

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,153.43

▼ 77.15 PTS.

▼ 1.23%

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2022

BusinessWorld

PSEI MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P667.00 -P3.00 -0.45%	ACEN ACEN Corp. P6.25 +P0.09 +1.46%	AEV Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P56.70 -P0.75 -1.31%	AGI Alliance Global Group, Inc. P8.98 -P0.02 -0.22%	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P25.50 -P0.90 -3.41%	AP Aboitiz Power Corp. P31.65 -P0.15 -0.47%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P127.30 +P0.30 +0.24%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P96.00 +P1.70 +1.80%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P12.32 -P0.38 -2.99%	EMI Emperador, Inc. P19.58 +P0.06 +0.31%
GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P2,322.00 +P2.00 +0.09%	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P412.80 -P1.20 -0.29%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P173.00 -P4.50 -2.54%	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P232.00 ---	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P43.15 -P2.75 -5.99%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P8.07 ---	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P51.70 -P0.25 -0.48%	MEG Megaworld Corp. P2.08 -P0.01 -0.48%	MER Manila Electric Co. P301.40 +P4.40 +1.48%	MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P11.68 -P0.82 -6.56%
MPI Metro Pacific Investments Corp. P3.66 -P0.02 -0.54%	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P30.00 -P0.50 -1.64%	RLC Robinsons Land Corp. P14.84 +P0.14 +0.95%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P34.95 -P2.20 -5.92%	SM SM Investments Corp. P820.00 -P10.00 -1.20%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P96.20 -P2.25 -2.29%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P31.50 -P0.95 -2.93%	TEL PLDT, Inc. P1,634.00 +P16.00 +0.99%	URC Universal Robina Corp. P122.00 ---	WLCON Wilcon Depot, Inc. P29.35 +P0.35 +1.21%

Alternergy taps foreign partner for wind project

ALTERNERGY Holdings Corp. has entered into a partnership with a foreign company for its Calavite Passage offshore wind project, a company official said last week.

"For the (Calavite) offshore project, there is already a definitive agreement for the partnership. We already executed a shareholders' agreement with that company," Alternergy's Vice President and General Counsel

Janina A. Bonoan told *BusinessWorld* in an interview.

Ms. Bonoan declined to identify the foreign company.

Vicente S. Pérez, Jr., chairman of Alternergy, said in a media release earlier in October that the power company received inquiries from foreign companies on renewable energy (RE) after the legal opinion of the Department of Justice that RE investments are not

subject to foreign ownership restrictions.

The Calavite Passage offshore wind farm is among Alternergy's renewables projects that are under early-stage development. It is located in Occidental Mindoro and has a potential capacity of 1,000 megawatts (MW).

"We have currently a 100% [ownership] of that (Calavite) project, but as I have said, we have a partner coming in," she

said, adding that "we are not at liberty to disclose it as of the moment."

Ms. Bonoan said that Alternergy's 28-MW-direct current Solana solar power project in Hermosa, Bataan is also among the company's projects that are getting inquiries from foreign RE companies.

"For Solana, we also have foreign companies interested in developing Solana," she said.

The construction of the Solana project is set to begin by the first quarter of 2023. The solar farm is expected to start operation by the last quarter of 2023.

Earlier in October, the Department of Energy (DoE) said foreign ownership restrictions on investments in the RE sector might be eased following the legal opinion of the Justice department. The move is expected to bring more foreign investments in RE projects.

"What's good for the industry is also good for Alternergy and we think that opening up RE to foreign capital is good for the industry to reach our target to increase RE share," Ms. Bonoan said.

Under the DoE's National Renewable Energy Program, the government is targeting to increase the share of renewables in the power generation mix to 35% by 2030 and to 50% by 2040. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

Get fiery with Subway's Chicken Mala Sub!

Subway's much talked-about secret recipe sub has finally been revealed! With a fiery introduction, Subway's Chicken Mala Sub has set our world on fire with its perfect combination of spice and tang!

As discussed in Sam YG and DJ Chacha's podcast, "Lecheng Pag-ibig To!", a podcast on love, relationships and everything in between, one way of keeping the fire of relationships alive is by trying out new experiences together. Exploring new taste experiences in food is a surefire way to keep that love burning!

