



SENATE

S. No 2657


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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

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The country's power situation is predicted to worsen in 2011 as there are no new energy sources to cope with the projected increase in demand for electricity in the coming years.<sup>1</sup> An official from the National Grid Corp. warned that the power situation in the country has remained unstable and that projections showed it would be bleak in 2011. He added that the island of Luzon will be greatly affected due mainly to the "wear and tear" of the existing power plants found in the island. Thus, there is a need to explore and develop other alternative sources of energy in order to address the impending energy crisis.

Wind power or wind energy is one such form of alternative energy that the government may explore and utilize to address the country's power crisis. Wind power or wind energy has long been used by humans to propel their ships, provide accessible water for farming via the "water-pumping windmill", transport system throughout the world via the steam locomotives, etc. Present innovations in wind power made it possible for us to "harvest" wind turbines and generate electricity.

In the Philippines, the windmills in Bangui are one shining example in the Asian region on how to properly utilize wind energy. The town of Bangui in Ilocos Norte utilizes wind energy to supply the province's demand in energy. At present, the windmills in Bangui provide about 40% of the power needed by Ilocos Norte. In the past, the town of Bangui is susceptible to power outages due to their location as the source of electricity came from a power station in La Union, a province away from Ilocos Norte. The power outages hamper not only the activities of the citizens of Ilocos Norte but of local businesses and investors who have decided to set up shop in Ilocos.

Wind energy provides free, renewable source of energy that does not emit any air pollutants or greenhouse gases. However, wind energy utilization in the country still is not that popular though there is potential for its application in our country as evidenced by the experience of the town of Bangui. The use of wind energy in the town of Bangui has made the price of energy cheaper in the province of Ilocos Norte as well as transforming the province of Ilocos Norte as one of the most environmentally-friendly location in the country. Hence, it is necessary to create a government entity that would initiate and promote public acceptance of this source of energy.

This bill seeks to establish the Wind Energy Development Authority that would initiate and promote the use and development of Wind Energy in the country. It is envisioned that with the use of Wind Energy the country will be able to address the growing energy demands of the society as well as to promote consciousness among the Filipino people in protecting the environment.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

  
ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV  
Senator

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<sup>1</sup> Regalado Edith, "Power Crisis to Worsen in 2011". Data retrieved from <http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleid=637717>, on 11 Jan. 2011

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the Philippines in Congress Assembled:*

1           **SECTION 1.** There is hereby created the Wind Energy Development Authority  
2 hereinafter referred to as the "Authority" which shall undertake to do researches and promote the  
3 development and utilization of wind energy.

4  
5           **SEC. 2.** The powers and functions of the Authority shall be vested in a Board of  
6 Directors consisting of a Chairman and four (4) members who shall be appointed by the  
7 President of the Philippines with the consent of the Commission on Appointments. The chairman  
8 and the two (2) members shall serve for a term of four (4) years, while the remaining two (2)  
9 members shall be an ex-officio members, who shall be composed of the Secretary of Energy and  
10 the Secretary of Science and Technology. They shall receive compensation as may be fixed by  
11 the President of the Philippines which shall not exceed with those given to Commissioners of a  
12 Constitutional Body. No person shall be appointed Chairman or members of the board unless he  
13 is a natural born Filipino citizen at least thirty (30) years of age, of good moral character, and  
14 must be of recognized competence in the fields of science and technology.

1           **SEC. 3.** The Board of Directors shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 2           a) Prepare and issue rules and regulations as it considers necessary for the effective  
3           discharge of its function:
- 4           b) Direct the management, operations, and administration of the authority;
- 5           c) Adopt and use corporate seal;
- 6           d) Make contracts;
- 7           e) Sue and be sued;
- 8           f) Appoint such officers and employees as are not otherwise provided for in this Act, to  
9           define their duties, fix their compensation, discipline, and dismiss anyone of them for  
10          cause, subject to the Civil Service Commission rules and regulations;
- 11          g) Exercise such incidental powers as shall be necessary to carry on the functions of the  
12          authority.

13

14           **SEC. 4.** The Authority shall have the following powers and functions:

- 15          a) Conduct extensive research on the different types and sources of Wind Energy;
- 16          b) Formulate a comprehensive policy for the research, development, and utilization of  
17          Wind Energy;
- 18          c) Implement the government program on the allocation, distribution, and sale of the  
19          different Wind Energy Resources;
- 20          d) Perform such other powers, and functions as may be necessary to carry out the  
21          provisions of this Act.

22

23           **SEC. 5.** The chairman shall be the Chief Operating Officer. In case of absence or  
24          whenever the Chairman is unable to act, the Board shall designate who among its members shall  
25          act as the Chairman.

1           **SEC. 6.** The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be  
2 charged to the appropriation for the Department of Science and Technology under the current  
3 General Appropriation Act. Thereafter such sum as may be necessary for continuous operation of  
4 the Authority shall be included in the annual General Appropriation Act.

5  
6           **SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
7 *Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,