingly ferocious cyclones. We need to institutionalize climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures and embrace the available solutions that nature presents to us,” Legarda concluded.



Concern over proposed power plant raised

Based on the project timeline, construction and site development will start on the third quarter of this year while its commercial operation will commence on the second quarter of 2024

TACLOBAN CITY — Environmentalists and survivors of super typhoon “Yolanda” recently expressed concerned on the proposed construction of a 600-megawatts power plant in the northwestern town of Tabango.

According to Coalition of Yolanda Survivors and Partners convener Fara Diva Gamalo, the project’s proponent has not been forthright to the host community the potential ill-effect of the power plant to the health and the environment and its contribution to global warming that has caused strong typhoons such as “Yolanda.”

“We do not want another “Yolanda.” It was a wakeup call that the climate crisis is real, and that it is in the best interest of the communities hit by the typhoon for industries that make the climate situation worse end as soon as possible,” Gamalo said.

She noted that the proposed 600-MW Liquefied Natural Gas Combined Cycle Power Plant eyed to be constructed in the remote coastal community of Tugas in Tabango town will set-up a wide range of facilities for the energy generation as well as a jetty to receive the transported gas, water treatment and pollution control facilities and administration building.

Based on the project timeline, construction and site development will start on the third quarter of this year while its commercial operation will commence on the second quarter of 2024.

The whole project is estimated to cost P41.5 billion.

Meantime, Tabango town Mayor Bernard Jonathan Remandaban said that he welcomes the project as it will not only generate employment for the locals but will also help spur economic development for the community and the municipality.

Remandaban, however, is asking the company to exercise extra caution to ensure that it will not cause any ill-effect to the health of the people and to the environment.



Las Piñas at Makati, kabilang sa mga nakiisa sa Earth Hour

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PTV is funded in whole or in part by the Philippine government. [Wikipedia](#)

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Earth Hour savings reach 65.32 MW

As per the projections of the Energy Utilization Management Bureau, the implementation of these measures will reduce electricity demand in the Luzon grid alone by up to 24 megawatts – equivalent to the P840 million cost of establishing a diesel power plant

BY MARIA ROMERO
@tribunephil_mbr

The country saved a total of 65.32 megawatts (MW) during the one-hour switch-off of non-essential lights on Saturday – with the largest savings of 35.26 MW reported in Luzon, 15.3 MW in Mindanao, and 14.76 MW in the Visayas.

“We hope to sustain this reduction through consistent energy efficiency and conservation practices. The first step is to be mindful of our energy consumption habits, especially during periods of high demand such as this summer season,” Department of Energy (DoE) Secretary Alfonso G. Cusi said on Monday.

In partnership with the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, the country celebrated Earth Hour 2022 last Saturday, 26 March, with participants from various sectors.

Representatives from the private and public sectors conducted ceremonial switch-offs in public and communal grounds, along with private individuals who participated in this event in the safety of their homes.

The theme, “Save our Future”, with the hashtag #CONNECT2EARTH, called for unity in the urgent restoration of our natural world and the stabilization of our climate for a better future.

“These goals need to be realized in a manner that is fair to all amid the challenges of climate change, nature loss, and the Covid-19 pandemic,” the DoE said.

The DoE has committed to continue pushing for the promotion of “energy efficiency and conservation as a way of life” in our country.

Last week, the energy department issued the “Mandatory Implementation of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs and the Strict Observance of the Government Energy Management Program (GEMP) Guidelines.”

The strict implementation of the GEMP aims to save at least 10 percent in electricity and fuel consumption to mitigate the adverse impacts of the Russia-Ukraine crisis. It also helps secure the availability of electricity during the dry season, especially during the national and local elections.

As per the projections of the Energy Utilization Management Bureau, the implementation of these measures will reduce electricity demand in the Luzon grid alone by up to 24 megawatts – equivalent to the P840 million cost of establishing a diesel power plant.



Bishop joins opposition against Pasig River expressway



This Aug. 16, 2015 shows the first ever fluvial procession of the image of the historic Santo Niño de Cebu on the Pasig River. (CBCP News/File photo)

A Catholic bishop has warned of negative consequences if the controversial Pasig River Expressway (PAREX) project pushes through.

In a [pastoral statement](#) issued Friday, Bishop Mylo Hubert Vergara of Pasig said the P95-billion investment by conglomerate San Miguel Corp. “is not a solution to ease the traffic but will worsen our future”.

The PAREX, he said, goes against the need to protect and, most of all, rehabilitate the historic river.

“We do not need another project like an expressway in order to be called a ‘livable city’ that will cause harm and death,” Vergara said.

The PAREX is a 19.37-kilometer and six lane elevated concrete behemoth, which traverses the entirety of Pasig River from Radial Road 10 in Manila to C-6 Road or the South East Metro Manila Expressway in Taguig.

The prelate was the latest to oppose the PAREX, joining various other organizations and coalitions.

Vergara said the project “will be detrimental to the river itself, its surrounding communities, and to Metro Manila at large”.

Among other reasons, the diocese is opposing the project because of its impact on ecology, health and culture.

The bishop said the PAREX will dredge several parts of the river, which “can make the flooding worse” and “can also make water quality worse by releasing buried toxins”.

He added that the project will not just cause health problems from the increased air and noise pollution in the vicinity but “will also destroy our heritage”.

Vergara also said the river is “a silent witness to history”, adding for instance the journey of the first Augustinian missionaries who were believed to have passed through the river towards Maybunga and Pinagbuhatan.

“We should not allow PAREX to erase our river of memory and to kill the river of life forever,” he said.

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/trends-spotlights/2022/03/28/213727/bishop-joins-opposition-against-pasig-river-expressway/>



Envisioning green cities

BYKPMG PERSPECTIVES

ACROSS government and private enterprise, local leaders see climate change as an opportunity to create places that are not just environmentally friendly but also socially equitable.

It's an ambitious goal and it makes a daunting challenge all the more difficult. Some even question whether it's feasible. Can both aims be achieved in the time we have? Should social justice aspirations get in the way of ecological action? Or to hit carbon reduction targets, do we just need to stop doing things, whatever the social consequences?

There are things that we'll need to stop doing. But we should see this as a chance to tackle inequality. Green energy, technologies and ways of living can help us address issues such as economic deprivation; poor housing and access to healthcare; and disparate educational attainment.

