

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,550.76

▼ 74.03 PTS.

▼ 1.11%

PSEI MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P611.00 -P3.00 -0.49%	ACEN ACEN Corp. P5.36 -P0.04 -0.74%	AEV Aboltiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P53.70 -P2.20 -3.94%	AGI Alliance Global Group, Inc. P12.76 +P0.02 +0.16%	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P25.45 -P0.25 -0.97%	AP Aboltiz Power Corp. P35.65 -P1.10 -2.99%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P144.80 -P3.00 -2.03%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P116.00 +P1.00 +0.87%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P10.46 -P0.06 -0.57%	DMC DMCI Holdings, Inc. P9.43 —
EMI Emperador, Inc. P21.00 —	GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,846.00 -P20.00 -1.07%	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P519.00 -P1.00 -0.19%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P205.00 -P4.00 -1.91%	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P250.00 -P4.20 -1.65%	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P44.40 -P0.40 -0.89%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P9.69 +P0.09 +0.94%	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P56.65 -P0.85 -1.48%	MER Manila Electric Co. P349.60 +P9.60 +2.82%	MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P8.80 -P0.13 -1.46%
MPI Metro Pacific Investments Corp. P4.92 -P0.01 -0.2%	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P29.35 +P0.55 +1.91%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P27.90 +P0.05 +0.18%	SM SM Investments Corp. P925.00 -P21.50 -2.27%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P104.50 -P2.30 -2.15%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P32.80 -P0.15 -0.46%	TEL PLDT Inc. P1,305.00 —	UBP Union Bank of the Philippines P72.00 -P1.60 -2.17%	URC Universal Robina Corp. P132.70 -P3.30 -2.43%	WLCON Wilcon Depot, Inc. P24.50 +P0.50 +2.08%

Filinvest unit plans desalination plant in Cebu

By Ashley Erika O. Jose
Reporter

FILINVEST Development Corp. Utilities, Inc. (FDCUI) plans to build a desalination facility in Cebu City with a capacity of about 80 million liters per day (MLD) to meet the growing water demand in the area, a company official said.

"The issues that were raised earlier are all about Metro Manila, but let me take everyone outside Metro Manila. Metro Cebu area's demand is 570 MLD and you know how much water can be supplied? 270 MLD. So, as we speak there is a shortage of 300 MLD," Juan Eugenio L. Roxas, president and chief executive officer of FDCUI, said in a water forum hosted by Stratbase ADR Institute on Monday.

Mr. Roxas said FDCUI has existing desalination projects in Cebu City but described them as small. He said the city relies solely on Buhisan Dam. Deep wells, while prohibited in Cebu, cannot use

groundwater as saltwater seeps through, making it unusable.

"We have no choice but to go into desalination," he said. "Hopefully, we will get that off the ground. The most expensive water is no water at all. It is going to be blended with the existing supply of the water districts. So, it is not going to be that expensive."

Meanwhile, Carlos Primo C. David, undersecretary for Integrated Environmental Science of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), said the recent rains helped increase the water level of Angat Dam, which he said "will be good for five to seven days of usage in Metro Manila."

"Theoretically, we need two months of that much rain falling," Mr. David said, adding that although there is no crisis, "water level is quite precarious."

He said that while Angat Dam reached its 180-meter minimum operating level, it still needs to rise further to 208 meters to ensure the stability of supply.

"We have around five months to be able to do so that we will have enough water for the following year. Therefore, water conservation still needs to be done," he said.

As of 6:00 a.m. on Monday, Angat Dam hit 180 meters, up from 179.06 meters the day before.

MAYNILAD SERVICE

Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) said water service interruptions in areas served by Maynilad Water Services, Inc. are "suspended indefinitely."

"We are assessing the inflows from the watershed," said Patrick James B. Dizon, head of the MWSS Angat/Ipo operations management division, in a Viber message on Monday.

Maynilad earlier said that it could further suspend water interruptions amid the rising water level at the dams.

On Saturday, Maynilad announced the suspension of planned service interruptions in parts of Caloocan, Malabon,

Manila, Valenzuela, Navotas, and Quezon City for July 15 to 16, saying improved supply from Ipo Dam mitigated the impact of reduced releases from Angat Dam.

Last week, the west zone water concessionaire announced that it would implement nine-hour daily water interruptions starting July 12, affecting about 591,000 customer accounts.

