



NEA & ECs Energize 476 Barangays, 323,202 House Connections in 2006

NEA and the 119 ECs have energized 476 barangays and provided power to 323,202 consumers throughout the archipelago in 2006. This brings the level of barangay energization under the EC franchise area to 94% serving 7.4 million of approximately 44 million of the Philippine population.

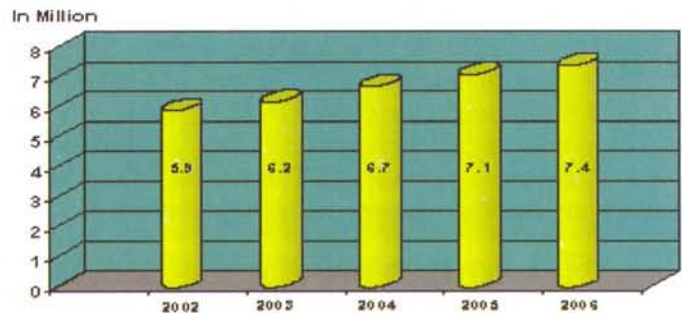
In Luzon, 18 barangays were energized, 199 in Visayas and 259 in Mindanao. Of these barangays, 215 were financed by government subsidy through NEA while 261 were funded by other players from both the government and private sectors.

Region VIII [Eastern Visayas] energized the most barangays with 125, followed by Region IX [Zamboanga Peninsula] with 81 and Region XI [Davao Peninsula] with 50. Meanwhile, NORSAMELCO lighted the most number of barangays in 2006 with 78.

In 2006, 7 more ECs reached 100% level of barangay energization bringing to 62 the total number of ECs accomplishing this feat. These additional ECs are: VRESKO, TARELCO II, SOCOTECO I, ILECO I, DORECO, CANORECO and ANECO.

Likewise, the ECs made power available to 323,202 consumers exceeding the year's target of 320,000. Region VI [Western Visayas] connected the most consumers with 41,607 while among the ECs, BATELEC II connected the most with 7,779 consumers.

STATUS OF CONSUMER CONNECTIONS As of December 2006



As of December 31, 2006, NEA and ECs have provided 7,418,733 consumers with electric service and thereby giving them greater opportunity for economic growth.

With the active private sector participation as effected by R.A. 9136, the Rural Electrification Program has extended to energizing sitios and puroks. In 2006, there are 1,649 sitios/puroks reportedly energized, of which 926 were funded by NEA subsidy. ■

Roadmap to 2007 Defined During Strategic Thinking Session

Recognizing its strength with other sectors within the electricity industry, NEA held a series of strategic planning activities to define its roadmap for 2007. The first part was a showcase on "Best Practices", notwithstanding the "Barriers to Effective Service Delivery" in January 15. All NEA employees together with the manpower support services staff participated in this activity wherein corresponding recommendations addressing these constraints were introduced.

A 2-day Workshop on Strategic Thinking and Scenario Planning Process followed with the Assembly of Leaders, the Association Presidents, representing a cross-section of NEA employee groups and the NEA Union, SAMA-KAREN. The workshop, which was held at the Batangas Country Club in Batangas City, brought together a wide range of perspectives which the participants tackled



NEA's officials and associates sit together to map out plans and programs for the agency and for the ECs with Secretary Silva honoring the gathering with his presence and insights.

Operating Margin Up by P15 Million in 2006

On its third consecutive year since its restructuring, NEA has again posted an operating margin as of December 31, 2006. This time, the record is at P23 Million, an increase of P15 million from P8 million in 2005.

"NEA adheres to the motto of maximization of resources, optimization of revenue and minimization of expenses (MOM). Thus, we continually strive to abide by this motto so as to be an asset of this government", said Administrator Edita S. Bueno.

In view of Executive Order 460, the operating income had been decreased by P123.02 million due to the deferment in the approvals of the ECs request for loan restructuring. However, with the strengthening of the peso, financial expenses for the year had gone down from P454.35 M in 2005 to P284.54 M in 2006 or a reduction of P169.81 M, resulting in a net operating income of P23.77 M.