Leaders also see the green transition as an opportunity to drive economic prosperity, enhancing our cities as places to live and work. They believe it's a chance to create secure jobs in green industries; and promote the skills needed to perform them. That will in turn enable localities to draw in enterprise and talent. The pandemic has increased demand for housing in areas that are better connected to nature: being recognized as a "green city" will be important to attracting businesses and skills.

There's a need to build enthusiasm and demonstrate the opportunities to create new business models, products and services that the green transition will generate. Embracing systems thinking and understanding the connections between different actions will help them identify and quantify the benefits of the transition. Yes, they may have to spend in the short term, but green propositions should prove more profitable over the long term. And not offering them will erode investor, employee, and customer confidence.

Businesses can expect a far greater emphasis on social value and carbon reduction from investors, regulators and customers. And they'll need to anticipate larger and more frequent climate events, and a growing demand for net gains to be measured in biodiversity and environmental terms. In this context, different sorts of investment and strategic decisions will emerge.

Questions remain about whether the best decisions are being made, and how actions in one area will impact efforts elsewhere. What's required in this context is a systems view of climate change. We need to map the complex interactions between different elements of the built and natural environment; and the impact of actions in one area on another.

Biophilic design—where the natural habitat is incorporated when designing spaces—provides a good example of this "systems" effect. It not only improves physical and mental health but has also been shown to boost creativity and productivity, enhance learning outcomes, and even reduce crime levels.

Achieving the vision of green, fair and prosperous places will require high-level strategies supported by an implementation plan that recognizes—but is not constrained by—the complex web of interdependencies in which we operate. That said, we can't wait while we develop a systems understanding of the problem. We need to start working on the quick wins now.

The excerpt was taken from the KPMG Thought Leadership publication "Voices of Place: The Green City-KPMG United Kingdom" (<https://home.kpmg/uk/en/home/insights/2022/02/voices-of-place-the-green-city.html>).



Green investments

BY MANNY B. VILLAR



IN the not-so-distant future, motor vehicles running on Edsa and other thoroughfares will be fueled by biomass, hydro dams, geothermal energy, and wind and solar power. Electric-powered vehicles and public transportation, and renewable energy sources are the new normal and the wave of the future.

They should be among the growth drivers of the Philippine economy tomorrow. And as the Ukraine-Russia conflict heats up and affects commodity prices, we need to invest in our future and reduce our reliance on fossil fuel.

We still depend heavily on imported fuel to power our transport and power sectors. We tap diesel generators in case of emergencies or power blackout. This dependence has exposed us to the vagaries of the global crude market caused by geopolitical tensions and thinning supply. Even our own reserves of natural gas are nearing depletion, raising concern on our energy security in the coming years.

We should not be many years away from massively adopting electric vehicles, in place of traditional gasoline-fed or diesel-powered automobiles. Some of our Asian neighbors are already following in the footsteps of the United States and Europe. Hyundai of South Korea last week launched the first electric car assembly plant in Indonesia. Our neighboring nation is taking advantage of its rich natural resources used in the production of electric vehicles. Indonesia, apart from being the largest nickel producer in the world, has rich deposits of copper ores, cobalt and bauxite—the crucial raw materials used in the production of EVs.

In India, Suzuki Motor is investing \$1.3 billion on electric vehicle and battery production to help the South Asian country in its bid to achieve carbon neutrality. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi signed the investment agreement in the Indian state of Gujarat to showcase India's fight against climate change.

The Philippines can receive this kind of foreign investment through the right mix of fiscal incentives and other business-friendly policies. If there is an economic activity that can attract more foreign capital, protect our environment and support growth in a sustainable manner at the same time, it is the development of renewable energy projects, or simply green power plants, along with the promotion of EVs.

If we are to become a high-income country, we must draw more foreign capital on top of the \$10 billion that we generate annually. Singapore, a high-income Southeast Asian country with a population of just over 5 million, gets \$100 billion in foreign direct investments each year.



But the Philippines, as I've said in my previous column, is now in an ideal position to fully reopen the economy and lure foreign investments. Our improving health situation will help us in our goal to attract more foreign capital, especially in the renewable energy sector. For one, foreign investors look for the stability and affordability of power supply, especially if they want to build energy-intensive projects, such as hyperscale data centers.

Our private sector is very receptive to green energy, or indigenous power sources such as solar, wind and hydropower, in support of their sustainability objectives. Many local power companies are also up to the task of meeting the rising demand for clean power from natural sources.

My own PAVI Green Renewable Energy Inc., for one, looks to expand its clean energy portfolio, especially solar, wind and hydropower projects. It is a part of our environmental responsibility, which has always been at the heart of our operations, to support sustainable and resilient communities.

Financing support and tax incentives from the government will make the renewable energy sector economically feasible. We need to ensure that we have adequate, affordable and clean power to meet the requirements of our growing economy, including the transportation sector, which is now partly run by electricity in the forms of mass transit systems and a few personal mobility vehicles.

If we are able to fully transition to electric vehicles in this decade and most of our power plants produce clean energy, we will be in a better position to protect our economy from the fluctuation of global fuel prices and mitigate the impact of climate change for a more sustainable future. Energy security and environment protection are critical components of economic expansion.



FNI income rises on surge in nickel prices last year

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

Despite experiencing bad weather conditions throughout last year's mining season, Global Ferronickel Holdings Inc. (FNI) said its net income rose by nearly 6 percent to P1.98 billion in 2021, from the previous year's P1.87 billion.

The country's second-largest nickel ore producer said its revenues last year were up by P445.5 million, or 6.1 percent, to P7.71 billion in 2021 versus the P7.26 billion recorded in 2020.

"2021 has been a good year for FNI as we received the Presidential Mineral Industry Environmental Award. It is the highest honor bestowed upon responsible mining companies by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources," FNI President Dante R. Bravo said.

"We are also delighted with the continued surge in nickel prices, which has allowed us to grow our top and bottom line despite having experienced relatively bad weather conditions throughout last year's mining season."

Bravo said bad weather caused the company's shipment volume to fall by 13.1 percent as it managed to ship 90 vessels of nickel ore for a total of 4.887 million wet metric ton (WMT) in 2021 against the 103 vessels totaling 5.625 million WMT in 2020.

