

Cong. Uybarreta Meets with NGCP and NAPOCOR for Updates on Power Restoration Efforts in the Eastern Visayas Region

In his desire to expedite the restoration of electricity which will surely alleviate the plight of the victims of the earthquake that struck the Eastern Visayas region, Representative Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta met with the officials of NGCP headed by Atty. Luis Manuel U. Bugayong, General Counsel of NGCP, this morning. Also present were Mr. Dennis Gan, Head, Operation and Maintenance Management; Ms. Marik Manrique, Head, Revenue and Regulatory Affairs; and Mr. Raul Galano, Head, Visayas Systems Operations. NGCP discussed with Rep. Uybarreta their plan on how to restore power in the region.

First is the need to fix the inverter of the High Voltage Direct Current (“HVDC”) in order for NGCP to tap into the Luzon power grid. NGCP reported that the HVDC sustained cracks and has oil leaks because of the earthquake. ABB, the manufacturer of the HVDC, already inspected and made repairs on the inverter and is awaiting recommendation from its Sweden office on what to do next. Worst case scenario is if there is a need to replace a major part then it will take a month for the unit to be energized.

NGCP also confirmed that four (Transformer Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4) of their six transformers are not working. There is an on-going replacement of primary bushing on Transformer No. 6 and hopefully it will be energized for testing within the day, together with Transformer No. 5. Moreover, a 1x150 MVA transformer from Compostela SS and 1x100 MVA transformer from Cebu will be transferred to Ormoc SS. NGCP already started the disassembly of the said transformers last July 12, 2017. It will take 4 days for the disassembly, 8 days for the hauling, and 6 days for assembly and will be ready for commissioning on July 31, 2017.

NGCP will also reconfigure the Compostela-Daanbantayan-Tabango-Ormoc 230kV line to be energized at 138 kV in order to supply power to Ormoc SS and possibly to the adjacent cities.

Three power barges from TransAsia and another one from Salcon Power Corp. are also available for deployment to the region. Two will be deployed in Bohol and the other two in Leyte. It will take 4 days to tow the power barges from their present location while NGCP will need around 3-5 days to prepare the transmission lines that will connect the power barges to the grid.

Rep. Uybarreta commended the NGCP with their work and joined them with their hope that electricity will be restored the soonest possible time for the people of the Eastern Visayas region.

After the meeting with NGCP officials, Rep. Uybarreta also met with Atty. Melchor P. Ridulme, the general counsel of NAPOCOR to ask for their assistance in identifying possible mooring location of the power barges in Bohol and Leyte. NAPOCOR gave assurance to Rep. Uybarreta that they will extend any possible help in order to address the current problem in the Eastern Visayas region.

Rep. Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta with officials from NGCP



Rep. Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta with NAPOCOR General Counsel Atty. Melchor P. Ridulme