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COMPANY HANDOUT

Robinsons Land sets sustainability goals

ROBINSONS Land Corp. (RLC) has defined specific environmental impact targets across its business units as part of its commitment to sustainability.

In a statement, RLC said the pandemic highlighted the need for companies to adopt a more focused approach to sustainability.

"We continue to invest in creating low-carbon and resilient spaces to further reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, protect the environment, and promote efficient land use," RLC President and CEO Frederick D. Go was quoted as saying in the company's sustainability report.

RLC said it has been promoting responsible land use by integrating green and open spaces in all its properties. For new projects, it will engage green-certified contractors and consultants, as well as establish guidelines on landscaping, to achieve carbon neutrality and improve resiliency.

The Gokongwei-led developer has also crafted a roadmap towards a net zero carbon ambition by 2050. This is in line with the Paris Agreement, which calls on countries to take climate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to limit global warming to within 1.5 degrees Celsius.

RLC said it is also planning to use clean power in its current and future shopping mall projects, as part of its goal to shift power requirements to renewable energy (RE) sources by 2035.

"Cognizant of the Philippines' target of 35% share of RE in the power generation mix by 2030 and

50% share by 2040, RLC will pursue more investment opportunities through the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM) or the RE Market — once it is established — and engage with clean energy providers for both Luzon and provincial areas," the company said.

Robinsons malls and offices used 30.24 gigawatt hours of renewable energy in 2021.

RLC currently has 24 malls with solar rooftop installations, generating nearly 30 megawatts of clean and renewable energy.

"By 2030, RLC intends to divert all discarded non-biodegradable materials in our properties away from landfills and towards recycling and other waste processing facilities," Mr. Go said.

For its hotel and leisure properties, RLC is aiming to reduce annual food spoilage by 5%.

RLC Residences will also conduct solid waste management briefings on the proper use of facilities for housekeeping personnel. It will also launch an education campaign on reusable materials for employees, homeowners, and residents.

"Through these programs, we will be able to better manage the volume of waste generated in our residential developments even after the units have been turned over to the homeowners. We look forward to expanding these initiatives to all RLC properties," Mr. Go said.

The developer also wants design plans of new and existing RLC developments to have wastewater treatment and materials recovery facilities by 2025.

Horizon Land plans to launch Siena Towers 2

HORIZON LAND Property Development Corp. is planning to add new inventory to its master planned community in Marikina City this year.

In a statement, the subsidiary of Federal Land, Inc. said Siena Towers Two is set to be launched by middle of 2022.

The 22-storey tower will offer 297 units in one- and two-bedroom variations. The one-bedroom units range from 23 square meters (sq.m.) to 39.50 sq.m., while the two-bedroom units range from 48 sq.m. to 72.50 sq.m. with balcony or lanai options.

Siena Towers is the newest two-building development in Horizon Land's mixed-use, mid-to-high rise community in Marikina.

"We strive to deliver an uncompromised modern living

experience unique to the city of Marikina and its people, especially as Filipinos across the country adjust to the 'new normal.' This is why, over the years, we have consistently evolved and grown the dynamic city center by constantly launching more residential and commercial projects that respectfully blend the advantages of contemporary urban landscapes with the appeal and livability of the laid-back suburban backdrop inherent to Marikina," Horizon Land General Manager John Cabato said in a statement.

The community also features Marquinton Residences and Tropicana Garden City, which offer ready-for-occupancy units.

Marquinton Residences is a medium-rise legacy residential community, while Tropicana

Garden City is a multi-tower residential property that boasts of green architecture.

Horizon Land's Marikina community also includes Blue Wave Mall and the newly opened S&R Marikina. American fast-food chain Panda Express is also set to open its first drive-thru outlet in the country beside Siena Towers.

"We aim to uplift living standards within this vibrant mixed-use neighborhood by continuously introducing and infusing our projects with thoughtfully designed amenities, relevant features, and seamless connectivity to a diverse set of commercial establishments and recreational spots that complement the community's daily activities, lifestyles, and workstyles moving forward," Mr. Cabato said.



ACTUAL photograph of Siena Towers along Sumulong Highway, Marikina City

Original *Top Gun* house is now a 'High Pie' shop



THE HOUSE featured in the original *Top Gun* movie has been restored and turned into a "High Pie" shop in Oceanside, California, US, June 13.

REUTERS/MIKE BLAKE

IN Oceanside, California, a tiny pastel blue bungalow is nestled between lofty hotels and apartment blocks. It is the *Top Gun* house.

The house was owned by Maverick's love interest, Charlie, in the 1986 original film. Now restored and moved a block down from its original location, it has been opened to the public.

"You get to relive that magical, quintessential southern California moment, where Tom

Cruise is coming up the coast in his Kawasaki 900... There's a replica right outside the house that you can jump on and really relive that moment of the coastal breezes going through your hair, which is a lot of fun," said Ben Fairchild of the Mission Pacific Hotel and Seabird Resort, where the structure is now located.

Visitors can also buy pie as the house has been turned into a "High Pie" shop. — Reuters

Green Antz teams up with Colgate-Palmolive PHL for plastic neutrality

COLGATE-PALMOLIVE Philippines and Green Antz Builders expanded a program on plastic waste collection to include Manila, Quezon City and Taguig City.