The resulting product mix was 77 percent (3.761 million WMT) low-grade ore and 23 percent (1.126 million WMT) medium-grade ore in 2021 versus last year's mix of 68 percent (3.831 million WMT) low-grade ore and 32 percent (1.794 million WMT) medium-grade ore.

FNI's overall average realized nickel ore price for the year ended December 31, 2021, was higher by 21.5 percent, \$31.78/WMT compared to \$26.16/WMT for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Meanwhile, low-grade ore was 22.2 percent higher at \$30.07/WMT in 2021 compared to \$24.61/WMT in 2020. Medium-grade ore was 27.2 percent higher at \$37.47/WMT in 2021 compared to \$29.47/WMT in 2020.

"We are hoping to have more favorable weather conditions in our Cagdianao site this year to boost production," Bravo said.



Coastal conservation project renewed

By [Leander C. Domingo](#)



United States Peace Corps Country Director Jenner Edelman and Rare Philippines Senior Director Lito Mancao sign a new five-year memorandum of understanding to jointly support sustainable coastal resource and fisheries management. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THE United States (US) Peace Corps and Rare Philippines, an international nongovernment organization, recently signed a new five-year memorandum of understanding (MoU) to jointly support sustainable coastal resource and fisheries management.

The US Embassy in the Philippines said 29 local government units (LGUs) from across the Philippines joined the event on March 18, which coincided with the week-long US Peace Corps-led training on community-based coastal resource management.

The US Peace Corps is the US government's premier volunteer organization and has supported Filipino communities across the country for more than 60 years.

The Embassy said the training was for LGU office heads, fisheries and agricultural officers, and environment officers that have a coastal resource management program.

US Peace Corps Country Director Jenner Edelman said they were pleased to be renewing their partnership with the Rare Philippines to build resilient and sustainable coastal communities in the Philippines and "together, we can restore and protect marine habitats and promote sustainable fisheries management."

"Our continued collaboration with the US Peace Corps will amplify how sustainable fishing behaviors improve fish stock productivity and enable us to continue co-designing and sharing innovative, practical solutions with LGU partners to protect the country's marine environment," Rare Philippines Senior Director Lito Mancao said.

The community-based coastal resource management training for LGU partners was organized by the US Peace Corps and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAid).

The US Peace Corps said this was the first of a series of USAid-supported capacity development workshops planned for this year that will help local partners protect biodiversity in the Philippines.

It said the corps has also conducted a second training on zero-waste programming for youth councils and their LGU counterparts from March 21 to 25 in Bohol.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/03/28/news/regions/coastal-conservation-project-renewed/1837852>



Taal, patuloy ang pag-aalboroto

By [Angie dela Cruz](#)



MANILA, Philippines — Patuloy ang pag-aalboroto ng Bulkang Taal kahit hindi ito nakapagtala ng volcanic earthquakes sa nakalipas na 24 oras.

Gayunman, ayon sa Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs), may naganap na 'upwelling' ng mainit na volcanic gas sa lawa ng main crater na lumikha ng plume na may taas na 1,000 metro na napadpad sa Timog-Kanluran.

Nagbuga rin ang bulkan ng sulfur dioxide na may 1,140 tonelada kada araw.

Patuloy na ipinagbabawal ng Phivolcs ang pagpasok ng sinuman sa Taal Volcano Island na isang Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) at sa high-risk barangays ng Agoncillo at Laurel sa Batangas.

Ipinagbabawal din ng Phivolcs ang lahat ng aktibidad sa Taal Lake, at ang pagpapalipad ng anumang aircraft malapit sa naturang bulkan.

Pinaalalahanan din ng Phivolcs ang publiko na mag-ingat at iwasan na lumapit sa TVI dahil sa posibleng biglaang pagputok ng bulkan, pyroclastic density currents o base surge, volcanic tsunami, ashfall, o volcanic gas.



Bulkang Taal, posibleng sumabog ulit kahit zero quakes mula Linggo

BATANGAS – May posibilidad pa rin na muling sumabog ang Bulkang Taal kahit na walang naitalang volcanic earthquake sa paligid nito mula noong Linggo.

Ayon kay PHIVOLCS director Undersecretary Renato Solidum Jr, ang biglaang pagbaba ng sulfur dioxide emission noong Linggo sa 1,140 tonelada ay maaaring resulta ng harang sa main crater.

“Posible pang magkaroon ng mga pagsabog diyan sa Taal Volcano, lalong-lalo na sa main crater kasi ‘yung magma ay nandiyan sa mababaw na parte at ang interaksyon ng magma at tubig ang sanhi ng pagpapasabog,” ani Solidum sa panayam sa Balitanghali.

“Kung mapapansin din natin, bumaba nang bigla ang sulfur dioxide gas kahapon, mahigit 1,000 lamang at posibleng nagkaron ng pagbara sa daanan ng gas kaya nagkakaran pa rin ng pressurization,” dagdag niya.

Bagama’t walang mga pagyanig at patuloy naman sa pag-akyat sa bunganga ng bulkkan ang mainit na volcanic fluid na lumilikha ng usok na may taas na 1,000 metro.

“Ang pagtaas ng alert level ay walang time window. Kapag nakakita tayo ng parametro na nagsasabing posibleng magkakaroon ng mas malalakas na pagsabog, pwede tayo magtaas kaagad,” paliwanag niya.

“Yung pagbaba ng alert level, for example, from 3 to 2, ay kailangan natin ng dalawang linggo na makita natin na talagang tuluyang humuhupa at bumaba ang mga parametro na ating nasusukat diyan sa Taal Volcano,” dagdag niya.

Kasalukuyang nasa Alert Level 3 ang Bulkang Taal. **RNT/ JCM**



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DENR, foundation to revive Surigao mangroves

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Jaime V. Ongpin Foundation, Inc. have signed a memorandum of agreement for the restoration and rehabilitation of mangroves severely affected in Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte by Typhoon Odette in December last year.

The JVOFI would provide P10 million to cover the cost of restoration and rehabilitation of storm-damaged mangroves, particularly in the municipalities of Del Carmen, Dapa, General Luna, San Benito, and Socorro in Surigao del Norte and for the implementation of solid-waste management activities in the island.

