

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,228.29

▼ 6.48 PTS.

▼ 0.1%

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

BusinessWorld

PSEI MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P648.00 +P8.00 +1.25%	ACEN ACEN Corp. P4.46 -P0.14 -3.04%	AEV Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P47.95 -P0.15 -0.31%	AGI Alliance Global Group, Inc. P9.90 +P0.12 +1.23%	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P31.95 +P0.55 +1.75%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P123.40 -P3.50 -2.76%	BLOOM Bloomberry Resorts Corp. P9.61 +P0.01 +0.1%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P99.50 -P2.40 -2.36%	CNPF Century Pacific Food, Inc. P32.55 -P0.05 -0.15%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P7.73 -P0.27 -3.37%
DMC DMCI Holdings, Inc. P9.30 -P0.01 -0.11%	EMI Emperador, Inc. P20.65 -P0.15 -0.72%	GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,718.00 -P11.00 -0.64%	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P544.50 -P12.50 -2.24%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P229.00 ---	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P238.80 +P3.00 +1.27%	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P37.90 +P0.10 +0.26%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P8.80 +P0.01 +0.11%	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P51.45 ---	MER Manila Electric Co. P372.60 ---
MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P8.00 -P0.04 -0.5%	NIKL Nickel Asia Corp. P5.03 -P0.07 -1.37%	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P26.55 -P0.70 -2.57%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P28.80 +P0.10 +0.35%	SM SM Investments Corp. P835.00 +P9.00 +1.09%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P114.60 +P3.60 +3.24%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P32.70 +P0.05 +0.15%	TEL PLDT Inc. P1,265.00 +P13.00 +1.04%	URC Universal Robina Corp. P111.90 -P0.90 -0.8%	WLCON Wilcon Depot, Inc. P20.30 -P0.20 -0.98%

Okada listing, Uy relief seen in PH Resorts deal

By **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**
Reporter

THE partnership of listed gaming and tourism holding company PH Resorts Group Holdings, Inc. with Okada Manila's operator could become a possible mode of backdoor listing, according to analysts.

BDO Capital and Investment Corp. President Eduardo V. Francisco said in a Viber message that the move could be Okada's opening for a backdoor listing in the local market.

"PH Resorts can be [an] effective back-door [listing] vehicle for Okada," Mr. Francisco said.

"We need to know the terms of the acquisition but it should also relieve Mr. Uy of pressure if Okada will absorb existing debts of PH Resorts," he added, referring to Dennis A. Uy, chairman of PH Resorts.

China Bank Capital Corp. Managing Director Juan Paolo E. Colet said in a Viber message that the partnership could be seen as Okada's move to expand its presence in the Philippines.

"For Okada, it's an expansion play. They already have a presence in Metro Manila, so they now want to break into a new geographic market," Mr. Colet said.

"Nothing is final yet as the deal is still subject to conditions," he added.

Gabriel U. Lim, BDO Unibank, Inc. head of corporate finance, said in a Viber message said the transaction, if concluded, would be "a positive for both parties" while providing a vehicle for listing Okada Manila.

He added that the market listing would offer two sites in major Philippine cities "for investors to benefit from."

Mr. Lim added that the transaction would provide "some financial relief" for the budget of the unfinished Cebu project.

Recently, Okada Manila's operator Tiger Resort Leisure & Entertainment Inc. (TRLEI) announced that it entered into a tentative agreement with Lapulapu Leisure, Inc. and

Lapulapu Land Corp., for an exclusive partnership to complete Emerald Bay Resort.

Lapulapu Leisure and Lapulapu Land are subsidiaries of PH Travel and Leisure Holdings Corp., which is a unit of PH Resorts.

TRLEI executed a term sheet on Dec. 8 with PH Travel and Leisure to acquire a "significant majority ownership" of the subsidiaries as operators of the Emerald Bay project, allowing it to take over the development.

"The terms and conditions of the transaction will be further disclosed once the parties have executed the definitive agreements, which are subject to negotiation and execution and are

targeted to finish by July 2024, unless otherwise extended," PH Resorts said.

PH Resorts previously said its partnership with Okada Manila for the Emerald Bay Resort in Mactan, Cebu would boost the Visayas tourism market.