Likewise, in 2006, NEA posted a 103% collection efficiency level, exceeding its 93% target. This level is attributed to the agency's collection of P4.87 Billion from the ECs' amortization payments [including Visayan Electric Company payments] and P1.76 B from the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation [PSALM],

for a total of P6.65 B, ensuring the availability of funds to finance obligations and the Rural Electrification Program [REP].

An effort to be a debt-free organization enabled the NEA to pay the amount of P1.34 billion for debt servicing of its foreign loans, representing 91% of the total amount expected to be paid for the period.

Meanwhile, loans in the amount of P4.571 B were released to different ECs through NEA's various financial programs. Subsidy releases reached P668.95 M benefitting 87 ECs.

Total collections for residual loans and loans released under the NEA's enhanced lending program, SPORSTSFEST, amounted to P4.87 B against the target of P4.84 B or a collection efficiency of 101%.

During the year, the NEA Board of Administrators also approved the reduction of NEA's interest rate from 12% to 10% to provide the ECs with fair and reasonable loan pricing, competitive with other financing institutions. ■

52 ECs Attain Category A+ in Performance Year 2006

The year 2006 proved to be very challenging for the performance levels of NEA and the ECs, as they faced series of natural calamities while coping with the reforms in the power industry. However, despite the successive strong typhoons which devastated the electric distribution systems in some EC coverage areas during the second and last quarters of the year, the performance level of ECs showed relatively notable rating results with 52 earning the distinction as Category A+, the highest rank which NEA gives to an EC performance.



GM Resurrecion Coronel (4th from right) poses with the Board of Directors of the Tarlac I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (TARELCO I). The EC is awarded for garnering 100 points, the first in Luzon mainland under EPIRA environment, in the recent categorization and classification released by NEA for ECs' 2006 performance.

The same criteria as last year such as amortization payment, systems loss, collection efficiency, payment to GENCO and TRANSCO, non-power cost and barangay energization were applied in the evaluation of the ECs' performance.

Fifty-two (52) ECs attained Category A+ while thirteen (13) remained under Category E. Six (6) ECs garnered perfect score of 100 points including TARELCO I which is the first in Luzon mainland. Fifteen (15) ECs achieved single digit system loss, the most critical factor in attaining efficiency in operations. Some ECs showed improvement in their collection performance resulting in the increase in national average level of 96% from 95% in 2005. Also on its 2nd year, Region VII maintained its record of being the best region for having all ten (10) ECs within the area rated Category A+.

"To survive in the present era of competition, we advise all ECs to revisit their plans, programs and strategies to ensure attainment of targets and goals. Those with good ratings are encouraged to continue to strive for the best and those which need further improvement should reassess

2 Managers Gain New Insights in Singapore Scholarship Grant

Finance Director Sonia B. San Diego and Strategic Planning Division Manager Francisco A. Caymo represented the Philippines to the ASEAN Senior Cooperative Management Programme held last January 23-29, 2007 in Singapore. The scholarship aimed to continually help upgrade the knowledge and expertise on cooperative management in regional countries by equipping the participants with the latest developments in the field. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore under the ASEAN Training Awards and conducted by the Singapore National Cooperative Federation [SNF].

The training activity was centered on 4 major parts namely: [1] Overview of Regional Cooperative Movement; [2] Issues and Challenges Facing the Cooperative Movement; [3] Field Visits and Dialogue with Senior Executives of Successful Cooperatives in Singapore; and [4] Envisioning the Future [Strategic Planning of Cooperatives].

In his post-training report, Engr. Caymo expressed his appreciation of the programme through the knowledge acquired from the lectures, field visits and dialogues conducted with cooperative experts. Ms. San Diego added that best practices learned from the different cooperatives in Singapore can also be applicable and replicated in the Philippine setting. The two proudly declared that they were

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The NRECA Convention

Engr. Wilfred L. Billena, NEA Board Member and Dr. Adolben A. Flores, Ph.D., Director of the Management Assistance Group-Supervisory and Assessment Office [MAG-SAO] represented NEA at the 65th National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association [NRECA] Convention at Las Vegas, Nevada last March 18-22, 2007.



