



Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION
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MEDIA RELEASE

NEA, 11 ECs Back-up LASURECO Rehabilitation Efforts

In what is now considered to be a common display of true cooperativism in the Rural Electrification Program, the National Electrification Administration [NEA] together with 11 electric cooperatives [ECs] in Mindanao namely: BUSECO, COTELCO, LANECO, FIBECO, MOELCI I, MOELCI II, MORESCO I, SOCOTECO I, ZAMSURECO I, ZAMSURECO II and ZANECO have joined forces to fully support the rehabilitation efforts of the Lanao Sur Electric Cooperative, Inc. [LASURECO] in Marawi City. This move is expected to deliver better service to the member-consumers in the said area.

Task Force Pagari [a Maranao word for "brother"] started on October 25, 2006 and is expected for completion by the end of this month. It is aimed at upgrading the distribution system of LASURECO through technical rehabilitation [i.e., replacing the dilapidated wooden poles with steel poles and installing new meters and service drop wires] and institutional rehabilitation [e.g., massive information drive campaign to improve collection efficiency].

Administrator Edita S. Bueno said that NEA is wholeheartedly supporting the rehabilitation move and is sending a group of engineers to aid in the task force. "The people of Lanao del Sur can be rest assured that all feasible and possible help will be extended by NEA to LASURECO", she said.

Meanwhile, according to newly-appointed LASURECO GM Baliamen P. Mamainte "the people of Marawi and Lanao del Sur are very happy with the efforts to improve the system of LASURECO for it to deliver reliable and efficient service to its member-consumers. I have emphasized to them the help being extended by our Christian brothers in the rehabilitation efforts and encourage my Muslim employees to forget divisiveness in the cooperative".

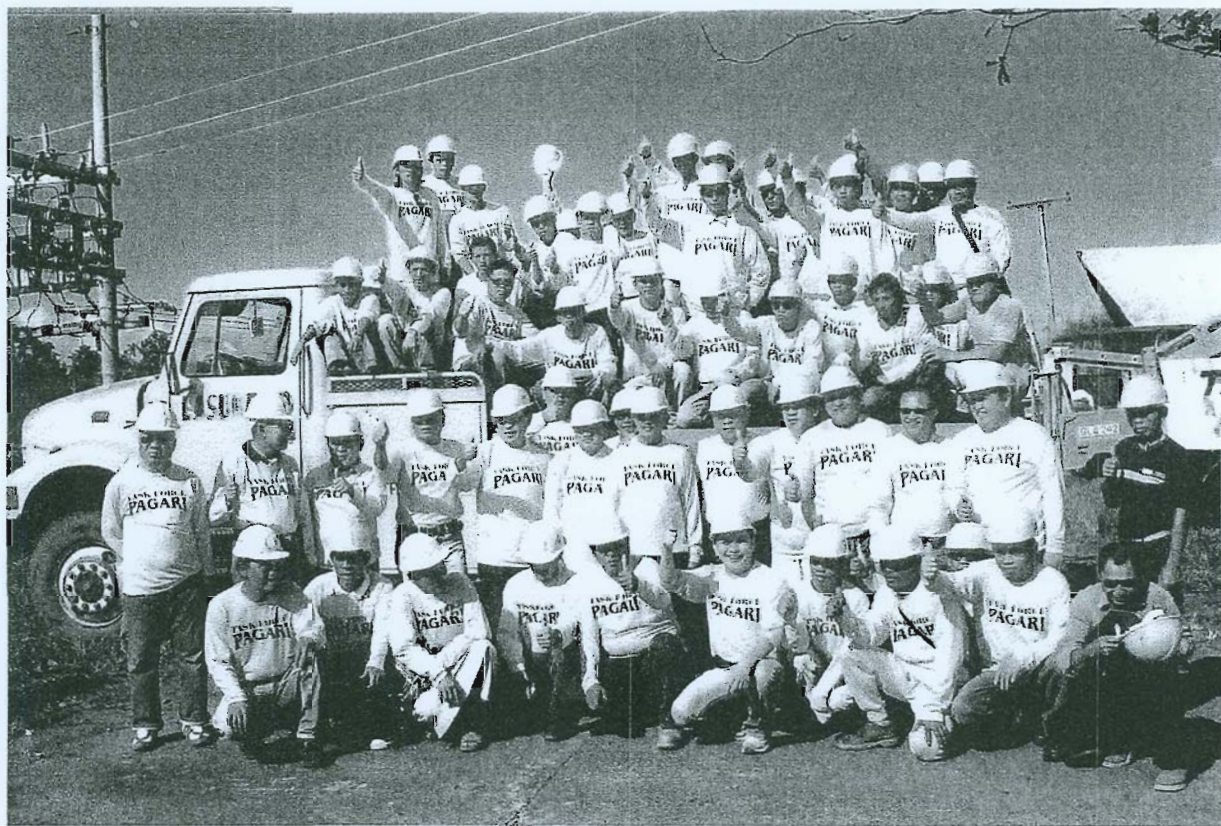
GM Mamainte is also thankful that his Interim Board composed of 14 members, together with Congressman Benasing O. Macarambon, Jr. and Congresswoman Faysah RPM. Dumarpa and Governor Aleem Basher Manalao and Mayor Omar S. Ali back him up in this endeavor.

