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PALECO lists projects to boost power reliability

The Palawan Electric Cooperative (PALECO) is continuously working to improve the reliability of the electricity and reduce power interruptions in the province of Palawan, including Puerto Princesa City.

In a report to the National Electrification Administration (NEA), PALECO cited its on-going projects to boost its power distribution systems, which include the construction of two 5 MVA substations in Brgy. Lucbuan and Brgy. Montible, Puerto Princesa City.

The electric cooperative (EC) is also continuously relocating the remaining electric poles affected by the road widening projects of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in the province. In 2020, the power utility was able to relocate 278 electric poles.

To reduce power outages and interruptions, PALECO is also prioritizing the clearing of obstructions along its power distribution lines. The EC earlier recognized vegetation as one of the primary causes of outages in the province.

Last year, PALECO cleared a total of 463.87 kilometers of right-of-way. Currently, the areas that are being prioritized for line clearing are the following: San Jose Feeder, Iwahig Feeder, Poblacion Feeder, Wescom Feeder, and GMA Feeder.

In addition, the power distribution utility also successfully completed the construction works to connect Barangay Rio Tuba in the Municipality of Bataraza to the main power grid in February this year.

The EC also has several projects in the pipeline, which include the construction of 25 MVA substation in Puerto Princesa City, 5 MVA substation in Aborlan, upgrading of 13.8 kV tie-line from Delta-P to PALECO substation to 69 kV, and conversion of single to three phase lines from Brgy. San Rafael to Brgy. Concepcion, and from Lio to Barutuan in El Nido.

Also in the offing are the approved capital expenditure (CapEx) projects, such as the line extension in Balabac, Brooke's Point, Cuyo, Narra, Rizal, Roxas, Taytay and Quezon; and upgrading of single-phase to three-phase connection in Puerto Princesa City, Rizal, Roxas, Taytay, and El Nido.

To recall, PALECO was placed under the management of the NEA in December 2018 following the directive of Malacañang to address the power situation in the province. In 2019, the NEA formed Task Force Kapatid, which was composed of different ECs from Luzon and the Visayas, to help PALECO improve its power distribution services.

PALECO is the power distributor of Puerto Princesa City and the municipalities of Aborlan, Narra, Brooke's Point, Sofronio Espanola, Cuyo, Magsaysay, Quezon, Roxas, Taytay, El Nido, Araceli, San Vicente, Bataraza, Rizal, Balabac, Cagayancillo, Agutaya and Dumarán. ###

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