

[ERC RESOLUTION NO. 17, S. 2011, July 06, 2011]

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITY PLANNING MANUAL

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2006, the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) adopted Resolution No. 13, Series of 2006 entitled "Guidelines to Govern the Submission, Evaluation and Approval of Electric Distribution Capital Projects" providing distribution utilities capital projects; (DUs) with a uniform system for filing applications for approval of their respective proposed capital projects;

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2008, the ERC adopted Resolution No. 18, Series of 2008 entitled, Rules for Approval of Electric Capital Projects";

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2009, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) adopting the "Electric Cooperative Distribution Utility Planning Manual" was signed between and among the ERC, the National Electrification Administration (NEA) the Philippine Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (PHILRECA), the National Association of General Managers of Electric Cooperatives (NAGMEC) and the Association of Mindanao Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (AMRECO) agreeing to collaborate in the formulation of the "Electric Cooperative Distribution Utility Planning Manual (ECDUPM)", which provides guidance for the systematic and economic expansion and rehabilitation of distribution facilities and the acquisition of assets necessary responds to the needs of the electric cooperatives' (ECs) member-consumers and enable them to meet safety, performance standards and regulatory requirements as well as the structural and/or institutional planning and development of the said ECs;

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2009, the ERC adopted Resolution No. 26, Series of 2009 entitled "Resolution Amending the Rules for Approval of Regulated Entities' Capital Expenditure Projects" making the ECDUPM an integral part of the said Resolution;

WHEREAS, the ERC recognizes the significance and importance of having a comprehensive and integrated development plan not only for all ECs but also for investor-owned or privately-owned DUs that is consistent with the Philippine Distribution Code (PDC), safety standards set by the Philippine Electrical Code (PEC) and the Rules for Setting Distribution Wheeling Rates (RDWR);

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2011, the ERC posted on its official website at www.erc.gov.ph the proposed "Investor-Owned Electric Distribution Utility Planning Manual" and all interested parties were given a period until June 15, 2011 within which to submit their respective comments thereon;

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2011, the ERC conducted a public hearing intended for the various stakeholders to present their comments/inputs on the said proposed manual