In 2019, the Del Carmen mangrove site was awarded the Para El Mar Best Mangrove Award in the Philippines by the Marine Protected Areas Support Network.

DENR-Region 13 (Caraga), Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office in Surigao del Norte, and Community Environment and Natural Resources Office in Dapa would serve as project implementers.

They would conduct the identification and delineation of the 143-hectare mangrove site and determine the mode of plantation establishment, protection, and maintenance.

In the MoA signing on March 15, acting Environment and Natural Resources Sec. Jim Sampulna and JVOFI president Reinaldo Bautista Jr. agreed to conduct a three-year post-disaster restoration and rehabilitation.

Odette ravaged agriculture, infrastructure, and environment on the island and damaged the mangroves planted through the National Greening Program.



LIBO-LIBONG PILIPINO ANG NAKILAHOK SA TAUNANG EARTH HOUR 2022

KAUGNAY sa paggunita ng buong mundo sa taunang Earth Hour nitong March 26 ay pinasalaman ni DENR o Department of Environment and Natural Resources acting secretary Jim Sampulna ang mga Pilipino na nakiisa sa makahulugang pagpatay ng ilaw sa loob ng isang oras para sa maayos na pamamahala ng kapaligiran bilang bahagi ng "new normal lifestyle."

Noong April 2021 nang nagsumite ang Pilipinas ng Nationality Determined Contribution sa UNFCCC o ang

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change kung saan ay nangako ang bansa sa inaasahang pagbaba ng greenhouse gas emissions sa 75% kung saan 2.71% dito ay unconditional habang ang 72.29% naman ay conditional para sa taong 2020 hanggang 2030.

Para sa DENR acting secretary, ang ambisyosong mithiin na ito ay hindi matutupad kung ang gobyerno lamang ang kikilos at ang tao ay mananatili lamang sa kanilang nakagawiang pamuhay na nakakasira sa ka-



paligiran.

Upang labanan ang ilang suliraning pang-kapaligiran sa bansa, nangako si Sampulna na ipagpapatuloy ng bansa ang pagpapatupad sa environmental laws tulad ng Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2001, Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 at ang Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004. Sa kanyang pamamahala, ipagpapatuloy din ng DENR ang pagpapalakas sa National Greening Program at protektahan ang 8.7 million ektarya ng kagubatan, kabilang ang panganga-laga sa mga protected areas at biodiversity ng terrestrial at marine ecosystems ng bansa.

Binigyang diin ng acting DENR secretary ang kahalagahan ng mga kolektibong aksiyon ng bawat isa upang labanan ang climate change tulad ng paghikayat sa mga Pilipino na gumamit ng bisikleta at mass transport vehicles, bilang tugon na rin sa

krisis-petrolyo na hinaharap ng bansa. Pinaalalahanin din ni Sampulna ang publiko na magtipid sa tubig partikular na ngayong panahon ng tag-init. Samantala, para naman sa ralalapit na eleksiyon, hinikayat ni Sampulna ang Filipinong botante na piliin ang pinuno na bibigyan ng prayoridad ang climate change mitigation.

Nitong March 26 sa pamamagitan ng pagpatay ng kanilang computers, television sets, air conditioning units at mga hindi kinakailangang ilaw ng mula 8:30 hanggang 9:30 ng gabi ay libo-libong mga Pilipino ang nakilahok sa gawain.

Ang Earth Hour movement, na inorganisa ng World Wide Fund for Nature, ay sinimulan sa Sydney, Australia noong taong 2007 hanggang sa ito'y maging annual symbolic action sa buong mundo na lumaganap na sa mahigit 7,000 lungsod at sa 180 bansa at teritoryo.



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

No fast road to recovery

Every week, it seems that we are trying to carve out a new path forward. Our primary concern has been surviving the pandemic for the past two years. And then it became finding ways to work remotely and still be productive. Eventually, that gave way to slowly venturing outside again. Now, we are trying to determine the best way forward in a new/old world.

I've written about this in the past, but the thing is, moving forward as the pandemic slowly begins to recede is not as easy as most make it out to be.

INTROSPECTIVE



**TONY F.
KATIGBAK**

I can clearly understand the desire to return to life before COVID-19. After all, we all want to feel safe again and be with friends and family. But as I've said before, this isn't always about just going "back to business as usual." We should focus on living better. Instead, it seems like traffic is back, and people are flooding the streets.

While our COVID-19 numbers are promising and lower compared to many of the countries around us, we have to ask ourselves if this is because we are safely dodging the bullet or because we have just given up tracking accurately? We had many problems tracking and tracing during the height of the pandemic, so it stands to reason that we aren't doing any better now.

But as long as the hospitals aren't overflowing, that is undoubtedly good news. Perhaps we moved quickly enough to get people vaccinated and boosted, giving us a good blanket of protection. We need to keep this up to stay on the ball. But at the same time, we need to be open-minded about what we should maintain and what we need to change.

I have been hearing of companies requiring teams to return to the office 100 percent, and I can't help but wonder why such a move is necessary so quickly. Most claim it's for tax purposes and multinationals want to ensure they can keep their tax breaks. Because of this, they need their workforce back at the office.

While it's understandable, it's a pity to think that we aren't enabling or supporting innovative hybrid or remote work operations for tax purposes alone. Shouldn't we promote creative ways of working that are both beneficial for companies and boost the employee experience at the same time? Instead, we are too busy rushing back to the way things were before the global health crisis.

We're all rushing to be back outside our homes again, but is this the best way forward? Of course, socialization is important, but the most pressing concern these days is that we don't seem to really be applying anything that we've learned in the past 24 months.

I hope people strive to be more forward-thinking. Business recovery is an essential part of economic recovery, but at the same time, we should build business resilience. Many of us struggled at the start of the pandemic because we weren't forward-thinking, and we shouldn't keep repeating the same mistakes. What's more, we need to do our best to maintain the mindset we had when lockdowns first began – decrease our consumption and try to live eco-friendlier lives.

What we need to do is find efficient new ways to work. In-person is important for many businesses, but we've also proven that remote work can be just as efficient if not more so. With the rising cost of fuel and the steady increase in fuel consumption and carbon emissions, we should look for ways to help people conserve and decrease their carbon footprint instead of making them consume more.

