



POWER HOTLINE

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CHANGE TEAM LINES UP ACTIVITIES FOR FIRST QUARTER 2010

The Organizational Change Team (OCT) created last year to oversee the National Power's transition from main grid power generator to missionary electrification and watershed management, has lined up its activities for the first quarter of 2010.

"What we want to achieve for this period is to come up with a proposal, or proposals, for a new table of organization that will reflect National Power's new mandates under the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA), after the corporation's assets have been sold and bidded out to its new owners", said OCT Chair and HRAF Vice President Edmund P. Anguluan (photo right).

He further explained that during this period, with the elections in the offing, National Power employees will be given opportunities for retooling, with the various technical and non-technical trainings that will be undertaken both by the company's training department, and by the OCT through a Change consultant.

"We need to adapt ourselves to want the current environment requires and needs. More important is the change in mindset and attitude: National Power is not the same as it was before. It has been trimmed down, its functions more focused on less profitable operations. We need to have a new set of attitudes, if not a complete change of culture that is more focused on service than profit", said Anguluan.

It may be recalled that last year, the formal transfer of National Power's main grid power generation assets and facilities to PSALM Corporation has been



undertaken. Through an Operations and Management Agreement (OMA), National Power's role over these assets is now limited to operations and maintenance.

"Given this scenario, we need new ideas for possible business units. National

Power needs to create a new niche in the power industry, given that its role in the main grid has realigned to that of missionary electrification and watershed management. That's why we are soliciting ideas from everybody. Let us all pitch in to create a new National Power", Anguluan said.

Some of the activities lined up for the first quarter of 2010 include presentation of a detailed realigned Table of Organization to the National Power Board; update employees of the developments in the OCT activities; coordination of the schedule of the re-organization with employees union and other employees' groups; attain 3rd party involvement in Table of Organization preparation; coordinate with various functional group heads on various new business unit proposals; update employees through issuance of regular bulletins on the status of OCT activities.

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CSR Team cites gains from PRES Project in Masbate



EMD Manager Resurreccion Petel dialogues with PRES beneficiaries, as other members of the CSR Team look on.

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Team of the National Power Corporation recently visited the Philippine Rural Electrification Service (PRES) Project in Masbate to kick off a public information drive on NPC's plan to start collecting electricity consumption payments from the project's beneficiaries.

Led by Ms. Resurreccion L. Petel, Manager of the Environmental Management Department, and Mr. Sergio P. Villafuerte, CSR Team Leader, the team went to Barangays Lanang and Isidro in Aroroy, Masbate last January 25 to inspect the solar photovoltaic panels and the mini-grid diesel-fueled generating sets that were installed there under the PRES Project.

Based on their first-hand testimonies, the project has truly empowered the PRES beneficiaries, as the electricity generated by the solar panels and diesel gensets has allowed them to start small businesses like sari-sari stores. At home, housewives now have longer hours to do their household chores and their children are now able to do their schoolwork by the light of a fluorescent lamp instead of the old "gasera". On the lighter side, the electricity provided by the PRES project also allows them to follow their favorite tele-novelas religiously.

"All of the residents confirmed the positive impact of the electricity supplied by the PRES Project on their everyday lives, and affirmed their commitment in safeguarding the generating sets and solar panels installed by NPC," Ms. Petel said.

The PRES Project in Masbate is a joint missionary electrification undertaking of NPC and the consortium of Paris-Manila Technology Corporation and ETDE of Bouygues Construction. Funded through the French Financial Protocol, the •17.5-million project involves the installation of

5,129 solar home systems and 154 mini-grid diesel engines in 128 remote barangays in Masbate, which used to have the lowest electrification level among the country's provinces.

As of December 17, 2009, all of the solar units and 39 mini-grids are operational and servicing 108 barangays. The remaining mini-grids are scheduled to be operational in the first quarter of 2010. A total of 18,000 households benefit from the PRES Project.

"The PRES Project, albeit small, serves a meaningful purpose," Mr. Villafuerte said. "It has spurred economic activities, improved social relations, and empowered its beneficiaries. But most importantly, it has brought NPC to the heart of the remotest rural areas and communities in Masbate."

As for NPC's plan to start collecting payments, Ms. Petel revealed that the residents are well aware that they will have to pay for the electricity provided by the PRES Project. "In fact, they are willing to start regular payment of their monthly power bills beginning next month, or as soon as NPC starts collecting."

Payments from the PRES Project are not expected to provide any additional income for NPC, Mr. Villafuerte pointed out. "We have to look at the bigger picture, where the government actually gains from rural electrification through empowered communities capable of self-governance, rural development, social order and more educated and productive members of the society."

Culture does not change because we desire to change it. Culture changes when the organization is transformed; the culture reflects the realities of people working together everyday.

Frances Hesselbein