"In PH Resorts' partnership with Okada Manila, we hope to turn Emerald Bay Resort into a symbol for, and a catalyst of, the development of Cebu as the center of the Visayan tourism market in the Philippines," said PH Resorts Chairman Mr. Uy in a stock exchange disclosure on Monday.

Emerald Bay is a proposed integrated resort with a five-star hotel adjacent to 300 meters of

beachfront, with two 15-storey towers offering 642 rooms, four pools, 18 food and beverage outlets, retail spaces, conference and exhibition facilities, and a large-scale gaming floor with over 700 electronic gaming machines and over 140 tables.

"This new venture is aligned with our strategy to increase our footprint in the Philippines, given our remarkable success with Okada Manila. We are excited to bring our signature level of hospitality and service excellence to a new and discerning market," TRLEI President and Chief Operating Officer Byron Yip said.

Shares of PH Resorts at the local bourse fell 14 centavos or 12.73% to 96 centavos apiece.

SEC clears Angeles Electric's direct public offering

THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has given the green light for the direct public offering of Pampanga-based electricity provider Angeles Electric Corp. amounting to P708.01 million to fund the company's projects.

In a statement on Monday, the SEC said the commission en banc approved during a meeting on Dec. 7 to render effective the registration statement of the Nepomuceno family's Angeles Electric covering 1.178 billion common shares.

Angeles Electric plans to offer 207.02 million common shares at P3.42 per share.

"The company expects proceeds to amount to P708.01 million, which will be used to fund a portion of its capital expenditure projects over the next two years," the SEC said.

According to the SEC, Angeles Electric's offering is done in compliance with Republic Act No. 9136 or the Electric Power Industry Reform Act, which provides that generation companies should offer and sell to the public a portion not less than 15% of their common shares.

The planned offering of Angeles Electric is set to run from Dec. 18 to 22 based on its latest submitted timetable. The shares may be sold to any person, domestic corporation, association, or partnership.

"In the case of domestic corporations and associations, 60% of its total voting shares and total outstanding capital stock must be owned and held by Filipinos, in line with the foreign ownership limit for public utility companies at 40% of its outstanding capital stock," the SEC said.

Meanwhile, the SEC disclosed that Angeles Electric tapped Penta Capital and Investment Corp. as the lone underwriter for the transaction.

Angeles Electric operates an electric light, heat, and power system in Angeles City, Pampanga that serves about 132,000 customer accounts as of December last year. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

MPT steps up proposal to ease traffic in Baguio

MPT Mobility Corp., the innovations arm of Metro Pacific Tollways Corp. (MPTC), secured original proponent status from the local government of Baguio for its technology-driven mobility solutions.

"It was given original proponent status [in August]. We are now undergoing negotiations. After we come up with the terms for the negotiations then we will proceed with the Swiss challenge," Mark Richmond M. de Leon, vice-president for Smart Mobility Solutions, told reporters in a press chat on Monday.

In July, the company announced that it submitted an unsolicited proposal valued at P2.5 billion to provide smart urban mobility solutions to a local government unit.

"The current modality is a concession agreement but of course, everything will be undergoing negotiations [to determine] what's the best on their side," Mr. De Leon said.

According to Donald Sauroombe, assistant vice-president for business development, the company's proposal would deploy integrated and tailor-fit systems for Baguio, including traffic management solutions, area-based monitoring, smart command centers, parking systems, and transportation fleet management support.

The company is also looking at the replacement of the number-coding scheme by introducing a congestion fee in Baguio, Mr. Sauroombe added.

"Instead of number coding, you will just have to pay a congestion fee if you choose to drive. It is supposed to shift the behavior of the motorist to be able to think about when they want to drive — during congested times or choose a less congested time to make a trip," he said.

A congestion pricing scheme is a fee charged to drivers for traveling in certain key areas at a specific time, which is a concept aimed at easing traffic.

Mr. De Leon declined to say how much the congestion fee would be, noting that the company already surveyed the willingness of motorists to pay the charge.

"We came up with that magic number. We have that number that we proposed to Baguio, and the response was positive. Majority of the people are willing to pay," he said, adding that the congestion pricing will only be implemented during peak hours. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

FULL STORY
Read the full story by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or by typing the link
tinyurl.com/3783be2u

Globe unit and AWS plan cloud platform

GLOBE Telecom, Inc. said its unit had partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to utilize its cloud platform for the company's businesses, the listed telecommunications company said on Monday.