When the lockdowns began, we were all so worried about scarcity. Because of that, we worked hard to reuse and be cautious about consumption. In many ways, during this period, we saw that the world was able to breathe again as we were all forced indoors. Fossil fuel emissions were improved, and there was a bit of a break on the strain humanity causes to the planet.

But now, we are quickly going back to the way things were. Focused on deadlines, meetings, etc., forgetting that our consumption is steadily increasing again. We still need to be very careful because we're in the 11th hour as far as the planet goes.

The world is getting warmer, and we are all steadily contributing to the Earth's slow destruction. Over the weekend, we saw that Taal Volcano was active again. It was just another in a long series of natural disasters that keep happening to remind us what will happen if we don't course-correct, and soon.

This March, we celebrated Earth Hour. It's a timely reminder that we all have a part to play in improving and saving the world. Resiliency isn't for business alone. We need to build environmental resiliency too. For a minimum of at least one-hour last weekend, we all turned off our lights and electronic gadgets in solidarity with everyone worldwide. It's a nice symbolic gesture, but one that must be coupled with action if we actually want to make a difference.

So as we continue to find ways to live in the newest normal available, let's practice safety protocols and look for more ways to be efficient and eco-friendly. We already know what we need to do. Let's all make a commitment together to do it. Focus on reusing and recycling to lower our consumption and improve our carbon footprint.

Let's be proactive and stop waiting for things to worsen before we take action. We never know when it's going to be too late.



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

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BY ELMER RECUERDO

TACLOBAN CITY – Environmentalists and survivors of super typhoon “Yolanda” recently expressed concerned on the proposed construction of a 600-megawatts power plant in the northwestern town of Tabango.

According to Coalition of Yolanda Survivors and Partners convener Fara Diva Gamalo, the project’s proponent has not been forthright to the host community the potential ill-effect of the power plant to the health and the environment and its contribution to global warming that has caused strong typhoons such as “Yolanda.”

“We do not want another “Yolanda.” It was a wakeup call that the climate crisis is real, and that it is in the best interest of the communities hit by the typhoon for industries that make the climate situation worse end as soon as possible,” Gamalo said.

She noted that the proposed 600-MW Liquefied Natural Gas Combined Cycle Power

Plant eyed to be constructed in the remote coastal community of Tugas in Tabango town will set-up a wide range of facilities for the energy generation as well as a jetty to receive the transported gas, water treatment and pollution control facilities and administration building.

Based on the project timeline, construction and site development will start on the third quarter of this year while its commercial operation will commence on the second quarter of 2024.

The whole project is estimated to cost P41.5 billion.

Meantime, Tabango town Mayor Bernard Jonathan Remandaban said that he welcomes the project as it will not only generate employment for the locals but will also help spur economic development for the community and the municipality.

Remandaban, however, is asking the company to exercise extra caution to ensure that it will not cause any ill-effect to the health of the people and to the environment.



TITLE:

PAGE:

DATE

EARTH HOUR VIRTUAL RUN

SUPPORT THE PLANET—EVEN AS YOU GO MALLING

Ayala Malls mobilizes multiple ways to uplift society with its internal business practices, and with collaborations with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Philippines.

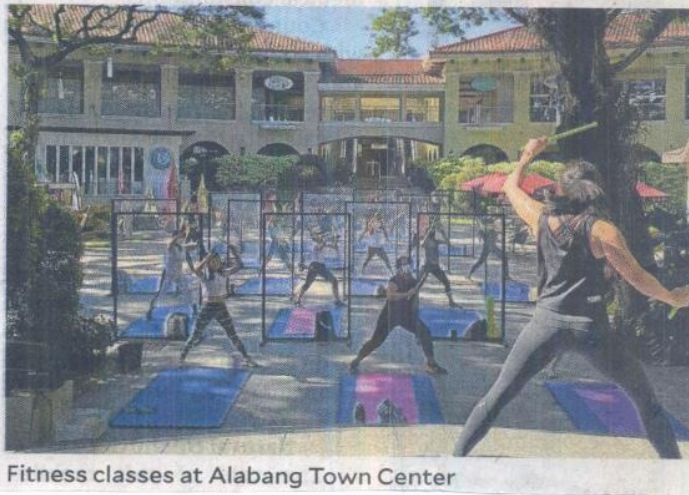
Carbon neutrality has long been the goal of Ayala Malls. For many years, its policies and practices have promoted energy efficiency. Likewise, WWF continues its annual Earth Hour celebration by hosting its lights-off program and a new virtual run. Alongside Ayala Malls as one of its key players, the organization aims to raise awareness about biodiversity loss and climate change.

The mall invites mallgoers to take part in its goal to reduce wastes sent to landfills by responsibly disposing of plastics, paper and reusable clothes in designated bins. Patrons can take advantage of the newly installed sustainable transport system in Ayala Malls The 30th, Ayala Malls Circuit and Ayala Malls Manila Bay. Using 30-seater minibuses that are fully electric, mallgoers can travel from one end to another while promoting conservation of energy and protection of the environment.

The lifestyle mall also



Clean and dry plastic drop-off site at MarQueue Mall



Fitness classes at Alabang Town Center

stands for the rejuvenation and regeneration of local forests through Change for the Environment donation drives, active forest planting and various volunteer activities. Ayala Malls supports Ayala Land's Carbon Forest Volontours, a program that sends volunteers to take care of the forest over a specified period.

Ayala Malls is offering its facilities to WWF to host the organization's first-ever Earth Hour virtual run in the Philippines, "Shape Our Future" Virtual Run Dare. The country's first-ever Earth Hour virtual run will be held at Ayala Malls nationwide. It's open to all professionals, aspiring runners and even pets worldwide.

Runners can choose their challenge: 10K, 20K, 40K or 60K (cumulative distance). Registration is ongoing until April 9. The first 500 runners to signup via Ayala Malls will enjoy P95 off their registration fee.

Register for the Earth Hour
"Shape Our Future"
virtual run at [bit.ly/
AyalaMallsReg_WWFRun](https://bit.ly/AyalaMallsReg_WWFRun)



Point of view

The climate crisis and migration

(Last of two parts)

By AMY E. POPE

National and regional policies must include more migration adaptation measures, and resources are needed to address and prevent displacements while increasing people's resilience, especially in the most vulnerable countries.

