

# MGen unit eyes Ilocos Norte solar plant expansion

MGEN RENEWABLE Energy, Inc. (MGreen) is keen to expand its 68-megawatt-alternating current (MWac) solar plant project with Vena Energy in Ilocos Norte.

"This is a test period for both of us," Jaime T. Azurin, president and chief executive officer of Meralco PowerGen Corp. (MGen), said about the group's plan for the project's expansion.

MGreen is the renewable energy subsidiary of MGen, the power generation arm of listed electric distribution utility Manila Electric Co. (Meralco).

"I think there is some good synergy and we hope to expand more," he told reporters on the sidelines of the inauguration of Nuevo Solar Energy Corp.'s (NSEC), a joint venture between MGreen and Vena Energy in Ilocos Norte.

The 68-MWac "Garcia 2" solar project in Currimao, Ilocos Norte has a total cost of \$65 million, according to Samrinder Nehria, head of Vena Energy Philippines.

"Today we embark on a new chapter in our partnership with Vena Energy as we start the commercial operations of NSEC.

Powered by our shared aspiration to provide clean and sustainable energy, we are proud to have helped accelerate the country's energy transition and shall continue investing in clean and sustainable energy source," Mr. Azurin said.

He said the solar project will supply renewable energy to MPower, the local retail electricity arm of Meralco.

Mr. Azurin said NSEC's solar plant is part of MGen's goal to build 1,500 MW of renewable energy in the next five years.

In 2021, MGen launched the commercial operations of BulacanSol's 55-MWac solar plant in San Miguel, Bulacan followed by the construction of a 75-MWac solar project in Baras, Rizal through PH Renewables, Inc.

Meralco's controlling stakeholder, Beacon Electric Asset Holdings, Inc., is partly owned by PLDT Inc. Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary MediaQuest Holdings, Inc., has an interest in BusinessWorld through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**



THE 68-MW "Garcia 2" Solar Project, located in the municipality of Currimao in Ilocos Norte.

## Sta. Lucia Land board clears six projects, P1.5-B loan

LISTED real estate developer Sta. Lucia Land, Inc. said on Thursday that its board had approved taking out a P1.5-billion long-term loan facility while authorizing joint ventures to develop six projects, including an acquisition in Batangas.

In a disclosure to the stock exchange, the company also said its board of directors had authorized the acquisition of parcels of

land in Batangas with a total area of 79,054 square meters (sq.m.).

The company identified six development projects, four of which are in Luzon, one in the Visayas, and one in Mindanao. Of the planned joint ventures, the largest area is in Batangas at 156,232 sq.m. followed by 106,079 sq.m. in Laguna.

The joint venture projects in Luzon are located in Rizal with

a total area of 21,526 sq.m. and Bulacan with 16,349 sq.m.

Additionally, the company is eyeing projects in Iloilo with a total area of 3,484 sq.m. and in South Cotabato with 48,603 sq.m., with Iloilo being the smallest.

Meanwhile, Sta. Lucia Land said its board also approved the authority to enter into an unsecured long-term loan facility

agreement of up to P1.5 billion with China Banking Corp.

It also approved the authority to avail and renew credit accommodations from the Bank of Commerce amounting to P250 million and a domestic bill purchase line of P50 million.

On Thursday, shares in Sta. Lucia Land went up by 2.99% or 9 centavos to close at P3.10 apiece. — **Adrian H. Halili**

## SEC warns against 2 unlicensed entities soliciting investments

THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has warned the public against putting money in two investment-taking entities, which have not secured a license to offer shares.

In separate advisories, the SEC identified these entities as Life Blessing Philippines and Fresh Deals Meat Trading.

The advisory said that Life Blessing, headed by Michael Macayana, has been soliciting investments on its Facebook page and online through its website for a minimum amount of P1,000 up to P50,000.

The SEC said the entity promises a 25% to 150% return on investments after 10 to 40 days through its marketing schemes and referral programs.

Meanwhile, Fresh Deals Meat Trading invites investors


through its Facebook page and website to buy shares in the company.

The entity allegedly deals in meat products and is duly registered with the Department of Trade and Industry, but this was not the case as the SEC found that it operates without the necessary license or authority.

It offers investments to the public with a minimum amount of P500 to P500,000, which may earn up to 20% daily or a three-time return of investment after 15 days with an additional 15% referral commission.

The regulator identified Raymond C. Cabanting as its founder and chief executive officer.

