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NEA: Power restored to 92% of Ulysses-affected areas

The National Electrification Administration (NEA) said electricity service has been restored to 92.39 percent of cities and municipalities spread over 26 provinces hit by Typhoon 'Ulysses.'

Based on the monitoring report of the NEA Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Department (DRRMD) as of Monday (December 7), power has fully returned to 437 out of 473 cities and municipalities in provinces serviced by 43 electric cooperatives (ECs). About 35 areas are partially restored and one area is for restoration.

Of the 43 affected ECs, 35 have reported full restoration and back to normal operations. These include those operating in Benguet, Ifugao, Mountain Province, Kalinga, La Union, Pangasinan, Cagayan, Isabela, Quirino, Nueva Vizcaya, Aurora, Bataan, Pampanga, Tarlac, parts of Zambales, Nueva Ecija, parts of Quezon, Laguna, Batangas, Romblon, Masbate, Sorsogon, and parts of Camarines Sur.

Five ECs have restored power to 98 to 99 percent of the affected households in their respective coverage areas. These are the Zambales I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ZAMECO I), Quezon II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (QUEZELCO II), Camarines Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CANORECO), Camarines Sur I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CASURECO I) and Camarines Sur II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CASURECO II).

Meanwhile, the Camarines Sur III Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CASURECO III) reported 90.41 percent of affected consumers now have their power restored; and Albay Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ALECO/APEC) has fully restored power to 80.46 percent of affected consumers.

In the province of Catanduanes, the First Catanduanes Electric Cooperative, Inc. (FICELCO) reported 44.96-percent complete with its restoration activities.

FICELCO said of the 55,658 affected households, 18,223 have their power restored, while 22,311 households are still for restoration. The remaining 15,124 homes, which were declared by the Catanduanes Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (PDRRMO) as partially and totally damaged, will be restored once ready for energization.

NEA Administrator Edgardo Masongsong said efforts continue to restore power to the remaining households without electricity service.

A contingent of over 300 line workers and support personnel from 43 electric co-ops in Luzon and Visayas is assisting in the restoration of electricity in Catanduanes. These volunteer ECs form part of the 'Power Restoration Rapid Deployment' (PRRD) Task Force Kapatid.

Meanwhile, the estimated cost of damage to power distribution facilities of the affected ECs has reached P164.655 million. ###

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