Second, it is imperative to ensure that adaptive migration as a solution is safe, informed and desired. For instance, IOM is working closely with the Philippine government and communities on planned relocation and transitional sites in typhoon affected areas. Through the generous support from donors such as USAID, Australia, Japan, Canada, UN Central Emergency Fund and Germany, IOM is providing critical shelter assistance, hygiene and sanitation, camp coordination and camp management, health and COVID prevention and mental health and psychosocial services. While essential, these actions are primarily reactive. Our actions in the field today can and should be a pathway towards managing climate vulnerabilities. They must be done proactively and strategically in a contextually grounded manner and with strong community engagement.

Finally, we need to harness the power of the estimated 10 million Filipinos living abroad to strengthen climate resilience locally. The Philippines is a

country that has for decades made the most out of migration. Since the 1980s, overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) have been hailed as *bagong bayani* (modern-day heroes).

In 2019, remittances from OFWs reached a record high of \$33.9 billion, equivalent to nearly 10 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). With one of the largest diasporas in the world, we need to leverage this support and direct these financial contributions to build back better using the lessons learned from past climate emergencies – such as building four-corner roofs over home in typhoon-prone areas to protect these rebuilt communities from future devastation.

As the cost of the climate crisis is reaching irreversible heights, I depart the Philippines reflecting on the devastating impacts of Typhoon Rai and the future of the communities in the Philippines. While the bayanihan spirit gives me hope, we now need bold collective action to build the resilience of communities at risk, to protect the most vulnerable and to ensure that migration remains a choice rather than a necessity.

* * *

Amy E. Pope is Deputy Director General of the International Organization for Migration.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
AND
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

BusinessWorld™



03-29-22

TITLE:

PAGE:

DATE

By Andreas Kluth

ON THE DAY Russia launched its all-out attack on Ukraine, Svitlana Krakovska was holed up in her home city of Kyiv, working feverishly to finish a report. As leader of the Ukrainian delegation to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), she and scientists around the world were dotting the i's and crossing the t's of their sixth assessment of global warming and its threats to humanity.

But then Russian artillery started exploding all around her, and Krakovska and her team members had to scurry to the nearest bomb shelters.

The IPCC report was released a few days later nonetheless. In normal times, these tomes make headlines all over the world. This one would have set records, because it's the most dismal read yet in a genre that was plenty dire already. Humanity, it suggests, will probably miss its goals of limiting the rise in global temperatures and enter an age of calamities. But, of course, these aren't normal times, and the message was muffled in a news cycle dominated by shooting and dying.

Add this to the list of atrocities committed by Russian President Vladimir Putin. He's not only violated a free country, killed and terrorized innocent people, and broken all norms of civilization. He's also distracted the world from what should be a common quest to save our climate. Politicians who previously talked about little besides Green Deals are now focused entirely on resisting Putin's onslaught.

There's another connection between his war and global warming. It's one that Krakovska, a mother of four who's chosen to stay in Kyiv, has emphasized in her sporadic Zoom calls with the outside world. Putin rules

Fighting Putin comes before climate change

over a petrostate that hawks the very fossil fuels causing climate change. By paying for his oil, coal, and gas, the world has in effect been funding his war machine and aggression.

That's why energy has also become a military and strategic weapon for both sides. Putin could cut off the oil, coal, and gas fueling the economies of Europe. The West, for its part, is trying to wean itself from Putin's hydrocarbons to make him go bankrupt as soon as possible.

The most visible effect of this clash is the soaring cost of all fossil fuels. Rising heating bills and pump prices will hit the poor hardest. In the worst case, this could lead to mass protests — like the yellow-vest riots of 2018 in France, but bigger, and in more places. Many countries must fear for their social peace.

So there's really no alternative to temporarily pausing Green Deals and other projects meant to save us in the longer term. The need for physical security currently trumps everything else. To survive now and get through the next winter or two — however long Putin stays at large — we must replace one kind of fossil fuel — his — with all the others.

For Europe, which gets about 40% of its natural gas from Russia, that means frantically buying more liquefied natural gas (LNG) from places like the US or Qatar, while simultaneously building the ports and terminals that can welcome the ships. Where possible, it'll also mean extending the life of nuclear power plants due to be phased out — as Belgium is considering, but Germany stubbornly isn't yet.

But even as we manage the acute emergency, we must also prepare to exit from it. Yes, we can talk now about temporary rebates for gasoline or heating oil to the poor. But our goal must be to return as soon as possible to letting carbon become gradually more expensive over time — via cap-and-trade systems and such — so that people get used to consuming less of it.

And we must bid farewell to some dearly held assumptions. One, especially in Germany, is that natural gas can be a "bridge" from even dirtier coal-fired electricity to the cleaner, greener solar and wind sort. Owing to geopolitics, that gas bridge has in effect collapsed.

The new reality is that we have to go all the way to universal electrification even faster, powered by 100% renewable energy with green hydrogen filling the gaps. Countries that have so far dabbled in building out photovoltaics, wind farms, smart grids and other parts of the puzzle must double down as though life depended on it. It probably does.

The only glimmer of hope is that Putin may have inadvertently simplified the politics of such a global quest. Convincing voters requires communicating the need for sacrifice — from sleeping colder in the winters to flying less and paying more when you do. But now politicians can make that case in two ways — as necessary to fight both Russian aggression and climate change. Those on the front lines of both struggles, like Svitlana Krakovska, remind us that they're equally urgent. ■

BLOOMBERG OPINION



Climate justice requires women's leadership

New York—The world is well aware that the climate crisis is one of the main stumbling blocks to sustainable development. And yet, despite the dramatic evidence of the lethal consequences of climate change, and despite possessing the knowledge, technologies, and resources to fix it, we continue on the same high-carbon path that threatens our survival.

We also know that climate stabilization depends on a whole-of-society response, and thus on all citizens' equal and fair participation in governance. That has not happened, either: Women have been underrepresented in climate decision-making. And while this trend has slowly been reversed, much more needs to be done to advance a gender-sensitive response to climate change. Three imperatives stand out: women's leadership, indigenous rights, and education.

