

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,292.39 ▲ 64.10 PTS. ▲ 1.02%

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023
BusinessWorld

PSEi MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P660.00 +P12.00 +1.85%	ACEN ACEN Corp. P4.38 -P0.08 -1.79%	AEV Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P48.75 +P0.80 +1.67%	AGI Alliance Global Group, Inc. P9.90 ---	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P32.00 +P0.05 +0.16%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P125.00 +P1.60 +1.3%	BLOOM Bloomerry Resorts Corp. P9.90 +P0.29 +3.02%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P102.50 +P3.00 +3.02%	CNPF Century Pacific Food, Inc. P33.10 +P0.55 +1.69%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P7.80 +P0.07 +0.91%
DMC DMCI Holdings, Inc. P9.30 ---	EMI Emperador, Inc. P20.75 +P0.10 +0.48%	GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,718.00 ---	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P537.00 -P7.50 -1.38%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P232.00 +P3.00 +1.31%	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P239.20 +P0.40 +0.17%	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P38.45 +P0.55 +1.45%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P8.80 ---	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P51.45 ---	MER Manila Electric Co. P375.80 +P3.20 +0.86%
MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P8.00 ---	NIKL Nickel Asia Corp. P5.07 +P0.04 +0.8%	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P27.15 +P0.60 +2.26%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P28.60 -P0.20 -0.69%	SM SM Investments Corp. P839.00 +P4.00 +0.48%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P115.40 +P0.80 +0.7%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P33.20 +P0.50 +1.53%	TEL PLDT Inc. P1,265.00 ---	URC Universal Robina Corp. P115.00 +P3.10 +2.77%	WLCON Wilcon Depot, Inc. P20.00 -P0.30 -1.48%

SPNEC takes full control of Terra Solar for P6B

SP New Energy Corp. (SPNEC) has acquired the stake held by its partner in Terra Solar Philippines, Inc. for P6 billion, giving the listed firm full ownership of the entity that plans to build a massive solar farm.

In a stock exchange disclosure on Tuesday, the Leviste-led energy company said it had executed a deed of absolute sale on Monday to acquire the entire stake of Prime Infrastructure, Inc. or Prime Infra in Terra Solar.

SPNEC said that along with its previously acquired shares

in Terra Solar, it is now the beneficial owner of 100% of the target company.

Established in 2020, Terra Solar is a 50-50 joint venture between Prime Infra and Solar Philippines Power Project Holdings, Inc., the parent firm of SPNEC. It is developing a 3,500-megawatt (MW) solar power plant and a 4,000-MW-hour energy storage system.

SPNEC previously said it had secured more than 3,000 hectares for its projects, primarily in Nueva Ecija and Bulacan, most

of which have already been converted to industrial use.

The company's development projects are supported by an agreement signed between MGen Renewable Energy, Inc. or MGreen, Solar Philippines, and SPNEC in October this year.

MGreen invested P15.9 billion in SPNEC, Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) previously said.

MGreen is the renewable energy development arm of Meralco Powergen Corp. (MGen), a wholly owned subsidiary of Meralco.

SPNEC is currently majority-owned by Solar Philippines.

Upon closing, MGreen will own 15.9 billion common shares and 19.4 billion preferred shares of SPNEC, translating to a total voting interest of 50.5%.

Meralco has estimated the project cost of the solar projects that the parties intend to pursue to reach P200 billion.

In the third quarter, SPNEC registered an attributable net loss of P49.73 million, wider than the P15.51 million in the same quarter last year.

Its gross revenues stood at P269.62 million while gross expenses were at P123.15 million.

Sought for comment, China Bank Capital Corp. Managing Director Juan Paolo E. Colet said that the acquisition effectively puts Meralco in "the driver's seat of Terra Solar."

"This will give the company access to Meralco's financial resources and project execution expertise, which would help accelerate Terra Solar's development of the country's largest solar power facility," Mr. Colet said in a Viber message.

Last week, SPNEC announced that its board of directors had approved the appointment of Rochel Donato R. Gloria as treasurer and chief finance officer, and Alicia G. Brion as head of controllership effective on Nov. 30.

Mr. Gloria also serves as the finance chief of MGen, and Global Business Power Corp. (GBP), a wholly owned subsidiary of MGen.

