

# Full electrification by 2028 goal under review on funding doubts

THE Department of Energy (DoE) said it will review its target of achieving total electrification by 2028 amid concerns about the availability of funding.

“Since the President is approaching the middle of his term, it is a good time to review how realistic our targets and the funding available are and whether we can think of ways to hasten or to make them more realistic,” Energy Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla told reporters on the sidelines of an event on Wednesday.

Mr. Lotilla said that the DoE will discuss the total electrification program and the challenges in meeting the target during the next cabinet sector meeting with President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.

The 2023-2032 National Total Electrification Roadmap (NTER) sets a 100% electrification target by 2028 by focusing on household electrification, distribution line extension, stand-alone home systems, and microgrid systems.

However, Mr. Lotilla said the Philippines will need at least P85 billion to P100 billion in order to achieve the electrification goal at the household level.

The estimated amount is intended not only to finance the household electrification, but also to improve backbone lines, especially in off-grid areas, Mr. Lotilla said.

NTER estimates the current household electrification level at 91.1% as of June 2023, with 25.3 million households served out of a potential 27.727 million, based on the 2020 Census on Population and Housing.

For the rest of 2023, the estimated number of underserved households total 2.454 million.

“If the funds are available, it would take an average of around P25 billion a year to finish electrification,” Mr. Lotilla said. “Congress appropriates on a yearly basis so we don’t know if there will be sufficient funds.”

Energy Undersecretary Rowena Cristina L. Guevara has said that about P100 billion is needed for total electrification, with P75 billion going to the electric cooperatives supervised by the National Electrification Administration and about P25 billion to the National Power Corp.

“As of the midpoint of the administration, the average budget has only been between P2 billion to P3 billion a year and therefore we have a long



CRECENCIO I. CRUZ

way to go before we can achieve that goal. So we are looking at ways and means to achieve the total electrification goal,” Mr. Lotilla said.

The DoE is also preparing to ensure energy resiliency during the upcoming mid-term elections.

With the official campaign period set to begin next week, the department has activated Task Force Election to ensure uninterrupted power for the campaign period and voting.

The DoE said it is working with the Commission on Elections and the Department of National Defense to safeguard the integrity and smooth conduct of the elections “through strategic energy sector preparedness before, during, and after the electoral process.”

“Ensuring uninterrupted power during elections is crucial to upholding the integrity of the electoral process and maintaining public confidence. By prioritizing energy resiliency, Task Force Election plays a vital role in guaranteeing smooth and credible elections, free from power-related disruptions,” Energy Undersecretary Felix William B. Fuentesbella said.

The DoE said that the task force will remain on standby throughout the election period at a command hub to monitor and address potential power issues in real time.

The DoE is also collaborating with the Department of Interior and Local Government to ensure the availability of critical backup resources, including generator sets and emergency lamps at key locations.

The DoE added that it will release the terms of reference this month for the fourth round of the green energy auction program (GEA-4), which will cover integrated renewable energy and energy storage systems.

The Terms of Reference outlines the auction design, bond requirements, instructions to bidders, bidding data, forms and templates, and post-auction requirements.

The draft GEA-4 terms of reference will be subject to public consultations.

The government hopes to expand the share of renewable energy capacity in the energy mix to 35% by 2030. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

## UN-funded program hoping to digitize 15,000 PHL small firms

A PROGRAM funded by the United Nations is seeking to provide digital tools and training to at least 15,000 small businesses in the Philippines, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said.

The United Nations Joint Programme on Inclusive, Competitive, and Responsible Digital Philippines (Digital PINAS) hopes to build a digital ecosystem for micro, small and medium enterprises in remote regions who are currently facing barriers to connectivity.

In a statement on Feb. 3, the UNDP said the initiative was jointly implemented with two UN entities — the International Trade Centre (ITC), and the International Labour Organization.

The government is represented in the program by the Department of Information and Communications Technology, while potential private-sector partners will be enlisted.

Information and Communications Secretary Ivan John E. Uy said despite ad-

vances in connectivity and digital adoption, millions remain without such access, especially vulnerable communities.

“With a total budget of \$5 million, the joint program will address policy, regulatory and systemic barriers to digital inclusion,” the UNDP said.

The UNDP said the program includes supporting the establishment of Digital Transformation Hubs in at least 30 remote and underserved areas.

Digital PINAS is funded through the UN’s Joint SDG Fund, which is supported by the European Union, which pledged an initial 30 million euros for digital transformation efforts across the developing world.

Other supporters of the Fund include Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, and South Korea.

“To complement the program’s investment, a key component of the initiative involves the mobilization of an anticipated \$21 million in local government and private sector investment in digital products,” the UNDP said. — **Aubrey Rose A. Inosante**

## Balisacan backs anti-trust legislation for agriculture to boost food security

NATIONAL ECONOMIC and Development Authority (NEDA) Secretary Arsenio M. Balisacan said anti-trust legislation will be crucial in ensuring food security.