Efforts to improve gender parity in climate governance have been ongoing for nearly a decade. In 2014, delegates to COP20 adopted the Lima Work Programme on Gender to encourage the inclusion of more women in climate-change negotiations. But five years later, at COP25 in Madrid, 60 percent of government delegates and 73 percent of heads and deputy heads of delegations were men.

This imbalance led to the adoption of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme and Action Plan on Gender. Under the enhanced plan, the parties to global climate talks pledged to appoint and provide support for national gender and climate-change focal points for climate negotiations, and for project implementation and monitoring. Even so, from 2019 to 2021, women occupied only 33 percent of all leadership positions in climate-change negotiations and expert mechanisms.

But efforts to include women in these discussions continue. The final agreement issued at the close of last November's COP26 in

WORLD VIEW

LAURA CHINCHILLA AND
MARÍA FERNANDA ESPINOSA

Glasgow included gender equality and women's leadership as central components of climate policy and action strategies. This represents clear recognition that the transition to net-zero will be possible only through active citizenship, with women playing a vital role.

Women are disproportionately affected by the climate crisis, but they are also important agents of change. Giving women a seat at the decision-making table and using a gender lens to shape low-carbon development strategies will go a long way toward making progress on efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The transition to carbon neutrality requires a radical change in production systems and consumption patterns across all sectors. Women must be part of the process to develop effective policies. The task is daunting, but there are examples to follow.

Costa Rica, for one, has set a clear path toward net-zero carbon dioxide emissions. Since 2014, more than 98 percent of the energy generated in Costa Rica has come from renewable sources. And in 2021, the country was awarded the Earthshot Prize for its conservation model, according to which local citizens are paid to preserve and restore natural ecosystems, including rainforests. Costa Rica's success can be attributed largely to the commitment of its citizens to sustainable development and the involvement of indigenous and rural women in climate adaptation, knowledge production, and efforts to strengthen resilience.

Indigenous and rural women in particu-



03-29-22

TITLE: climate justice requires women's leadership PAGE 2/2

DATE

lar are the most vulnerable to climate change and environmental degradation. The inclusion of these women in creating sustainable practices is thus central to ensuring the effectiveness of climate-related decisions. Initiatives such as Club de Madrid's Shared Societies approach emphasize that indigenous communities have the right to be involved in these discussions, and acknowledge that local communities are more likely to support and implement conservation plans when they are fully invested in their development.

Education is also a crucial component of inclusive climate decision-making. In 2021, Unesco called for environmental education to be a core curriculum component in all countries by 2025. The Berlin Declaration on Education for Sustainable Development states that environmental education must be available to girls and boys alike from an early age to ensure that future generations have sufficient knowledge to respond to climate change. Emphasizing gender equality and nondiscrimination in access to climate knowledge and skills will boost the ability of young people to effect change.

The recent all-male "CEO lunch" convened at the Munich Security Conference shows that women are still missing from the highest levels of global decision-making. Yet women's leadership is needed to respond effectively to shared global challenges. Without the active and meaningful participation of women and girls in local, national, and global climate strategies, a carbon-neutral future will remain out of reach. *Project Syndicate*

Laura Chinchilla, a former president of Costa Rica, is vice president of Club de Madrid. María Fernanda Espinosa, a former president of the UN General Assembly, is a member of GWL Voices for Change and Inclusion and a fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy.



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TITLE:

PAGE 33

DATE



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD
8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant. Case No. 22-3245

X-----X

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within the municipality of Subic, province of Zambales, with the following proposed rates:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	P 110.00	22.20	24.40	27.70	31.30	39.00
¾"	P 176.00	35.50	39.00	44.30	50.00	62.40
1"	P 351.50	70.90	78.00	88.50	100.00	124.90
1 ½"	P 879.00	177.30	194.90	221.30	250.10	312.10

Residential and Commercial

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	P 110.00	22.20	24.40	27.70	31.30	39.00
¾"	P 176.00	35.50	39.00	44.30	50.00	62.40
1"	P 351.50	70.90	78.00	88.50	100.00	124.90

Commercial and Industrial

Pipe Size	0-15 m3 (min)	16-30 m3	31-500 m3	501-1000 m3	Over 1000 m3
½"	P 732.00	55.30	78.00	92.60	92.60
¾"	P 1,170.00	88.40	124.80	148.20	148.20
1"	P 2,341.50	176.90	249.60	296.40	296.40
1 ½"	P 5,853.00	442.20	623.90	741.00	741.00
2"	P 14,632.50	1,105.50	1,559.90	1,852.50	1,852.50
3"	P 26,337.00	1,990.00	2,807.80	3,334.50	3,334.50
4"	P 52,675.50	3,979.90	5,615.50	6,669.00	6,669.00

Bulk

Pipe Size	Per cu.m.
1"	P 140.60

Others

Pipe Size	Per cu.m.
¾"	P70.30

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **11 April 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least **fifteen (15) days** prior to the scheduled hearing, applicant shall publish this notice once in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the province of Zambales and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 7th day of February 2022.

By Authority of the Board:
(SGD.) DR. SEVILLO D. DAVID, JR., CESO III
Executive Director

Affected Parties:
The Secretary
Sangguniang Bayan
Subic, Zambales

The General Manager
Subic Water District
#22 Mangan-Vaca, Subic
Zambales 2209

The Barangay Chairman
All the affected Barangays w/in
Subic, Zambales

MT – Mar. 27, 2022



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD
8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1106

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.
Applicant.