Globe, through its cloud company Cascadeo, and AWS are exploring how to leverage cloud technology for the operations of the former's businesses.

"Our collaboration with AWS showcases our dedication to helping businesses evolve with cloud technology, making significant savings on cost without compromising on performance," said Jared Reimer, chief technology officer and founder of Cascadeo, in a statement.

Globe said the parties' joint study aims to provide an "economical, high-performance cloud infrastructure" for businesses.

The initiative, it said, is part of the company's ambition to utilize artificial intelligence and cloud technology.

Separately, Globe said in a stock exchange disclosure that it had secured funds from a term loan facility of BDO Unibank, Inc. amounting to P20 billion that it will use to fund the company's capital spending budget, debt refinancing, and general corporate requirements.

In total, the company said it had spent P54 billion as capital expenditure as of September this year for network expansion and enhancement.

Globe noted that the majority of its spending at 91% was set aside for the data requirements to ensure that customers will have uninterrupted connectivity and digital solutions access.

At the local bourse on Monday, shares in the company fell by P11 or 0.64% to end at P1,718 apiece. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

Meralco's solar unit expects 60-MW capacity by yearend

MSPECTRUM, Inc., the solar energy arm of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), is targeting its power generation capacity to reach 60 megawatts (MW) by the end of the year.

"We will be ending this year [with] 60 MW. Next year, another 30 MW, so it would be 90 [MW]," Ma. Cecilia M. Domingo, president and chief executive officer of MSpectrum, told reporters in a recent interview.

To date, about 80-85% of the company's portfolio is under Meralco's franchise area.

"[That's] hoping, praying, and declaring, and maybe half a billion in revenues by the end of the year from last year's P300 million," said Ms. Domingo, who is also a vice-president at Meralco.

The company is open to opportunities to install rooftop solar panels, she said, describing possible clients as "all those with roofs, rooftops that can be installed [with solar panels], new buildings that are ready for solar."

"We're expanding our footprint in the Visayas and Mindanao. That's been our tar-

get since last year. They are included in the 30-MW target next year — commercial and industrial," she said.

In April, the company installed a 976.8-kilowatt-peak solar panel system in the cold storage facility of Atkins Import and Export Resources, Inc. in Naic, Cavite.

Atkins, a subsidiary of First Atkins Holdings Corp., is primarily engaged in the importation and distribution of meat products mainly sourced from Europe.

MSpectrum provides tailor-fit solutions for industrial, commercial, and residential customers through an in-depth understanding of energy consumption behavior. It is backed by Meralco's energy expertise and proven safety track record.

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 Media-Quest Holdings, Inc., has an interest in *BusinessWorld* through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

Alternergy unit receives award for two wind energy projects

ALTERNERGY Holdings Corp.'s subsidiary has received the certificates of award for two wind power projects that it won under the second round of the green energy auction program of the Energy department.

In a media release on Monday, Alternergy President Gerry P. Magbanua described the confirmation by the Department of Energy and subsequently, the issuance of the certificates as "a critical milestone."

These actions formally award the wind projects with 20-year off-take

agreements with state-led National Transmission Corp. with a specific tariff.

He added that the award "is critical to our project lenders who are close to completing their due diligence with target financial closure by first quarter of next year."

The government's green energy auction or GEA program is a competitive process of procuring renewable energy supply by offering capacities to qualified bidders at a set maximum or ceiling price.

According to its parent firm, Alternergy Tanay Wind Corp. (ATWC) has conducted competitive bidding for the equipment supply and construction contracts.

The company is targeting to complete the 86-megawatt (MW) Tanay wind farm in Rizal and the 55-MW Alabat wind farm in Quezon province by the second quarter of 2024.

Last week, ATWC said it had tapped K2 Management A/S, an independent wind and solar project management consultancy firm, as the "owner's engineer" of the two projects.

It will support Alternergy in the procurement processes within a multi-contracting framework, followed by construction management, design reviews, site management, and quality control measures.

Alternergy aims to develop up to 1,370 MW of renewable energy sources such as onshore and offshore wind, solar, and run-of-river hydropower.

At the local bourse on Monday, shares of the company went down by two centavos or 2.67% to close at P0.73 apiece. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**