The funding for the project in the amount of P27.6 million was provided by the Department of Energy [DOE] through the initiative of NEA.

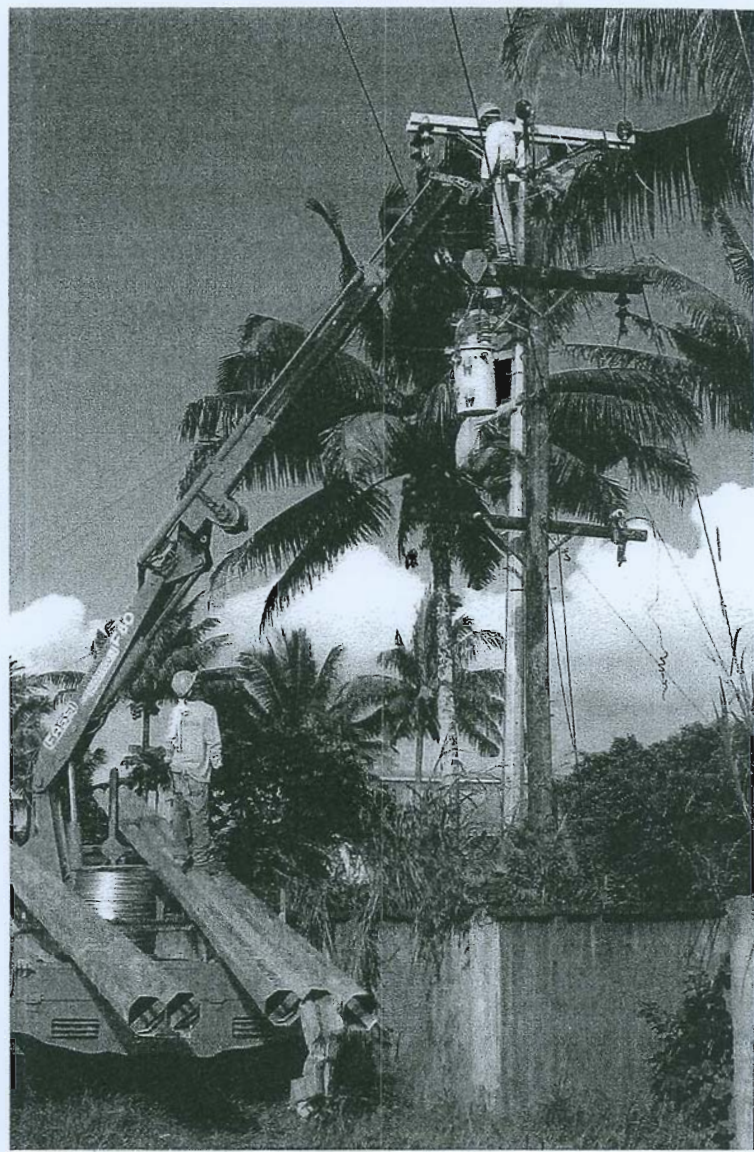
Aside from the assistance for LASURECO's rehabilitation, NEA has earlier released P11.933 million for the energization of 23 barangays in the Municipalities of Piagapo, Saguiran, Bayang and Butig. As of October 31, 2006, 14 of the 23 barangays have already been energized.###

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The LASURECO Team members of the Task Force Kapatid Pagari raises the thumbs-up sign before commencing their rehabilitation work in Marawi City.



Members of Task Force Pagari installing new steel poles and transformers in Marawi City to rehabilitate the lines and improve the system of LASURECO.