NEA Board Member Wilfred L. Billena (leftmost) and Dr. Adolben A. Flores (2nd from the right), together with some of the participants to the 65th National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (NRECA) Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada on March 18-22, 2007.

During the convention, BM Billena and Dr. Flores, who is one of the editors of the Coffee Table Book on Rural Electrification “Light this Beloved Land”, emphasized the significant achievements of NEA and the

119 ECs nationwide which are captured in the book.

The convention is a yearly event which the NRECA hosts to showcase the best practices of its member-cooperatives. It is attended by about 12,000 delegates from 1,000 electric cooperatives annually. Philippine electric cooperatives also send their delegation to learn from the pioneers in rural electrification worldwide as regards new trends and technologies in the electricity industry. ☐



Director San Diego and Manager Caymo with fellow scholars posing for a class picture. Inset: They hand-over the Coffee Table Book “Light This Beloved Land” as a token of gratitude to their sponsor.

NEA Engineer Tops UP Certification Course

Engineer Laurence B. Feliciano of the Accounts Management and Guarantee Department [AMGD] topped the latest list of awardees who attended the Certification Course for Competency in Power System Modeling and Analysis being conducted by NEA in partnership with the University of the Philippines-National Engineering Center [UP-NEC].



He has consistently excelled in the examinations required of the course and has successfully presented his Project Paper entitled, “Power System Modeling and Analysis of Feeder 9 in Rizal Substation of TARELCO II” last December 2006.

“We have to invest in our engineers in order to upgrade our capabilities and increase our level of competitive advantage. The demands of the deregulated electricity industry is immense thus we have to be on top of everything to keep pace with these demands”, said Administrator Edita Bueno as she congratulated Engr. Feliciano during the Monday Morning Assembly at the HESA last March 26, 2007.

A graduate of B.S. Electrical Engineering from the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology in Cabanatuan City in 1998, he has been with NEA since December 2000. ☐

UP-NEC Awards NEA as Best Customer

NEA is the Best Customer of the University of the Philippines-National Engineering Center [UP-NEC]. The Plaque of Recognition, given last January 26, 2007 at the Junio Hall of UP-Diliman in Quezon City in celebration of the NEC's 29th Anniversary, was in appreciation of NEA's contribution in the development of the workforce under the reformed power industry.



The UP-NEC's Plaque of Appreciation given to NEA as Best Customer last January 26, 2007.

For the past three years, NEA, through its Management Academy for Rural Electrification, and UP-NEC has undertaken 7 Certification Programs for the NEA and EC personnel namely: Power System Engineering for Non-Engineers; Electric Utility Finance for Engineers; Power System Modeling and Analysis; Distribution System Planning; Distribution System Operation; Distribution System Design; Distribution Utility Economics. These programs benefitted 61 NEA employees, 429 EC personnel and 552 staff of other distribution utilities and organizations

NEA was cited for its mutual and fruitful partnership with UP-NEC in offering training programs and technical assistance to the electric power industry. Dr. Adolben A. Flores, Director of MAG-SAO received the award in behalf of NEA.

The Management Academy is the brainchild of former NEA Administrator, now PARE, Secretary Francisco G. Silva with the aim of improving the core competencies of NEA-EC employees. ☐

“Service is Where our Heart Is” ... A Love Concert for a Cause

For the second consecutive year, NEA held a Love Fellowship Concert on February 16, 2007 at the HESA, 2nd Floor. Entitled “Service is Where Our Heart Is”, the proceeds will go to NEA's outreach projects under the Corporate Citizenship Program of the agency.

NEA officials and employees, as well as newly-elected officials of the National Association of General Managers of Electric Cooperatives (NAGMEC) joined in the celebration. Their entrance tickets served as their contributions/donations to the Program.

This year's affair also marked Heartstring's 2nd year anniversary as one of NEA's ambassadors of goodwill. In its first year, it performed during special occasions like the Send Off Ceremony for Task Force Kapatid in Albay, Goodwill Visits in Pampanga and Batangas and EC Conference and Recognition in Cagayan do Oro City.