“We must complement antitrust tools with strategies to address structural issues that shape firm behavior in the agriculture sector and related industries,” Mr. Balisacan, a former competition commissioner, said in his speech at the 2025 Manila Forum on Competition in Developing Countries.

“Pro-competitive legislation, policies, regulations, and programs or projects can contribute toward safeguarding consumers and producers from uncompetitive and unfair conduct,” he added.

However, Mr. Balisacan said competition policy is not a universal solution, though it can promote efficiency and resilience.

He also cited recent government efforts to control food inflation, such as lowering the rice tariffs and removing non-tariff barriers “encourage market players to augment the food supply.”

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported that headline inflation rose 2.9% year on year in January, matching the December print.

Food inflation accelerated to 4% from 3.5% in December and 3.3% in 2024.

The PSA said tomato price growth accelerated to 155.7% from 120.8% a month earlier.

“Together, let us work for fairer markets and amplify the pivotal role of competition in this important sector as we collectively aspire for food security and shared prosperity for all,” Mr. Balisacan said. — **Aubrey Rose A. Inosante**



### CITY GOVERNMENT OF MAKATI

#### SANGGUNIAN PANLUNGSOD OF MAKATI

##### PRESENT:

|               |                                                           |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Vice Mayor    | HON. MONIQUE YAZMIN MARIA Q. LAGDAMEO – Presiding Officer |
| Councilor     | HON. DENNIS B. ALMARIO                                    |
| Councilor     | HON. MARIA DOLORES M. ARAYON                              |
| Councilor     | HON. MARTIN JOHN PIO Q. ARENAS                            |
| Councilor     | HON. JOEL M. ARIONES                                      |
| Councilor     | HON. SHIRLEY C. ASPILLAGA                                 |
| Councilor     | HON. BENEDICT B. BANIQUED                                 |
| Councilor     | HON. VIRGILIO V. HILARIO, JR.                             |
| Councilor     | HON. LUIS S. JAVIER, JR.                                  |
| Councilor     | HON. EDRALYN M. MARQUEZ                                   |
| Councilor     | HON. CARMINA C. ORTEGA                                    |
| Councilor     | HON. RENE ANDREI Q. SAGUISAG, JR.                         |
| Councilor     | HON. KRISTINA T. SAROSA                                   |
| Councilor     | HON. JOSE C. VILLENA, IV                                  |
| Councilor     | HON. ANNA ALCINA M. YABUT                                 |
| LnB President | HON. ROLANDO D. ALVAREZ, JR.                              |
| SK President  | HON. JEROME TRISTAN G. PANGILINAN                         |

##### N.B.:

Councilor HON. ARMANDO P. PADILLA – Sick Leave

##### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Secretary to the Sanggunian ATTY. DINDO R. CERVANTES

Upon motion of Hon. M.D.M. Arayon, duly seconded, the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Makati, by a unanimous vote, approved City Resolution No. 2025-005 on second and final reading.

##### CITY RESOLUTION NO. 2025-005

Authors: Hon. A.P. Padilla, Hon. R.A.Q. Saguisag, Jr., Hon. D.B. Almario, Hon. B.B. Baniqued, Hon. V.V. Hilario, Jr., Hon. M.D.M. Arayon, Hon. E.M. Marquez, Hon. C.C. Ortega, and Hon. J.T.G. Pangilinan

Co-Authors: Hon. M.J.P.Q. Arenas, Hon. J.M. Ariones, Hon. L.S. Javier, Jr., Hon. K.T. Sarosa, Hon. J.C. Villena, IV, Hon. A.A.M. Yabut, and Hon. R.D. Alvarez, Jr.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HONORABLE MAYOR MAR-LEN ABIGAIL S. BINAY OR HER DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE TO ACCEPT, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF MAKATI/OSPITAL NG MAKATI (OSMAK), THE DONATION OF VARIOUS MEDICAL SUPPLIES FROM THE PANAMED PHILIPPINES, INC. (PPI), AND TO SIGN THE DEED OF DONATION AND ALL OTHER PERTINENT DOCUMENTS RELATIVE THERETO, SUBJECT TO EXISTING LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS.**

**WHEREAS**, Sec. 15, Art. II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

**WHEREAS**, Sec. 3 (I) of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, states that the participation of the private sector in local governance, particularly in the delivery of basic services, shall be encouraged to ensure the viability of local autonomy as an alternative strategy for sustainable development;

**WHEREAS**, the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 by the United Nations underscores the importance of solidifying partnerships between public and private sectors to mobilize resources, enhance capacities, and promote sustainable development initiatives;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the City Government of Makati to provide the best possible health care services to its constituents by strengthening the delivery of health care programs and services;

**WHEREAS**, the Panamed Philippines, Inc. (PPI), a professional organization specializing in the importation, marketing, and distribution of high-quality medical devices that collaborate with numerous government healthcare facilities nationwide, aims to contribute to better patient outcomes and elevate the standards of healthcare across the Philippines;¹

