

# PRESS RELEASE



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## MOA on TransCo's assumption as system operator in Palawan sealed



Lingering and perennial power connection problems in Palawan will soon be addressed as the National Transmission Corporation (TransCo) and the Palawan Electric Cooperative (PALECO) entered into an agreement that aims to provide quality, affordable and reliable electricity in the province.

On 16 May 2022 at the APEC Conference Room in PALECO Compound, Puerto Princesa City, TransCo President and CEO Atty. Jainal Abidin Y. Bahjin II and Chairperson of the PALECO Board of Directors Mr. Jeffrey Y. Tan-Endruga led the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that mandated the Corporation to act as the new systems operator of the mainland Palawan grid.

Under the agreement, TransCo, among other functions, shall perform all functions of Small Grid System Operator for the optimal dispatching of generation facilities to achieve least-cost generation of electricity and real-time control of the Palawan power grid through the management of protection and control system, power reserves, reactive power support, black start, and other operating requirements to maintain a stable, secured, reliable and efficient power system.

Also under the MOA, TransCo shall establish an Island Control Center equipped with Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, Energy Management System (EMS), and telecommunications system that are linked to the National Control Center to be built in its head office, enabling the head office to remotely take over the operations when needed.

Aside from acting as the system operator, TransCo shall provide PALECO the assistance and services in the implementation of Palawan Main Island Power Development Plan subject to specific agreement to be entered into with PALECO.

In his message, Atty. Bahjin said that he is confident that consumers will surely benefit from this convergence as the solutions presented by TransCo are based on the scientific and thorough identification of the problems and studies.

“With the technical team that TransCo has and technical team that PALECO has, we can make it work,” he said.

For TransCo Special Assistant to the President and CEO, Prof. Rowaldo D. Del Mundo, this partnership is a giant leap towards interconnecting the small island grids to the main grid.

“Islands that are not connected to the grid are part of the country; they cannot be left out. It is TransCo’s duty to look after the islands,” he added.

PALECO, on the other hand, expressed their gratitude towards TransCo for offering its technical expertise in providing long-term plan for the province.

The MOA signing is in accordance with the Department of Energy (DOE) Department Circular No. 2021-11-0039 “Mandating the National Transmission Corporation as Small Grid System Operator in Specific Areas.”

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