The program also includes more drop-off points for plastic waste in several Ayala Malls in Metro Manila.

Colgate-Palmolive Philippines and Green Antz marked the first year of a closed loop plastic waste management initiative in Bulacan, which collected hundreds of tons of plastic waste in cooperation with five local government units (LGUs) and 112 public schools.

Plastic waste is collected by communities, schools and LGUs, which include Baliuag, Malolos City, Plaridel, Pulilan, and San Ildefonso. This is exchanged for bond paper, printers, segregation bins, clock towers, thermal scanners or alcohol dispensers for schools.

Green Antz then turns this plastic waste into eco-bricks, which are used to build handwashing stations for LGUs.

"Plastic waste is one of our most serious environmental problems, globally and locally... We are allocat-

ing resources to divert plastic waste away from landfills and the ocean, to help collect, recover and recycle the equivalent amount of plastic we generate in the market and achieve our vision of achieving plastic neutrality," Colgate-Palmolive Philippines President and General Manager Arvind Sachdev said in a statement.

Colgate-Palmolive Philippines and Green Antz also recently renewed their partnership agreement as well as a memorandum of understanding with the Municipality of Plaridel.

Wilcon on track to achieving target of 100 stores by 2025

WILCON Depot, Inc. officials said that the home improvement firm is on track to reaching its target of having 100 stores by end-2025 as part of its network expansion initiative.

"As we enter our 45th year as a business this 2022, we continue to focus on our strategic growth plans to fulfill our mission. We are well on our way to reaching our 100-strong store network by the end of 2025 as we ended 2021 with 73 branches," said William T. Belo, Wilcon's founder and chairman emeritus, in a press release on Monday.

"This thrust is anchored on our confidence in our market's resiliency and that their desire to build, improve and refine their homes for a sustainable and comfortable life remains unchanged," he added.

In a media briefing on Monday, Wilcon President Lorraine Belo-Cincochan said the company is targeting to have 81 stores by the end of the year.

"It's only 2022, so I think we are on track given the pace we have. Hopefully, there are no more surges or restrictions in mobility. It's going to be quite timely for the 100-store target," she said.

"We want to continue to expand our product mix. We are customer-driven and customer-focused in the categories we carry. We continue to have an edge given our experience, and track record," she added.

Aside from Wilcon's store network expansion target, Ms. Belo-Cincochan also said that the company will continue to focus on margin improvements through product mix strategies.

In the same briefing, Wilcon Chief Operating Officer Rosemarie B. Ong said that for the rest of the year, the outlook is positive as she sees construction activity increasing amid eased restrictions.

"The outlook is still very positive given that we had the election last May. The trend still continues as far as the construction sector is concerned. It's alive and active now. Many constructions disrupted in 2021 are now continuing. People are going back to the city now and we've seen how the economy has recovered in retail, even more so with home improvement. We're seeing a lot of activity, especially institutional and private construction," she said.

In the first quarter, Wilcon reported that its net income increased 40.7% to P850.67 million from P604.41 million, driven by higher sales. Net sales likewise surged 14.5% to P7.65 billion from P6.68 billion in 2021.

Wilcon shares rose by 0.64% or 15 centavos to P23.45 on Monday. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**

Globe expects to raise P32B via rights offer

GLOBE Telecom, Inc. announced on Monday that its board of directors recently approved a stock rights offer for its eligible common shareholders.

"The company expects to raise up to P32 billion, which will be used for the expansion of [its] mobile and broadband network as well as debt repayment," Globe said in an e-mailed statement.

"The proposed stock rights offer will also enable the company to further expand its digital ecosystem and further differentiate itself in the market, as it capitalizes on opportunities in and beyond telco," it added.

According to the company, determination of the final terms and conditions of the rights offer, including but not limited to the final issue size, entitlement ratio, offer price, record date, and all other terms, will be determined prior to the rights offer.

Globe has mandated BPI Capital Corp. as sole global coordinator, domestic lead underwriter and joint bookrunner and UBS AG Singapore Branch as sole international underwriter and joint bookrunner, with PNB Capital and Investment Corp. as domestic co-lead underwriter for the rights offer.

The company also said that Singapore Telecom International Pte. Ltd. and Ayala Corp., its principal shareholders, have both indicated their support for the rights offer.

"The company expects to launch the rights offer after receiving the required approvals, under suitable equity market conditions."

At the same time, the telco said that the rights offer would put it in a position to quickly realize opportunities in the telecommunications sector and complementary services.

"Globe has made investments in several digital industries in an endeavor to address challenges faced by Filipinos as they navigate their digitalization journey. Supported by the demand for internet connection through mobile and broadband, Globe's presence in the sectors of financial technology, virtual healthcare, digital marketing solutions, venture capital funding for startups and entertainment is expected to significantly impact the digital lives of Filipinos over the long term," Globe noted.

The company saw its net income for the first quarter increase by 86% to P13.7 billion year on year, mainly due to an improved topline and the partial sale of its data center business. — **Arjay L. Balinbin**

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