Likewise, during the program, a new group called “G” Strings, G for “gutsy, golden and glorified gentlemen”, was launched. The group is composed of Deputy Administrators Edilberto I. Bassig of Management Assistance -Field Operations Group and Pablo M. Pan III of Electric Distribution Utilities Services, Dir. Benedicto B. Peralta, Messrs. Noel Hernandez and Romeo Acuesta, all from MAG.

On the other hand, General Manager Resurreccion Coronel of TARELCO I gave the Administrator, a bouquet of flowers and Secretary Francisco G. Silva, a special token as the Lights and Sounds serenaded them and the guests.

The Event culminated with a special song number from Administrator Bueno and the Deputy Administrators as Sec. Silva prodded the audience to join them in the camaraderie that ensued. ☐



NEA Officials and employees treat themselves to a showcase of their fellow employees' talents in singing and dancing with the EC General Managers as guests during the Love Fellowship II.

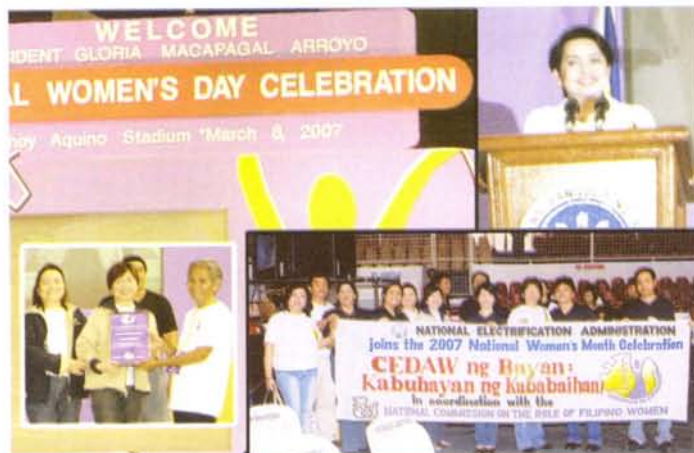
NEA Joins Women's Month Celebration

The NEA actively participated in the 2007 Women's Month Celebration joining the kick-off activity held at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium in Manila last March 8, 2007. The event which focused on the women's economic rights and empowerment is a part of the International Women's Day that is celebrated during the month of March. Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was the guest of honor and speaker to an audience that included members of the diplomatic corps, government officials and employees and non-government organizations.

Spearheaded by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women [NCRFW], the event was highlighted by the National Launch of the Gender Responsive Economic Actions for the Transformation of Women [GREAT Women] Project. The Project is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency [CIDA] and executed by NCRFW. Its aim is to support and promote the economic empowerment of the Filipino Women especially those in micro-enterprises. President Arroyo directed NCRFW to readily make available the funds to all interested women including government employees who want to venture into micro-enterprises.

Also featured were women success stories in their chosen fields.

Entertainment was provided by movie/television personalities and Dance Troupes and Choirs from the different government agencies including NEA's Lights and Sounds Chorale. Touted by Administrator Bueno as NEA Goodwill Ambassadors, the Chorale is tasked to boost NEA's corporate image and serve as an alternative medium to strengthen the Agency's information campaign on its significant plans, programs, polices and performance



(Top photo) Pres. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo speaks before the delegates to the National Women's Day Celebration, including those from the National Electrification Administration (bottom photo), at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium, March 8, 2007. (Left photo) Directors Diana San Luis and Judith Aferez receive a Plaque of Appreciation in behalf of NEA's Lights and Sounds Chorale.

to the various stakeholders. Meantime, the Women in Rural Electrification (WIRE) composed of NEA female employees continues to assist in the implementation of the Gender Advocacy and Development (GAD) programs of the agency. ☐

skills and knowledge of both NEA and EC employees; (2) strengthening of moral ascendancy among EC officials; (3) setting-up of innovations relevant to EPIRA mandate; (4) a more focused technical assistance to effect system loss reduction; (5) introduction of pockets of excellence in the ECs; (6) review of ECs' corporate strategy; (7) launching of proactive lending program; (8) implementation of bolder institutional policies; (9) improvement of conduit assistance to ECs; (10) establishment of customized monitoring of EC performance; (11) exploration of more options for troubled ECs; (12) accomplishment of sitio energization; (13) carrying out IT systems enhancement; and (14) evaluation of NEA organizational structure", declared Administrator Bueno.