Mala is the secret recipe behind the new ingredient, concocted with burning passion that can surely be experienced in every bite. One of the most popular flavors in China and many parts of Asia, this spicy blend is made from chili peppers, aromatics and spices like



garlic, ginger, star anise, cinnamon, and cardamom, mixed with the ever-popular mouth-numbing Sichuan peppercorns. Subway's Chicken Mala sub is available for a limited time and will be made available 'til 31st of December 2022 or until supply lasts. Chicken Mala is available in 6-inch & footlong subs, wrap, and salad.

In-restaurant prices for Chicken Mala: Ala Carte – P135 (6-inch sub) P260 (footlong sub)

P145 (wrap) P215 (salad) Regular Meal (w/ 22oz drink + 2pcs cookies) – P220 (6-inch sub), P345 (footlong sub), P230 (wrap), P300 (salad)

Valid for dine-in and takeaway transactions. For more exciting news, please follow Subway's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/subwayphilippines>

#GetFieryWithMala #SubwayPH #BetterChoice

Meralco expects 2022 core earnings to surpass last year's

MANILA Electric Co. (Meralco) expects to post higher profits this year on sustained growth in energy sales and higher earnings from its power generation businesses.

"The forecast expectation for the whole year is that we'll be better than the core income last year where we reported P24.6 billion," Meralco Chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan said during a virtual press briefing on Friday.

Meralco Chief Finance Officer Betty C. Siy-Yap said the electricity distributor posted an increase in its consolidated core net income for the nine months that ended on Sept. 30. Meralco saw an 8.6% increase in its consolidated core net income to P19.61 billion for the January-September period from P18.06 billion in the same stretch last year.

Further, Meralco's nine-month reported net income rose by 19.6% to P19.76 billion from P16.52 billion previously. Its consolidated revenues were recorded at P314.88 billion, a 35.9% increase from P231.72 billion in the same period last year.

As of September, Meralco said its consolidated capital expenditures (capex) stood at P20.8 billion, of which P13.5 billion went to spending for its network.

The power distributor company said network capex consisted of new connections, asset renewals, and load growth projects.

Mr. Pangilinan said that with strong recovery efforts, the power utility is expecting

to exceed its consolidated net income last year.

"Despite the challenges the country is currently facing, including elevated food and energy prices, Meralco expects power demand to continue growing, which makes the energy sector maintain its critical role in supporting economic growth and progress," Mr. Pangilinan said in a media release.

Meanwhile, Jose Ronald V. Valles, Meralco's head of regulatory management, said during the virtual briefing that the company is seeking emergency power supply agreements (EPSAs) after the decision of the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) to deny its joint petition with San Miguel Corp. (SMC) for a rate increase.

"Yes, we filed with the DoE (Department of Energy) a request for a certificate of exemption for an equivalent capacity of 1,070 megawatts presumably to cover the 1,070 megawatts that will expire, assuming that the ERC will allow expiration of those contracts with San Miguel," Mr. Valles said.

However, Mr. Valles said that Meralco asked the DoE to put on hold the evaluation of the request after SMC's letter signifying its intent to supply power to Meralco. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

FULL STORY

Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link <https://bit.ly/3Nhcb93>

Attractive discount, growth outlook draw investors to Globe SRO

GLOBE Telecom, Inc., which recently raised P17 billion from an oversubscribed stock rights offering (SRO), benefited primarily from its attractive discount and growth prospects, according to analysts.

On Friday last week, the company listed 10,119,047 common shares newly issued to shareholders who participated in its recently concluded rights offering on the Philippine Stock Exchange.

The common shares were sold in the offer at P1,680 per share for a 22.6% discount, "raising gross proceeds of approximately P17 billion," Globe said in an e-mailed statement. "The offer was oversubscribed, and all the offer shares were fully allocated to existing shareholders," it noted, adding that "proceeds from the offer will be used to partly fund capex (capital expenditure) and pay the company's short-term debt obligations."