In its review, the commission stated that both entities are not authorized to solicit investments from the public. — **Adrian H. Halili**



### Power Maintenance Updates by MERALCO ADVISORY

The following are scheduled power interruptions necessary for the regular maintenance and upgrade of our power distribution facilities, to ensure the delivery of safe and reliable electricity to your areas. Rest assured that Meralco is doing everything to quickly restore your electricity according to schedule.

| SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023   | REASON: Replacement of pole along Bala St. in Bgy. San Diego, Luisiana, Laguna.  |
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| <b>PARAÑAQUE CITY AND PASAY CITY</b><br>BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 10:30AM AND THEN BETWEEN 3:30PM AND 4:00PM – PORTIONS OF CIRCUIT CBP1-A 425RF<br>Portion of Roxas Blvd. from Russel Ave. to Ortigas St. including Metrobank, Kenny Rogers Roasters, Red Ribbon Bakeshop, MMDA Pumping Station and Yuxing Construction Inc. in Pasay City.<br>Portion of Russel Ave. from Roxas Blvd. to F. B. Harrison St. including Baclaran Bagong Milenyo Plaza, Diplomat Condominium, Expace Luggage Center and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - LDS Russell Chapel in Pasay City.<br>Portion of F. B. Harrison St. from near Aguarra St. in Baclaran, Parañaque City to Don B. Hernandez St. including Russel and Cuneta Aves., Ortigas St., PLDT Sales & Service Center, KFC – Diplomat, Maynilad Water Pump, Royal Blue Marlin's Hotel, Baclaran Commercial Bldg., BAGVPI Garment Center, 899 Leasing Management, Primerzone Real Estate Corp. and Lexton Builders & Estate Corp. in Pasay City.<br>Portion of F. B. Harrison St. from Shady Lane St. to near D. Galvez St. including Antel Seaview Towers Condominium A, B & C in Pasay City.<br>Portion of Cuneta Ave. from F. B. Harrison St. to near Roxas Blvd. including Victoria Court Cuneta, Diamond Inn, Mona Liza Lodge and Hotel Ava Cuneta Pasay in Pasay City.<br>BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 4:00PM – PORTION OF CIRCUITS CBP1-A 416RF AND 425RF<br>Portion of F. B. Harrison St. from Don B. Hernandez St. to near Shady Lane St. including Jalandoni Compound, Lancaster St., Daughters of Saint Paul, Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Elderly and City Bryte Realty Corp. in Pasay City.<br>Midas Hotel & Casino along Roxas Blvd. in Pasay City. |  |
| MONDAY TO TUESDAY, APRIL 3 – 4, 2023  | REASON: Replacement and relocation of pole along F. B. Harrison St. in Pasay City.   |
| <b>QUEZON CITY (VASRA, NEW ERA AND CULIAT)</b><br>BETWEEN 11:00PM AND 11:30PM (MON., 04/03/23) AND THEN BETWEEN 4:30AM AND 5:00AM (TUE., 04/04/23) – PORTION OF CIRCUIT DILIMAN 426VU<br>Portion of Central Ave. from St. Joseph St. to and including Sitio Mabilog, Milton Hills Subd., Forest Side Villas, Sagana Homes, QC Ville Subd. and Palayan Neighborhood Association; Iglesia Ni Cristo and New Era University in Bgys. Culiat and New Era.<br>BETWEEN 11:00PM (MON., 04/03/23) AND 5:00AM (TUE., 04/04/23) – PORTION OF CIRCUITS DILIMAN 426VU AND 433VU<br>Portion of Central Ave. from near Sitio Mabilog to Mindanao Ave. including EVM Convention Center in Bgy. Culiat.<br>Portion Mindanao Ave. from Burger King to Central Ave. including Mercury Drugstore in Bgy. Vasra.  |  |
| TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023  | REASON: Line reconstruction work along San Vicente Road in Bgy. San Vicente, San Pedro City, Laguna.   |
| <b>LAGUNA (LUISIANA)</b><br>BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 1:00PM – PORTION OF CIRCUIT TAYABAS 482Y<br>Portion of Bonifacio St. from Lucban – Luisiana Road to San Diego Barangay Hall including Bala, Oracion, Fabricante and Ubaldo Suello Sts. in Bgy. San Diego.   |  |
| WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023  | REASON: Upgrading of facilities along 7th Ave. corner 36th St. in Bonifacio Global City (BGC), Bgy. Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.                 |
| <b>LAGUNA (SAN PEDRO CITY)</b><br>BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 3:00PM – PORTION OF CIRCUIT SOUTHWOODS 415SSU<br>Portion of San Vicente Road from near Dahlia St. to near Café Ignacia including Adele Residences Subd., Adelina Complex Phase 2 Subd., Futura Homes Subd., Mercedes Homes Phase 1 Subd., Villa Milagrosa Subd. and Saint Joseph Village in Bgy. San Vicente.<br>Portion of Pacita II Ave. from San Vicente Road to and including Mercedes 5 Subd., Pacita Complex II Phases 1 & 2 Subds., South Hills Phase 1 & 2 Subds., Southview Homes Subd., Southview Homes 2 Subd., Southview Homes Expansion Subd., Paz II Compound and Sitio Maligaya in Bgy. San Vicente.   |  |
| THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023   | REASON: Line reconstruction work along Freedom Park St. in Bgy. Batasan Hills, Quezon City.  |
| <b>QUEZON CITY (BATASAN HILLS AND COMMONWEALTH)</b><br>BETWEEN 1:30PM AND 1:50PM – PORTION OF CIRCUIT DILIMAN 424VU<br>Portion of Freedom Park St. from Fortune St. to and including Marcos, Perez, Jonah, Jordan, Recto, Laurel, Kasunduan, Kasunduan Ext. and Cuenco Sts. in Bgys. Batasan Hills and Commonwealth.  |  |
| FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023   | REASON: Maintenance work along 2nd St. Ext. in First Philippine Industrial Park (FPIP), Bgy. Sta. Anastacia, Sto. Tomas City, Batangas Province. |
| <b>BATANGAS PROVINCE (STO. TOMAS CITY)</b><br>BETWEEN 8:00AM AND 4:00PM – PORTION OF CIRCUIT FPIP 416WWW<br>First Philec Inc. along 2nd St. Ext. in First Philippine Industrial Park (FPIP), Bgy. Sta. Anastacia.   |  |

