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SENATE
P.S. RES. No. 607

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Introduced by Senator WIN GATCHALIAN

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SUCCESSIVE
ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEM DISTURBANCES WITH THE END IN
VIEW OF ENSURING RELIABLE AND CONTINUOUS ELECTRIC POWER
SUPPLY IN THE COUNTRY**

1 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9511, otherwise known as the National Grid
2 Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) franchise, grants to NGCP the privilege to serve
3 act as the national transmission concessionaire over the national grid of the electric
4 power industry;

5 WHEREAS, the national grid of the electric power industry is the sole backbone
6 for the transmission of electricity throughout the country;

7 WHEREAS, by virtue of its franchise, NGPC is bound to operate and maintain
8 the transmission system, grid, and related facilities at all times in accordance with
9 industry standards;¹

10 WHEREAS, on 27 April 2023, the NGCP reported a system disturbance in the
11 Visayas Grid which led to unplanned power blackouts up to twelve (12) hours in the
12 islands of Panay, Guimaras, and Negros which persisted even until 30 April 2023;²

13 WHEREAS, on 8 May 2023, the NGCP reported red and yellow alerts in the
14 Luzon grid which was due to a tripping of the Bolo-Masinloc 230kV Line 2. This in turn

¹ Republic Act No. 9511, Section 3.

² Solinap, L. (April 27, 2023). *NGCP reports Visayas grid disturbance; red alert raised for potential power outages*. Sun Star. <http://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1959771/iloilo/local-news/ngcp-reports-visayas-grid-disturbance-red-alert-raised-for-potential-power-outages>; Rendon, J. (April 30, 2023). *12-hour blackouts hit Guimaras, Panay, Negros*. PhilStar Global. <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2023/04/30/2262600/12-hour-blackouts-hit-guimaras-panay-negros>

1 led to the tripping of two (2) units of the Masinloc Coal Power Plant, thereby causing
2 a total power loss to the Luzon grid of 1,354 megawatts (MW).³ As a result, brownouts
3 in the franchise areas of various distribution utilities (DUs) across Luzon took place.
4 The affected Dus are Manila Electric Corporation (Meralco), Zambales 1 Electric
5 Cooperative Inc. (ZAMECO 1), La Union Electric Company, Inc. (LUECO), Central
6 Pangasinan Electric Cooperative Inc. (CENPELCO), Ibaan Electric Corporation (IEC),
7 Quezon II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (QUEZELCO II), Dagupan Electric Corporation
8 (DECORP), Batangas II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BATELEC II), and Zambales II
9 Electric Cooperative, Inc.(ZAMECO II);⁴

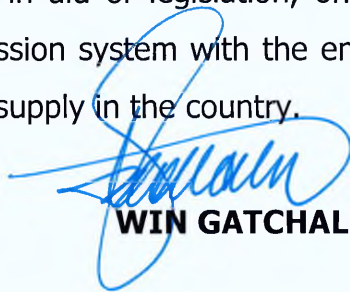
10 WHEREAS, on or about 3:40 PM on 9 May 2023, Meralco reported power supply
11 cuts due to a temporary system imbalance caused by a sudden plant outage.⁵
12 According to Meralco, the power supply disruption was caused by an automatic load
13 dropping (ALD) of approximately 290 MW which occurred as a result of the tripping
14 of the Duhat-Hermosa 230kV line. This caused the power generating units GMEC 1
15 (310MW) and Limay 5 & 7 (120MW) to trip. This affected more than 200,000 Meralco
16 customers in Paco and Sta. Mesa in Manila, Caloocan, Malabon, Batangas, Antipolo in
17 Rizal, San Pedro and Biñan in Laguna, and San Rafael and Pulilan in Bulacan;⁶

18 WHEREAS, the successive transmission system disturbances which has caused
19 inconvenience to communities and losses to businesses is a great cause for concern;

20 WHEREAS, the NGCP, as the operator of the transmission system in the country,
21 should be held to account for the root cause of these disturbances and be mandated
22 to provide an comprehensive audit of the reliability of the transmission system, grid,
23 and related facilities;

24 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the
25 appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the
26 successive system disturbances on the electric transmission system with the end in
27 view of ensuring reliable and continuous electric power supply in the country.

Adopted,



WIN GATCHALIAN

³ NGCP Statement on Cause of Red Alert in the Luzon Grid on 08 May 2023. https://twitter.com/NGCP_ALERT/status/1655842106160852992

⁴ DOE's Presentation entitled Update on the Power Situation in Luzon Grid Red Alert on 8 May 2023.

⁵ MERALCO <https://twitter.com/meralco/status>

⁶ ANC News