Ms. Brion serves as the first vice-president and controller of MGen and first vice-president and controller of GBP. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

ACEN lays down roadmap for coal plant retirement

ACEN Corp. has identified six initiatives tied to the retirement of its 246-megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant, the Ayala-led renewable energy company said on Tuesday.

In a media release, the company said it will be prioritizing six areas for implementation of its Just Energy Transition or JET roadmap for retiring the plant under South Luzon Thermal Corp. (SLTEC).

These areas are clean energy replacement, power plant decommissioning, asset repurposing, community transition, worker reskilling and deployment, and cascading learnings and continuous improvement.

"While the planned coal to clean transition for SLTEC is scheduled more than a decade from now, it is never too early to develop a long-term roadmap," ACEN President and Chief Executive Officer Eric T. Francia said.

"This will ensure that the transition is carried out in a just, thorough and proactive manner," he added.

ACEN has launched its JET roadmap for the early retirement of the SLTEC coal power plant via technical assistance from Coal Asset Transition Accelerator (CATA) in partnership with Climate Smart Ventures (CSV).

"We are thankful for the partnership with CATA and CSV on this pioneering Just Energy Transition initiative, and more than happy to share learnings with the broader industry," Mr. Francia said.

The 246-MW coal plant in Batangas was the only coal plant in ACEN's portfolio.

Through the transition program, SLTEC's coal power plant will be decommissioned as early as 2030, which is a decade ahead of its current retirement date.

"With the launch of its Just Energy Transition Roadmap, ACEN has yet again produced a 'world's first' by being the first private power company in Asia to clearly articulate its plans for holistically addressing the future of a coal-fired power plant set

for early decommissioning," CSV Managing Partner Lawrence Ang said.

Last week, ACEN said its Singapore-based unit ACEN Renewables International Pte. Ltd. (ACRI) signed a \$100-million green term-loan facility with MUFG Bank, Ltd. of Japan.

MUFG acted as the sole arranger and green loan coordinator for the loan, which operates under a five-year term, "and is encompassed within ACEN's green finance framework," the renewables firm said.

The loan forms part of ACRI's fund-raising efforts, which have current approvals in place for up to \$422 million, with forecast use of the funds in the next two years.

Currently, ACEN has approximately 4,430 MW of attributable capacity spanning the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, and Australia.

At the local bourse on Tuesday, shares in ACEN went down by eight centavos or 1.79% to close at P4.38 apiece. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**



BW FILE PHOTO

SNAP says energy storage system to run by yearend

NORWEGIAN-FILIPINO power company SN Aboitiz Power Group (SNAP) is targeting the operations of its 24-megawatt (MW) battery energy storage system (BESS) project before the end of the year.

"We're just waiting for the COC (certificate of compliance). So, we expect our target," SNAP President and Chief Executive Officer Joseph S. Yu told reporters on Monday. "Hopefully, the regulators will cooperate with us and have it ready for the reserve market for December 26."

In September, the Department of Energy approved the commercial operations of the reserve market, which is targeted on Dec. 26, 2023.

The reserve market will facilitate the trading of ancillary services or power reserves needed to support the transmission system.

SNAP is a joint venture between Aboitiz Power Corp. and Norwegian company Scatec.

The company has invested about P1.2 billion for the BESS project, Mr. Yu said. The storage system is located at SNAP's 388-MW Magat hydroelectric power plant, which is at the border of Isabela and Ifugao.

Only Magat Dam's power components were privatized and

won by SNAP in 2007. Its facilities downstream are owned and maintained by the National Irrigation Administration.

SNAP is also planning to build more BESS projects between Magat and Benguet, Mr. Yu said.

"We have three more projects, almost 100 MW more between Magat and Benguet that we hope to bring to a final investment decision in 2024," he said.

He estimated an investment of around \$800,000 to \$1 million per megawatt for the additional BESS projects.

"But we're looking for ways to optimize it and reduce the cost," he said.

"We have a very good team working on it and I'm very optimistic that they should be able to come up with something interesting," he added.

Last month, SNAP signed a memorandum of agreement with the National Power Corp. for the adoption of a 1,000-hectare watershed area within a 2.5-kilometer radius from the Ambuklao and Binga reservoirs.