Case No. 22-3251

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Camella Sto. Tomas, Camella Sto. Tomas North Trails and Lessandra Sto. Tomas Subdivisions, Barangay San Miguel, municipality of Sto. Tomas, province of Batangas, with the following proposed rates:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m ³ (min)	6-10 m ³	11-20 m ³	21-30 m ³	31-40 m ³	Over 40 m ³
½"	P 169.00	35.30	36.80	38.30	39.80	41.30
¾"	P 270.00	56.40	58.80	61.30	63.60	66.00
1"	P 540.00	112.90	117.60	122.50	127.30	132.00
1 ½"	P 1,350.50	282.20	294.10	306.30	318.20	330.00

Residential and Commercial

Pipe Size	0-5 m ³ (min)	6-10 m ³	11-20 m ³	21-30 m ³	31-40 m ³	Over 40 m ³
½"	P 169.00	35.30	36.80	38.30	39.80	41.30
¾"	P 270.00	56.40	58.80	61.30	63.60	66.00
1"	P 540.00	112.90	117.60	122.50	127.30	132.00

Commercial and Industrial

Pipe Size	0-15 m ³ (min)	16-30 m ³	31-500 m ³	501-1000 m ³	Over 1000 m ³
½"	P 1,063.50	77.60	84.40	101.30	101.30
¾"	P 1,701.00	124.20	135.00	162.00	162.00
1"	P 3,403.50	248.50	270.10	324.10	324.10
1 ½"	P 8,508.00	621.20	675.20	810.20	810.20
2"	P 21,268.50	1,553.00	1,688.00	2,025.60	2,025.60
3"	P 38,284.50	2,795.30	3,038.40	3,646.10	3,646.10
4"	P 76,567.50	5,590.70	6,076.80	7,292.20	7,292.20

Bulk

Pipe Size	Per cu.m.
1"	P 216.10

Others

Pipe Size	Per cu.m.
¾"	P 108.00

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **11 April 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WJD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing, applicant shall publish this notice once in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the province of Batangas and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 9th day of February 2022.

By Authority of the Board:
(SGD.) DR. SEVILLO D. DAVID, JR., CESO III
Executive Director

Affected Parties:

The Secretary
Sangguniang Bayan
Santo Tomas, Batangas 4234

The Barangay Chairman
Barangay San Miguel,
Santo Tomas, Batangas 4234

The General Manager
Sto. Tomas Water District
Santo Tomas, Batangas 4234

The Homeowners Assn. President
Camella Sto. Tomas,
Camella Sto. Tomas North Trails &
Lessandra Sto. Tomas Subdivisions
Barangay San Miguel
Santo Tomas, Batangas 4234

MT – Mar. 27, 2022

29 MARCH 2022, TUESDAY



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NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Philippines logs 2,726 new COVID-19 cases from March 21 to 27

Philstar.com March 28, 2022 | 4:27pm



Commuters queue for the free ride at the MRT-3 North Avenue Station in Quezon City on Monday morning, March 28, 2022. The MRT-3 offers free rides to commuters for a month, from March 28 to April 30, following the completion of the rehabilitation project of the train system and as part of the government's effort to help ease the commuters' financial burden.

The STAR / Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health on Monday reported 2,726 additional COVID-19 cases, or an average of 389 infections per day, from March 21 to 27.

The daily average was 24% lower than the figure logged from March 14 to 20, the DOH said in its daily bulletin.

Of the active cases, 758 patients with severe and critical illness are seeking treatment in hospitals.

Only 16.7% of the 27,547 beds in non-intensive care units nationwide are utilized. Meanwhile, the ICU bed utilization rate is 15.1% or 484 out of 3,204 beds.

The agency also said it verified 752 additional deaths during the last week. It cited the late encoding of death information to the COVIDKaya reporting system.

The Philippines has confirmed more than 3.67 million COVID-19 cases since the pandemic started.

All regions in the country were deemed at minimal risk for COVID-19 spread, the department said last week.

More than 65.6 million Filipinos have completed immunization against COVID-19, while 11.8 million people have received booster shots. Over 6.5 million senior citizens have been fully vaccinated. — **Gaea Katreana Cabico**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/03/28/2170481/philippines-logs-2726-new-covid-19-cases-march-21-27>



Daily average Covid cases lower by 24% compared to previous week

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor **March 28, 2022, 5:09 pm**



(File photo)

MANILA – The Department of Health (DOH) on Monday reported that the daily average Covid-19 cases of 389 from March 21 to 27 is 24 percent lower than the new infections prior to the week in review.

In its latest case bulletin, the DOH said there are 2,726 new cases of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) for the recent week.

For the same period, there were no cases added to the tally of severe and critical infections which stood at 758.

Only 16.7 percent or 4,613 out of the 27,547 intensive care unit (ICU) beds in the country are used while 15.1 percent or 484 of 3,204 non-ICU beds are utilized.

Meanwhile, there were 655 verified deaths recorded during the past week.

About 72.93 percent of the country's target population has been vaccinated against Covid-19.

The DOH also reported 75.56 percent of the senior citizens have been inoculated against the disease.

The elderly group is composed of 8,721,357 individuals while the country's target population for inoculation is 80 percent (90,005,357 individuals) of the country's entire population.

As of March 27, DOH data showed 65,640,834 individuals are fully vaccinated while 11,825,403 people have received their booster shots. **(PNA)**



COVID-19 cases posibleng tumaas kung dededmahin ang booster shots

[Malou Escudero](#) - Pang-masa March 29, 2022 | 12:00am



A health worker prepares a dose of the BioNtech Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine during a vaccination for seafarers at a stadium in Manila on July 15, 2021.

AFP / Ted Aljibe

MANILA, Philippines — May posibilidad umanong tumaas ang kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa kung patuloy na babaliwalain ng mamamayan ang pagpapaturok ng booster shots.

Ito ang naging babala kahapon ni Presidential Adviser for Entrepreneurship Secretary Jose 'Joey' Concepcion III nang punahin ang pananatiling mababa ang bilang ng mga nagpapa-booster shots.

“Kung hindi tataas yung booster uptake baka may surge tayo sa second half dahil masyadong mababa itong uptake ng booster,” babala ni Concepcion.

Ayon pa kay Concepcion, delikado kung tuluyang tatanggalin ang lahat ng restrictions sa bansa kung mababa ang bilang ng mga bakunado na walang booster shots.

“Sa NCR, yung booster shot lang natin nasa 30 percent. Mas mababa sa ibang lugar katulad ng Region 5 to Region 12 halos below 10 percent lang. So, delikado pong tanggalin ang Alert Level natin hanggang maayos ito,” babala ni Concepcion.

Ang NCR kasama ang nasa 47 lugar pa sa bansa ay nasa ilalim ng Alert Level 1 hanggang sa Marso 31.

Sinusuportahan ni Concepcion ang pagpapatupad ng Alert Level Zero para mabuhay ang ekonomiya kapag umabot na sa 70 hanggang 80 porsiyento ng mga bakunado ang nagpaturok ng booster shots.

29 MARCH 2022, TUESDAY



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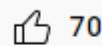
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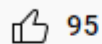
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maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone

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