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MEDIA RELEASE

27 July 2021

NEA all set for 52nd anniversary, 12th National Electrification Awareness Month

The National Electrification Administration (NEA) is celebrating its 52nd founding anniversary this August and the 12th National Electrification Awareness Month (NEAM), with the theme "NEA-ECs: Arise as One, Championing National Development and Building Sustainable Communities through Rural Electrification."

NEA Administrator Edgardo Masongsong said this year's celebration, however, will once again be different due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions enforced by the national government.

Included in the lineup are various online events from July 28 to August 31 that will highlight the milestones of rural electrification in the country, starting with a virtual Thanksgiving Mass on July 28.

On August 2, a Lineworkers Appreciation Day will be held in recognition of all line workers across the country who put their lives at risk and work around the clock to keep the electricity flowing to communities and businesses.

The traditional NEA-EC Consultative Conference, meanwhile, is scheduled on August 5. Just like the previous year, the consultative meeting with the 121 ECs will be conducted virtually.

To get the rural electrification sector involved in the month-long NEAM celebration, the agency has enjoined the 121 ECs to conduct simultaneously tree-planting and line clearing activities in their respective franchise areas on August 11.

"We are urging all electric cooperatives to once again display our unity and solidarity by taking part in these undertakings in celebration of the National Electrification Awareness Month," Administrator Masongsong said.

NEA's founding anniversary coincides with NEAM, which is celebrated annually every month of August pursuant to Proclamation No. 1743 in recognition of the significant contributions of the electrification program in nation building.

Created as an institution in 1969 through Republic Act No. 6038, NEA is mandated to carry out the total electrification of the country on an area coverage basis, in partnership with the 121 ECs nationwide. ###

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NEA loans to electric coops hit P293 million as of end-June

State-run National Electrification Administration (NEA) has extended a total of P293.021 million worth of loans, including calamity loans, to 13 electric cooperatives (ECs) as of end-June 2021.

Of the amount, P165.849 million went to eight ECs for their capital expenditure (CapEx) projects, latest data from the NEA Accounts Management and Guarantee Department (AMGD) showed.

These ECs were Davao del Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DANECO), La Union Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LUELCO), Quezon I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (QUEZELCO I), Bohol II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BOHECO II), Bukidnon Second Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BUSECO), South Cotabato I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SOCOTECO I), Tarlac I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (TARELCO I), and Occidental Mindoro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (OMEKO).

Two other ECs, namely Bantayan Island Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BANELCO) and Camarines Sur III Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CASURECO III), secured working capital loans amounting to P70 million.

Meanwhile, the remaining balance, or P57.172 million, went to five ECs as calamity loans, which they used for the repair and rehabilitation of their damaged power distribution systems due to previous typhoons Quinta, Rolly, and Ulysses..

Recipients of calamity loans include CASURECO III, QUEZELCO I, Marinduque Electric Cooperative, Inc. (MARELCO), Oriental Mindoro Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ORMECO), and Camarines Sur IV Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CASURECO IV).

The NEA has been offering financial assistance to ECs through its Enhanced Lending Program, which consists of regular, calamity and concessional loans, stand-by and short-term credit loans, single-digit system loss, renewable energy and modular generator sets loan.

The calamity loan has a maximum 10-year repayment term, with a grace period of one year and an interest rate of 3.25 percent per annum. ###

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