The policy direction is aimed to exceed if not equal the agency's performance commitments attained in 2006. Accomplishment exceeded target in barangay energization (108%), NEA collection efficiency (110%), sitio energization (165%) and debt servicing (101%). Connection of consumers was achieved 100% and positive profitability was reached. System loss, however remains to be a major concern. The national average was monitored at 14.29% as compared to the target of 14%. Cohesive strategies including aggressive implementation of Anti-pilferage Programs are needed from both the NEA and the ECs to meet the single-digit system loss target in 2010. ☐

Roadmap to 2007. . . from p. 1

in breakaway groups. The following were the issues and scenarios on NEA and the ECs: Conversion Issues; Barangay/Sitio Energization and Consumer Connections; Proactive Lending; Investment Management Contract; Retail Competition and Open Access; Institutionalization of Task Force Kapatid/Options for Bicol and ARMM ECs; ECs High System Loss; Audit Perspectives/Monitoring of EC Performance; Institutional Policies and Organizational Infrastructure/IT Enhancement.

For the first time as Presidential Adviser on Rural Electrification, Secretary Francisco G. Silva personally joined the Assembly and shared his valuable insights to guide the participants in formulating their respective plans.

The output of the groups were presented to Administrator Edita S. Bueno and the Deputy Administrators for evaluation and critiquing. Action items for prioritization and coordinative linkages with other units were identified, for integration in the 2007 Detailed Action Plans.

"For 2007, NEA will continue to give the much needed assistance to ECs which include the (1) enhancement of

Enhancing Corporate Image Through Skills Building

In line with management's strategy of promoting an excellent and professional image of NEA, a three-day seminar-workshop on Corporate Image Enhancement was conducted and participated in by 34 Members of the Assembly of Leaders and Section Heads last March 7-9, 2007 at the H.E.S. Auditorium.

The seminar-workshop defined the image of a professional NEA and ECs; explained the 4 aspects of image and how these are projected by the organization; and identified and demonstrated, through role playing activities, the appropriate and more professionalized decorum during meetings, social gatherings and telephone conversations. Participants were expected to adapt and practice the skills learned from the seminar.

NEA has undertaken this type of seminar-workshop to reinforce and sustain the Agency's positive networking relationships with its clients and other stakeholders.

Ms. Geline Sta. Maria of Guthrie Jensen Consulting served as resource speaker. □

ERC Backs NEA thru Retail Competition and Open Access Seminar

In anticipation of the full operation of the Retail Competition and Open Access, a seminar was conducted last January 25, 2007 at the H.E.S.A. in partnership with the Energy Regulatory Commission [ERC]. This was held to increase the level of understanding and appreciation of 120 members of the Assembly of Leaders, Section Heads and selected NEA fieldworkers and frontline personnel.

52 ECs A+ . . . from p. 2

existing programs, and implement more aggressive strategies to address major problems and concerns," said Administrator Edita S. Bueno.

The Review Committee was chaired by Director Milagros E. Quinajon of Institutional Development Department and co-chaired by Manager Francisco A. Caymo of the Corporate Planning Office, with Directors Leila B. Bonifacio of Accounts Management, Jose H. Seguban, Jr. of Engineering, Paulino T. Lopez of Management Assistance Group, and Sonia B. San Diego of Finance Services, Managers Benita T. Cuenco of Treasury and Isidro E. Edquila of EC Financial Management Audit, as members.

"And, since this yearly assessment is performance-driven, the results of the 2006 Categorization and Classification shall serve as the basis for the upward and downward adjustments on per diems and allowances," Administrator Bueno added. □

NEA Welcomes COA Resident Auditor

NEA has a new Commission on Audit [COA] Resident Auditor in Mr. Digno T. Tumbokon. He replaced Mr. Edgardo N. Guiriba, who served from October 1, 2003 to January 5, 2007. A simple turn-over ceremony was held at the Queenie Room with Administrator Edita Bueno, Deputy Administrator Mariano T. Cuenco and other officials and employees of the Finance Sector as witnesses.