Globe intends to further expand its digital ecosystem and differentiate itself in the market as it capitalizes on opportunities in and beyond telecommunications. Sought for comment, Regina Capital Development Corp. Equity Analyst Anna Corene M. Agravid said: "The interest of the public was piqued by the attractive discount offered by the SRO price from the Globe's price during the announcement and even its current market price."

"Hence, a very inviting opportunity to average down," she said in a phone message on Friday. For his part, First Grade Finance, Inc. Managing Director Astro C. del Castillo said: "I'm not surprised if it's oversubscribed. Number one, Globe has a good track record in the investment community."

"It was attractive given such an offer and prospects of the company itself. Many investors want to equip themselves with strong cards," he said in a phone interview.

"Globe's aggressiveness in the digital world remains, and it continues to be one of the leading digital providers not only in telco but also in other related services," he added.

Globe President and Chief Executive Officer Ernest Cu said the support "reflects trust in the capability of Globe to execute our core business and digital service platform initiatives."

"We believe that this offer highlights Globe's competitive differentiation in the market, further solidifies our healthy financials and enables us to pursue greater milestones while delivering industry-leading value to our shareholders," said Globe Chief Finance Officer Rizza Maniego-Eala.

Globe Telecom shares closed 0.09% higher at P2,322 apiece on Friday. — **Arjay L. Balinbin**



PUEBLO DE ORO TOPS OFF THE HUB. Pueblo de Oro Development Corporation (PDO) recently celebrated the topping-off ceremony of The Hub at Bamboo Lane, a three-storey commercial building envisioned as a neighborhood retail center at the heart of the Calanan Valley in Cagayan de Oro City. The Hub will have a provision of 23 commercial units, including a convenience store and a pharmacy. The building is scheduled to be completed in December 2022.

The Hub is strategically located and easily accessible to homeowners of PDO's residential communities such as Westwoods, Forest View Homes, San Agustin Valley Homes, Bamboo Lane and Familia Apartments, as well as other residents from nearby barangays Canitoan and Carmen, who will soon have a convenient lifestyle center only minutes from home.

In photo during the ceremony are (from left) PDO Assistant Vice President Mylin Batchanicha, PDO Vice President and General Manager for Mindanao Chrysler Acebu, Barangay Carmen Councilor Exudio Vidal, JDE Construction representative Theresa Casolacan, Cagayan de Oro City Councilor Malvern Esparcia, and ILMi Project Manager Rogelio Aleria.

Concepcion Industrial swings to profitability

LISTED firm Concepcion Industrial Corp. (CIC) reported an attributable net income of P19.32 million in the third quarter, turning around from the P24.35-million net loss a year ago, due to higher volume turnover and prices.

"Margins from higher volume and increased pricing offset headwinds from higher commodity costs and the weakening peso during the quarter," the company said in a disclosure on Friday.

The company's topline was also higher at P2.97 billion, a 15% jump from P2.59 billion last year after, booking higher sales of goods amid lower sales of services.

CIC's net sale of goods totaled P2.78 billion in the third quarter, climbing by 41.7% from P1.96 billion in the previous year.

Its sales from services were lower by 69% to P193.25 million from P624.19 million.

According to the company, its consumer and commercial segments grew by 10% and 28%, respectively.

"Sales growth in the consumer channel was primarily driven by increased pricing while the commercial channel's growth was driven by the realization of higher backlog and new orders from the opening of business establishments and easing of lockdown restrictions," the company said.

In the nine months to September, CIC's attributable net income was lower by 23% to P131.78 million from P171.25 million in the previous year, which it attributed to weak market and low sell-out during the

rainy season and mobility restrictions in the first quarter.

Meanwhile, CIC's year-to-date net sales were at P9.7 billion, 7.5% higher than the P9.02 billion recorded a year ago.

"The business environment remains difficult, but we have made the right investments to weather the storm, and thrive in the recovery that follows. We remain confident that the fundamentals for an eventual economic recovery are in place," CIC Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Raul Joseph A. Concepcion said.

CIC has eight major subsidiaries and two associates. Its primary shareholders are Foresight Realty & Development Corp., Hyland Realty & Development Corp., and Horizons Realty, Inc. — **Justine Irish D. Tabile**