

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2949, June 19, 1960]

**ACT GRANTING SURIGAO ELECTRIC COMPANY, INCORPORATED,
A FRANCHISE TO INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN AN
ELECTRIC LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER SYSTEM IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BISLIG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Subject to the conditions established in this Act and the provisions of Act Numbered Thirty-one hundred and eight and its amendments, applicable thereto, there is hereby granted to Surigao Electric Company, Incorporated, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Philippines, for a period of fifty years from the approval of this Act, the right, privilege, and authority to construct, maintain and operate an electric light, heat and power system, for the purpose of generating and distributing electric light, heat and power for sale within the limits of the Municipality of Bislig, Province of Surigao, Philippines. The grantee shall further have the right and privilege to install, lay and maintain on all streets, public thoroughfares, bridges and public places within said limits, poles, conductors, interrupters, transformers, cables, wires and other overhead appliances, and all other necessary apparatus and appurtenances for the furnishing and distribution of electric current and to supply, sell and furnish such current to any person, corporation or public or private concern within said limits for provincial, municipal, domestic or manufacturing uses and for any other use to which electricity may be put, and to charge and collect a schedule of prices and conventional sets for the use of the same: *Provided*, That this franchise shall not take effect until the grantee shall have obtained from the Public Service Commission a certificate showing the public necessity and convenience of the same, in accordance with the purpose of subsection (i) of Section fifteen of Act Numbered Thirty-one hundred and eight, as amended, and shall have filed such certificate with the Secretary of Public Works and Communications upon accepting this franchise: *And provided, further*, That if the grantee does not file the proper application for said certificate with the Public Service Commission within six months from the date of the approval of this Act, this franchise shall become null and void.

SEC. 2. The poles erected by the grantee shall be of such a height as to maintain the wires stretched on the same at a distance of at least twenty feet above the level of the ground, and shall be of such appearance as not to disfigure the streets, and shall be placed with due regard for the public safety so as not to be a danger to the same, in accordance with a plan approved by the provincial or municipal authorities concerned, represented by the provincial governor or the municipal mayor, as the case may be, and said grantee shall supply electric power, heat and light to any applicant for the same within fifteen days after the date of his application and as between such applicant and other applicants, in the order of the date of his application, up to the limit of the capacity of the plant of said grantee, to be

determined by the electrical engineer of the Public Service Commission on the application of said grantee, and should the demand for electric power, heat and light at any time increase beyond the capacity of the plant of said grantee to supply the same, the capacity of the plant shall be increased by said grantee to meet such demand, in accordance with the decision of the Public Service Commission or its legal successors: *Provided*, That in case the point at which the electric light, heat, or power to be supplied is more than thirty meters from the lines or wires operated by said grantee, the latter shall not be obliged to furnish said service.

SEC. 3. All apparatus and appurtenances used by the grantee shall be modern and first class in every respect, and said wires shall be insulated and carefully connected and fastened so as not to come in direct contact with any object through which a ground could be formed, and shall be stretched so as not to interfere with free use of said streets and public thoroughfares nor cause any injury to the public, or danger of fire or damage and inconvenience to the owners of the property: *Provided*, That in the maintenance and operation of its plant and system for the transmission and distribution of electric current, the grantee shall always be subject to such reasonable regulations as the Municipal Council of Bislig and the Provincial Board of Surigao may promulgate in the premises and also to the regulations prescribed by the National Electrical Code of America: *Provided*, That the grantee shall, whenever the Congress of the Republic of the Philippines, upon recommendation of the Public Service Commission or its legal successor, so as directs, place said wires in underground pipes or conduits at its own expense and without any cost and prejudice to the municipality above-mentioned.

SEC. 4. Whenever it shall be necessary in the erection of said poles to take up any portion of the sidewalks or dig up the ground of the public streets or thoroughfares, then the said grantee shall, after said poles are erected, without any delay replace said sidewalks in the proper manner or arrange said streets or public thoroughfares removing from the same all rubbish, dirt, refuse or other materials which may have been placed there, taken up or dug up in the erection of said poles, leaving them in as good condition as they were before the work was done; and whenever it shall become necessary, by reason of the extension of streets or plazas as determined upon by the municipal council of the municipality above-mentioned to change the location of such poles, such change shall be made by the grantee, its successors or assigns, at their expense without delay, and said poles shall be placed where directed by said provincial board or said municipal council.

SEC. 5. Whenever any person has obtained permission to use any of the streets or public thoroughfares of the municipality above-mentioned for the purpose of removing any building or in the prosecution of any municipal work or for any just cause whatsoever, making it necessary to raise or remove any of said poles or electric wires which may obstruct the removal of said building so as to allow the free and unobstructed prosecution of said work, the person or entity at whose request the building has been moved or the construction undertaken, shall pay one-half of the actual cost of removing or raising and of replacing the poles, wires and other overhead or underground conductors. The notice shall be served in the usual form, and in case of refusal or failure of the grantee to comply with such notice, the municipal mayor, with the proper approval of the municipal council first had, shall order such poles or wires to be raised or removed at the expense of said grantee, for the purpose aforesaid: *Provided*, however, That the grantee may appeal from any such decision to the Provincial Board of Surigao whose decision shall be final.