Prior to this appointment, Auditor Tumbokon was assigned at the Local Water Utilities Administration [LWUA]. He returned to COA Main Office in 1980 after stint in various government offices from 1974-1976. Already in his third month in NEA, Auditor Tumbokon said in an interview, "I find the NEA environment welcoming and that NEA management accommodating, and employees are easy to work with". □

The seminar focused on the rules and guidelines promulgated by the ERC for the competitive environment with emphasis on information which the ECs should know in order to effectively take part in the retail market.

Resource speakers for this undertaking were Marives Santos, Lisaflor Bacani, Letecia Jaucian, Rodel Meris and Alfredo Mendoza. □

Category A+ ECs (2006)

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. INEC | 21. ILECO II | 41. MORESCO II |
| 2. ISECO | 22. ILECO III | 42. LANECO |
| 3. LUELCO | 23. CENECO | 43. DORECO |
| 4. BATANELCO | 24. NORECO I | 44. DASURECO |
| 5. CAGELCO I | 25. NORECO II | 45. SOCOTECO I |
| 6. ABRECO | 26. BANELCO | 46. SOCOTECO II |
| 7. TARELCO I | 27. CEBECO I | 47. SUKELCO |
| 8. TARELCO II | 28. CEBECO II | 48. ANECO |
| 9. NEECO II Area 2 | 29. CEBECO III | 49. ASELCO |
| 10. PRESCO | 30. PROSIELCO | 50. SIARELCO |
| 11. PENELCO | 31. CELCO | 51. DIELCO |
| 12. ZAMECO II | 32. BOHECO I | 52. SURSECO II |
| 13. BATELEC I | 33. BOHECO II | |
| 14. BATELEC II | 34. LEYECO II | |
| 15. ORMECO | 35. LEYECO IV | |
| 16. TIELCO | 36. LEYECO V | |
| 17. AKELCO | 37. SAMESCO II | |
| 18. ANTECO | 38. ZAMSURECO II | |
| 19. CAPELCO | 39. MOELCI II | |
| 20. ILECO I | 40. MORESCO I | |

NEA Sharing Talents and Making a Difference . . .

As NEA shares the history and highlights of the Rural Electrification Program, its significance is expressed by valued recipients of the Coffee Table Book, "Light this Beloved Land", a joint venture of the Rural Electrification Advocates of the Philippines (REAP) and NEA.



PDA Taps ECs' Collective Experiences on Core Services to Highlight National Conventions

The People Development Academy (PDA) in Toledo City hosted four Annual National Conventions of EC Officers during this first quarter. Barely two years since its foundation, the PDA has been true to its mission of capacitating both NEA and EC employees with innovative and unconventional training modules delivered by no less than Secretary Francisco G. Silva with other Rural Electrification (RE) industry experts like Administrator Bueno and other NEA Officials, EC General Managers and other resource speakers of top caliber within and outside of the RE Sector.



Secretary Francisco G. Silva speaks to seminar participants in one of the seminars conducted at the PDA in Toledo City.

The Annual National Convention of Unions and Associations, held last January 16 - 20, which gathered a total of 97 participants representing 64 ECs, aimed to improve the performance of the ECs in all areas of operations and the responsible promotion of the welfare of the employees whom the Secretary refers to as "associates". The convention provided a democratic forum for broad sharing and in-depth learning of new ideas, effective strategies and best practices by and among ECs.

"The best school of learning is one which teaches principles, precepts, initiatives, and efficient ways of service from the collective experiences of 119 ECs in a span of 37 years," said the memorandum jointly issued by Secretary Silva and Administrator Bueno to the EC General Managers as a way of invitation to the conventions held for key EC officers.

With the successful gathering of EC Unions/Associations' officers, the PDA convened the EC Institutional Managers from February 20 - 24, to share and learn effective strategies and new best practices in roundtable discussions and to upgrade the level of performance on institutional services to respond to the rigorous demands of the Magna Carta for Consumers. The participants numbered 109 representing 77 ECs nationwide.