**WHEREAS**, for and in consideration of the goodwill, assistance, and pure generosity of the PPI, such entity voluntarily and freely gives, transfers, and conveys, by way of donation, unto the City Government of Makati, the following medical supplies for the benefit of the Makatizens;

| CODE        | DESCRIPTION                                              | QUANTITY |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1-SM-DZLF15 | Renasenz Hollow Fiber Dialyzer LF15                      | 100      |
| 1-SP-ETC055 | Simplex Endotracheal Tube w/ Cuff 5.5                    | 24       |
| 1-SP-ETC085 | Simplex Endotracheal Tube w/ Cuff 8.5                    | 40       |
| 1-SP-F2W161 | Simplex Foley 2 Way Fr16 (40 cm)                         | 200      |
| 0-MI-SN0019 | Top Spinal Needle G19                                    | 110      |
| 0-SP-600410 | Simplex Suction Catheter w/ Finger Tip Control Fr-1053cm | 20       |
| 0-SP-ET0040 | Simplex Endo Tube w/ cuff 4.0                            | 5        |
| 0-SP-ETC020 | Simplex Endotracheal Tube w/o Cuff 2.0                   | 29       |
| 0-SP-ETC055 | Simplex Endotracheal Tube w/ Cuff 5.5                    | 25       |
| 1-CL-08100  | Curas SAP Fluid Absorber                                 | 1483     |
| 1-SM-DZLF15 | Renasenz Hollow Fiber Dialyzer LF15                      | 50       |
| 1-UN-A84448 | Unimex GS NS 28x24, 4x4-8P 100s X-R                      | 400      |
| 1-UN-PD1001 | Unimex Penrose Drain Tubing 1                            | 200      |
| 1-UN-S2S228 | Unimex GS S 24x20.2x2-8P 2 s 100s                        | 700      |
| 1-UN-SGPF80 | Unimex Sterile Surgical Gloves C 8.0                     | 700      |
| 1-CL-08000  | Curas Bedpan Liner w/ Lid, 2L WardPak                    | 400      |
| 1-CL-08001  | Curas Slipper Pan w/ Lid, 1.7L WardPak                   | 865      |
| 1-CL-080#1  | Curas Bowl w/ Lid, 1L WardPak                            | 47       |

**WHEREAS**, PPI is the absolute owner of the abovementioned medical supplies and ensures that such items are free from all liens and encumbrances;

**WHEREAS**, Art. 748 of the New Civil Code of the Philippines provides that:

“**Art. 748.** The donation of a movable may be made orally or in writing.

An oral donation requires the simultaneous delivery of the thing or of the document representing the right donated.

If the value of the personal property donated exceeds five thousand pesos, the donation and the acceptance shall be made in writing, otherwise, the donation shall be void.”

**WHEREAS**, a deed of donation, among other documents, must be executed by the City Government of Makati and PPI to effectuate the abovementioned purpose;

**WHEREAS**, Sec. 8 (a) (6) of R.A. No. 7854, otherwise known as the Charter of the City of Makati, provides that the City Mayor, as the chief executive of the city government, shall, among others, represent the City in all its business transactions and sign on its behalf all bonds, contracts, and obligations, and such other documents upon authority of the sangguniang panlungsod or pursuant to law or ordinance;

**WHEREAS**, in consideration of the reasonableness and absence of any legal impediment to the aforesaid authority that will be given to the City Mayor, the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Makati, pursuant to the abovementioned provision of law, hereby approves this Resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SANGGUNIAN PANLUNGSOD OF MAKATI, METRO MANILA, BY THE POWERS VESTED IN IT BY LAW, IN SESSION ASSEMBLED**, to authorize the Honorable Mayor Mar-len Abigail S. Binay or her duly authorized representative to accept, for and on behalf of the City Government of Makati, the donation of various medical supplies from the Panamed Philippines, Inc., and to sign the deed of donation and all other pertinent documents relative thereto, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Makati hereby authorizes the Honorable Mayor or her duly authorized representative to enter into, execute, sign, and/or deliver, on behalf of the City Government of Makati, any and all instruments and documents in connection with, arising from, pertaining to or necessary for the implementation of the deed of donation subject of this Resolution.

**RESOLVED FURTHERMORE**, that the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Makati hereby expresses its utmost gratitude to the Panamed Philippines, Inc. for its laudable role in the City’s purposeful quest to continuously uplift the quality of life of the Makatizens.

Let copies of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Administrator, Law Department, Makati Health Department, General Services Department (GSD), Information and Community Relations Department (ICRD), Department of the Interior and Local Government – Makati City Field Office (DILG-Makati City), Panamed Philippines, Inc. and all other departments, offices, and agencies concerned for their information, guidance, and reference.

This Resolution shall be posted and published in accordance with the provisions of R.A. No. 7854.

**APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIAN PANLUNGSOD OF MAKATI, METRO MANILA**, in its Regular Session held on 5 February 2025.

Attested by:

**ATTY. DINDO R. CERVANTES**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Certified by:

**HON. MONIQUE YAZMIN MARIA Q. LAGDAMEO**  
Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

¹ <https://www.panamed.com.ph/>