Meanwhile, Dittie L. Galang, head of corporation communications of Manila Water Co., Inc., said that the east zone water concessionaire is ready to tap deep wells which could yield about 100 MLD of water supply when needed.

"Currently, we are operating 49 wells with 60 MLD production. We can ramp up to 80DW with 100 MLD production when needed," Ms. Galang said in a Viber message.

Over the weekend, Maynilad said it targets to spend P1 billion to reactivate deep wells spread across Metro Manila, which could provide around 32 MLD of additional supply in preparation for the impact of the El Niño phenomenon.

Buskowitz Energy to build Unilab unit's rooftop solar system

BUSKOWITZ ENERGY is set to energize Amherst Laboratories, Inc., allowing Unilab, Inc.'s manufacturing subsidiary to power its operation with renewable energy via a 496-kilowatt-peak rooftop solar photovoltaic system.

In a media release on Monday, Buskowitz Energy said it would install 900 tier-one solar panels after having been commissioned by Amherst Laboratories to help its transition to renewables.

"It is our mission to continuously offer sustainable solutions to our clients in an effort to accelerate the Philippines' shift from fossil fuels towards renewable energy," said James Buskowitz, chief executive officer of Buskowitz Energy, adding that his company is "excited" to kickstart its partnership with Amherst Laboratories.

The solar energy company said the installation was designed to produce an average output of 700,000 kilowatt-hours of energy per year, allowing Amherst Laboratories to save up to P150 million.

"This is equivalent to sequestering carbon generated by consuming 5 million liters of gasoline; preventing 12 million pounds of coal from being burned; or electrifying 2,000 homes for one year," it added.

Buskowitz Energy is a sustainable solutions company that aims to grow the country's solar energy sector. To date, it has a total of 300 solar rooftop projects across the Philippines.

"The use of renewable energy such as solar panels, not only gives us savings in our operations but also provides an opportunity to contribute to the overall effort of reducing greenhouse gas emission. We are stepping forward to help promote the use of renewable energy and help reduce our carbon footprint," Limuel Razo, corporate vice-president and head of manufacturing of Unilab.

Buskowitz Energy has 40-megawatt-peak of projects in the pipeline this year. It has so far installed solar photovoltaic systems and provided renewable energy for international brands such as Coca-Cola and Shell, along with local companies Petron Corp., NLEX Corp., Megaworld Corp., as well as SM and Robinsons malls. — Ashley Erika O. Jose

FLI's industrial park in Clark takes first locator StBattalion

FILINVEST Land, Inc. (FLI) on Monday signed a lease agreement with an Australian electric vehicle battery manufacturer as the first locator in its industrial park in Tarlac.

"Filinvest Innovation Park-New Clark City warmly welcomes StBattalion as its very first locator. Their presence underscores the park's vision as a leading sustainable business hub," FLI President and Chief Executive Office Tristaneil D. Las Marias said.

"We are committed to building large-scale, integrated projects to become the stage for diverse developments, including businesses that will catalyze progress and employment for the local community," Mr. Las Marias added.

StBattalion signed a five-year renewable lease with FLI subsidiary FCGC Corp. for two ready-built factory units at its New Clark City development.

FLI said each of the two units covers about 2,500 square meters in gross leasable area. The units will be located at the property developer's 120-hectare industrial park.

The industrial park is inside the 9,450-hectare New Clark City, the greenfield development inside the Clark Special Economic Zone in Capas, Tarlac. It is registered with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority, thus locators enjoy tax perks, simplified import-export procedures, and visa facilitation assistance for foreign employees.

The industrial park's ready-built factory compound will feature 10 prime model units to be built on a 40,000-square-meter lot.

"Each unit is designed for logistics, e-commerce, and light manufacturing locators," the company said.

FLI said each unit will also have amenities such as unparalleled accessibility, a build-to-suit option for industrial facilities customization, high-tech communications, and expansive infrastructure such as an eight-meter ceiling clearance, a two-bay loading dock, and three tons-per-square-meter floor load capacity.

The location is only 30 minutes away from Clark International Airport, and 45 minutes away from Subic Bay International Seaport, "making it a key progress catalyst north of Metro Manila," it said.

Also on Monday, the company said that it had signed a share purchase agreement with Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. to acquire two Cavite-based real estate firms.

In a regulatory filing, the company said it bought Cajel Realty Corp. and Niyog Property Holdings, Inc. from the bank for about P632.66 million.

FLI said it acquired 1.39 million common shares of Niyog at P391.42 apiece totaling about P544.44 million.