The agreement covers fire protection, rehabilitation and restoration activities, agroforestry, and riverbank stabilization. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

SEC renews call for companies to seek amnesty by Dec. 31

THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has called on companies to avail of the regulator's amnesty program less than three weeks before the Dec. 31 deadline to avoid hefty fines.

In a statement on Tuesday, the SEC said that failure to seek amnesty would subject noncompliant and suspended, or revoked corporations to a new scale of fines that would be implemented starting Jan. 1 next year.

Launched in March, the SEC's amnesty program allows erring corporations to pay a reduced penalty for the late and nonfiling of their general information sheet (GIS), annual financial statement (AFS), and official contact details mandated under Memorandum Circular No. 28 series of 2020.

Under the SEC's amnesty program, noncompliant corporations would pay a P5,000 fixed amnesty rate regardless of the number of reports and number of years that they failed to submit their reports, while suspended and revoked corporations would only pay 50% of their total assessed fines on top of a P3,060 petition fee. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

Greenery eyes up to P5-B loan

LISTED firm Greenery Holdings, Inc. is set to apply for a loan or credit facility amounting up to P5 billion, the company said on Tuesday.

The company told the local bourse that its board of directors had approved on Monday the application and security with banks and other financial institutions "under such terms and conditions as may be beneficial to the company."

Greenery did not disclose any additional details on where it intends to use the proceeds.

With the approval, the chairman or the president of the company has been designated to "sign, execute and deliver any and all documents related to the loan."

The company was also issued the authority to write off the advances it made to

its subsidiaries and were previously impaired, namely: Total Waste Management Recovery System, Inc.; Lite Speed Technologies, Inc.; Agrinurture Development Holdings, Inc.; and Winsun Green Ventures, Inc.

In September, Greenery disclosed that its board of directors had approved the subscription to 480 million shares out of the increase in Winsun's authorized capital stock.

The company said it had paid P185 million upon subscription while the balance of P295 million will be paid within 60 calendar days or until Nov. 17.

Winsun is increasing its authorized capital stock to 500 million shares from 20 million shares previously, with a par value of P1 apiece.

The increase is subject to the approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Greenery was originally into manufacturing specialty semiconductor products before venturing into renewable energy.

The company saw its attributable net loss widen to P9.53 million in the third quarter from last year's P8.74 million.

Gross revenues fell by 92% to P1.71 million from P21.26 million previously. Gross expenses, meanwhile, dropped by 55.4% to P14.33 million from P32.16 million a year ago.

At the local bourse on Tuesday, shares in the company went up by P0.002 or 0.81% to finish at P0.25 apiece. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

A Brown board approves amendments in electric bus joint venture

A BROWN Co., Inc. said its board had approved the reduction in the capitalization of its joint venture company with GET Philippines, Inc., the listed holding firm said.

In a regulatory filing on Tuesday, A Brown said the joint venture will now have an authorized capital stock of P30 million instead of the previously disclosed P100 million.

Earlier this year, the company forged an agreement with GET Philippines, an operator of zero-emission buses, to

form a new company that will own and operate Community Optimized Managed Electric Transport (COMET) electric vehicles in Cagayan de Oro.

Upon the incorporation of the joint venture company, it will have a share of P10 million, significantly lower than the previous planned subscription of P45 million.

In the previous agreement, A Brown said that upon the new company's incorporation, its outstanding capital stock would be P45 million corresponding to 45

million shares. GET Philippines will own 100% of the outstanding capital stock.

"The reduction in the capitalization of the [joint venture company] at incorporation has been agreed upon by (A Brown) and GET to reduce the filing fees and the documentary stamp taxes," it said.

The two parties, A Brown said, will both have an equal share of 50% upon its incorporation, adding that GET Philippines will now have the option to make equity contributions through COMET electric vehicles.

The joint venture will be responsible for the provision, management, service, maintenance, and operation of the COMET fleet for the electric shuttle service in Cagayan de Oro.

A Brown is primarily engaged in real estate development. Its subsidiaries are in power generation, manufacturing, and trading of palm oil and other palm products.

At the local bourse on Tuesday, shares in the company shed one centavo or 1.52% to end at P0.65 apiece. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

FULL STORY

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