The ISD convention's success was largely due to: 1) an in-depth realization of the ISD officers of the EPIRA-related problems; 2) full recognition of the absolute necessity of a paradigm shift: new targets, new strategies, new activities; and 3) cross-learning brought about by the roundtable discussions and the subsequent debates in general assemblies.

Based on the degree of positive results of the ISD convention, most importantly the awareness on EPIRA-related problems, the two other major departments, Finance and Technical, had their respective conventions at the PDA. On March 13 - 17, a total of 123 EC Finance Department Officers from 77 ECs participated in the Finance Convention. Then, the recently concluded Annual Convention of EC Technical Managers conducted from March 27 - 30, hosted 140 participants coming from 67 ECs.

The conventions provided an avenue for the participants to interact and learn the best practices of their counterparts from the other ECs. In the end, the participants became more knowledgeable on the vital role they play and more committed to the success of their ECs' operations within the new environment. ☐

ECs Task Force Kapatid Feted

“Thank you warriors of light, for responding speedily to calamities, and for giving hope to our country and people”, said Energy Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla, to the 253 men and women who represented the 73 electric cooperatives which were feted by the NEA in a Recognition Ceremony, dubbed as *NEA-ECs Task Force Kapatid: A Celebration of Unity and Cooperation* at the H.E.S. Auditorium last January 31, 2007.



(Clockwise) The Task Force Volunteers received praises from Secretary Lotilla (top-right), Congressman Salceda, Administrator Bueno and Secretary Silva (left to right to left) during the Recognition Day held for the 73 EC volunteers to the Task Forces deployed by NEA in 2006.

Secretary Francisco G. Silva, Father of the Task Force Kapatid Program, Administrator Edita S. Bueno and NEA Board Members Wilfred L. Billena and Fr. Jose Victor E. Lobrigo joined Secretary Lotilla in presenting the plaques of appreciation to the ECs and awarded medals to the engineers and linemen during the ceremony.

The ECs were cited for the generosity and volunteerism that they demonstrated in the implementation of the NEA-ECs Task Force Kapatid and for their unselfish support and assistance in the accelerated restoration of power to the areas affected by Super Typhoons Caloy, Milenyo and Reming; the construction of power lines in 9 sitios in Pio Duran, Albay; and in the rehabilitation of power lines in Marawi City.

“While the catastrophe was unimaginable, the response was also unimaginable. The Task Force Kapatid Balik Ilaw in Bicol is a real manifestation of solidarity between NEA and the ECs. It has restored pride, joy and hope in building a better future for our people”, said Fr. Lobrigo in expressing his gratitude to the Task Force not only as a NEA Board Member but moreso as a beneficiary of the power restoration in the aftermath of Milenyo and Reming since Albay is his home base.

Prior to the recognition ceremony, Congressman Joey Salceda of the 3rd District of Albay and Chairperson of the House Committee on Appropriations took a break from his busy schedule, and thanked the NEA and EC partnership for reenergizing all of Bicolandia. “Rural Electrification is a legitimate national policy and you have a patron in me”, said the Congressman. “Your role in this century, in the development of this country, is crucial and I hope that you will hold hands with NEA for the success of the RE Program. It is hard, but it’s worth it”, he further challenged the EC General Managers present during the occasion.

Earlier, Administrator Bueno heralded the efforts and commitment manifested by the NEA officers, engineers, and associates who have participated in the five Task Forces in a simple ceremony at the Vinz Café last January 5, 2007. ■

NEA Managers . . . from p. 3

able to share NEA’s corporate culture though a presentation of the NEA’s Vision, Mission and Corporate Credo, as well as NEA’s Corporate Best Practices, which was used by their lecturer as a model.

Ms. San Diego and Engr. Caymo shared their experience and lessons learned to all NEA officials and employees during the General Assembly held last February 5, 2007. “I am happy that NEA is getting the opportunity of becoming known abroad through the good performance of participants, such as Sonia and Kiko, in foreign scholarships. Their training is part and parcel of the continuing effort to upgrade the capabilities of NEA officials and employees to be kept abreast with the demands of the regulated electricity industry”, said the Administrator during the assembly.

To date, the NEA’s foreign scholarship program has sent 12 employees to 5 countries. ■

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