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## AirAsia seeks international flights moved to Terminal 1

LOW-COST carrier AirAsia Philippines is requesting the reassignment of its international flights to Terminal 1 to ensure on-time performance and lessen costs.

"Ang Terminal 3 po namin mananatili roon ang aming international flights sa kasalukuyan. (Our international flights will stay at Terminal 3)," AirAsia Communication and Public Affairs Head Steve F. Dailisan said during a media briefing on Thursday.

He said the airline is asking the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) to let it move international flights to Terminal 1.

Under the schedule and terminal assignment rationalization program of the MIAA, the domestic flights of the carrier will be moved to Terminal 2, while its international flights will remain at Terminal 3.

At present, the airline's international flights are in Terminal 3, while its domestic flights are in Terminal 4.

Mr. Dailisan said that if the plan pushes through, they are expecting the reassignment to incur more costs and dampen on-time performance.

"Magiging malaking hamon naman po ito doon sa aming aircraft movement lalo na for international (This is going to be a challenge for our aircraft movement especially for international flights)," he said.

AirAsia's international and domestic flights share the same air fleet, with the Airbus 320s used for both locations, according to Mr. Dailisan.

"So 'yung rotation ng eroplano maaari pong magkaroon ng dagdag na oras sa kasalukuyan (Because of this, the airfleet rotation would take more time), he added.

The airline said it is preparing a time and motion study to be presented to the MIAA in a meeting next week.

The study aims to present the efficiency of moving AirAsia's international flights to Terminal 1 once all its domestic flights are moved to Terminal 2.

"Di hamak po kasi na mas malapit po ang Terminal 1 sa Terminal 2, so mas madali po 'yung passenger movement, mas madali rin ang movement ng cargo (Terminal 1 is much closer to Terminal 2. So that will result to easier passenger movement and cargo movement)," Mr. Dailisan said.

He added that if AirAsia's international flights remain at Terminal 3, this would affect the airline's on-time performance and create more costs.

"We are also studying the costs. For one, we will pay more for passenger buses since Terminal 3 is far from Terminal 2," Mr. Dailisan said in a mix of English and Filipino.

"Isa naman po ang layunin namin (We only have one goal): passenger comfort and improved customer experience," he added.

Earlier this week, AirAsia posted an outstanding on-time performance of 99%, which it attributed to the commitment and dedication of its employees. — **Justine Irish D. Tabile**