

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 14**



---

Introduced by  
**BAYAN MUNA Party-List Representatives EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,  
CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, and FERDINAND R. GAITE,  
ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,  
GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,  
and KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**

---

**RESOLUTION**  
**CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM ON THE CONSTRUCTION  
AND/OR EXPANSION OF ALL COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS**, coal accounts for one third of global GHG (greenhouse gases) emissions, considered as one of the leading contributors to climate change and global warming;

**WHEREAS**, the power industry is a major consumer of coal, which is considered the dirtiest and most carbon intensive source of energy emitting 29 % more carbon per unit of energy per unit and 80% percent more than gas;

**WHEREAS**, coal fired power plants cause irreparable damage to the environment and health of surrounding communities. A study conducted by the European Commission in 2003 on different types of power generation revealed that coal-fired power plants registered the highest external cost. External costs arise when project impacts such as damages to human health are not fully accounted or compensated for by a power plant;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines consumed a total of 16.163 million metric tons as of the latest 2012 data from the Department of Energy. Although the country has domestic coal production, it is heavily dependent on imported coal where 73.59% (11.895 million metric tons) of our total consumption are supplied mostly by Indonesia and Australia;

**WHEREAS**, in the current energy mix – the total power generated from coal comprises 35%. But without intervention, the Philippines is looking at 70% dependence on coal from 2030 to 2050, according to Department of Energy (DOE) Undersecretary Loreta Ayson during a previous Senate hearing;

**WHEREAS**, there are at present fourteen (14) coal fired power plants in the country that account for 35% of the total power generation mix. The rest of the coal consumers are the cement industry and other industries such as alcohol, sinter, paper and chemical manufacturing, fertilizer production and smelting process -- industries that also cause much pollution to the environment and damages to health;

**WHEREAS**, the DOE has already approved 29 more coal-fired plants, on top of the 17 already existing in the country, according to government data;

**WHEREAS**, this clearly shows that the energy policy framework of the Philippine government is still increased dependence on coal and coal-fired power plants in wanton disregard of the great risks to the environment and the health of the people;

**WHEREAS**, the environmental and social costs brought about by the existing coal fired power plants have proved more destructive than beneficial to the people and the environment;

**WHEREAS**, it is worse to note that power rates have not really gone down even as power generation from coal is consistently touted as the cheapest source of energy. As coal consumption expanded by 348% from 1997 to 2012, power rates have likewise increased by 88.35% over the same time period;

**WHEREAS**, there are overwhelming protests in areas where coal fired power plants are to be built and have been widely participated, cross-cutting the different sectors of society – church workers, professionals, students, local government officials, peoples’ organizations and civil society groups;

**WHEREAS**, the Filipino people have the right to demand for clean, renewable and affordable sources of energy without compromising their right to healthful environment and genuine development;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines has enough renewable energy sources that can be tapped to supply the country’s growing energy needs. It has the highest potentials in the world for geothermal resources, as well as solar and wind power potentials capable of generating 200,000 MW of power, according to the DOE. In fact, the Philippines is one of the world’s top producers of geothermal energy, after the U.S. There is indeed substantial room to expand geothermal energy supply, and this should be prioritized as a long-term strategy for sustainable production of electricity;

**WHEREAS**, the cost of renewable energy worldwide is on a continuous drop and several countries are already running purely on renewable energy, particularly wind and solar;

**WHEREAS**, according to the US-based National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the Philippine wind energy source potential can supply over seven times the current power demand of the country. Likewise, the abundant solar energy is rated as one of the highest efficiency ratings in the world;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a signatory to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) whose declared objective is “(S)tabilisation of greenhouse concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system . . . within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner”;


**WHEREAS**, it is forecasted that energy related carbon emissions are likely to grow rapidly until 2050 if no action is taken to cut back on coal use. If nothing is done, global greenhouse gases emissions are projected to increase by 52% by 2050, a global mean temperature rise by 1.7 – 2.4 degrees centigrade;


**WHEREAS**, a moratorium on the construction and/or expansion of all coal fired power plant projects is urged unless it is assured that: 1) global greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions level in the atmosphere have been stabilized at an acceptable level, 2) energy needs have substantially increased to levels that other renewable energy sources can no longer address, and 3) clean energy technologies that pass a rigorous and independent scientific assessment are implemented in place of all existing coal plants;


**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives call for the immediate moratorium on the construction and/or expansion of all coal fired power plant projects unless it is assured that: 1) global greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions level in the atmosphere have been stabilized at an acceptable level, 2) energy needs have substantially increased to levels that other renewable energy source can no longer address, and 3) clean energy technologies that pass a rigorous and independent scientific assessment are implemented in place of all existing coal plants, are met thus adhering to the objective of the UNFCCC and putting serious consideration on the available clean and renewable energy technologies and resources which are environmentally safe and beneficial to all.




Adopted,

  
**REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**  
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

  
**REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE**  
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

  
**REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**  
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

  
**REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO**  
ACT TEACHERS Party-List

  
**REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS**  
GABRIELA Women's Party

  
**REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
KABATAAN Party-List