Additionally, it purchased 597,376 common shares of Cajel at P148.68 apiece totaling P88.82 million.

The company said both companies have a joint agreement with FLI, which undertook the development of parcels of land into an exclusive residential subdivision.

FLI will pay 30% of the purchase price upon closing and the balance net of retention will be payable in five years plus an agreed interest rate.

On Monday, FLI closed unchanged at P0.67 per share. — Adrian H. Halili

Flight fuel surcharge stays at Level 4

THE CIVIL Aeronautics Board (CAB) set the applicable fuel surcharge for domestic and international flights at Level 4 for the third consecutive month in August.

In an advisory posted on Monday, CAB Executive Director Carmelo L. Arcilla announced that the passenger and cargo fuel surcharge will stay at Level 4.

At Level 4, the CAB matrix permits a fuel surcharge per passenger of between P117 and P342 for domestic flights and from P385.70 to P2,867.82 for international flights originating from the Philippines.

Meanwhile, the cargo fuel surcharge matrix allows a per kilogram charge of 60 centavos to P1.76 for flights within the country depending on the distance, and from P1.98 to P14.74 for international flights.

"For fuel surcharge to be collected in equivalent currency, the applicable conversion rate for the same period is \$1 = P55.65," CAB said.

The CAB has been reducing the fuel surcharge since April when it brought it down to Level 6 from Level 7 in March, then to Level 5 in May, and to Level 4 in June. — Justice Irish D. Tabile

17 JUL 2023

PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY

PPA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 004 -2023

TO : The Acting Port Manager
PMO NCR North

Manila North Harbor Port, Inc. (MNHP)
Cargo Owners/Brokers/Shipping Lines
Port Users
Others Concerned

SUBJECT : Approved 10% Upward Adjustment in Cranage Rates at the Manila North Harbor

Pursuant to Board Resolution No. 3230, a 10% upward adjustment in cranage rates at the Manila North Harbor was approved, as follows:

Container Size	Basis	Loaded (PhP)	Empty (PhP)
20-footer and below	Per box	1,558.50	1,310.50
Above 20-footer	Per box	2,180.00	1,689.00

This Circular shall be effective 30 days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

JAY DANIEL R. SANTIAGO
General Manager

17 JUL 2023

PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY

PPA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 006 -2023

TO : The Port Manager
PMO Negros Oriental/Siquijor

Prudential Customs Brokerage, Inc. (PCBSI)
Cargo Owners/Brokers/Shipping Lines
Port Users
Others Concerned

SUBJECT : Approved 10% Upward Adjustment in Cargo Handling Rates for Domestic Cargoes at Dumaguete Port

Pursuant to Board Resolution No. 3228, a 10% upward adjustment in cargo handling rates for domestic cargoes at Dumaguete Port was approved.

The said rate increase shall be effective 30 days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

JAY DANIEL R. SANTIAGO
General Manager

17 JUL 2023

PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY

PPA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 007 -2023

TO : The Acting Port Manager
PMO NCR South

International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI)
Truckers' Association
Cargo Owners/Brokers/Shipping Lines
Port Users
Others Concerned

SUBJECT : Approved PhP5,000.00 Unauthorized Entry Fine for Trucks Entering the Manila International Container Terminal (MICT) Without Valid Transactions

To promote efficient use of the roads and speed up entry into the terminal, the PPA Board of Directors, per Board Resolution No. 3216, approved the imposition of Unauthorized Entry Fine in the amount of Five Thousand & 00/100 (PhP5,000.00) for trucks entering the MICT without valid transactions.

Likewise, the Board approves the renaming of the access road, subject to submission to the Board prior to implementation of the change of name.

As such, the PMO NCR South is hereby directed to:

- Immediately install warning signs on the recommended locations of ICTSI that "Only Authorized Trucks with Valid Transactions at MICT Port" are allowed inside the port facilities in compliance with the ISPS Code.
- Immediately install warning signs and strictly impose at MICT North Access Road/IPB/Road the One-Way Traffic and No Parking Policy.
- Rename the access road, subject to submission to the Board prior to implementation of the change of name.

The imposition of PhP5,000.00 Unauthorized Entry Fine shall be shouldered by the erring truck driver and/or the trucking company and shall not be passed on to the shipper/consumer.

This Circular shall take effect 30 days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

JAY DANIEL R. SANTIAGO
General Manager