

# Committee Daily Bulletin



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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Conference Committee	HB 8869 & SB 1950	Rep. Castelo and Sen. Recto	Reducing electricity rates by allocating a portion of the net national government share from the Malampaya natural gas project for the payment of the stranded contract cost and stranded debts	<p>The Conference Committee meeting, co-presided over by Rep. Carlos Roman Uybarreta (Party-List, 1-CARE), Vice Chair of the House Committee on Energy, and Senator Sherwin Gatchalian, Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy, concluded its discussion on the reconciled version of HB 8869 and SB 1950.</p> <p>Although the reconciled version of HB 8869 and SB 1950 was earlier approved on March 7, the conference committee reconvened to fine-tune the proposed law, to include the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The universal charges for stranded contract costs and stranded debts currently being collected may be covered by the allocated amount from the Malampaya Fund subject to the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Act.”</li> <li>• “Upon the effectivity of the IRR of this Act, no new universal charges for stranded contract cost and stranded debts shall be collected.”</li> </ul>
	HB 6276 & SB 2098	Rep. Uybarreta and Sen. Gatchalian	Ensuring the continuous and uninterrupted transmission and distribution of electricity and the protection of the integrity and reliability of power lines, and providing penalties for violation thereof	<p>The Conference Committee approved the reconciled version of HB 6276 and SB 2098.</p> <p>The proposed Anti-Obstruction of Power Lines Act seeks to “ensure the uninterrupted conveyance of electricity from generating plants to end-users and to protect the integrity and reliability of the country’s transmission, sub-transmission, and distribution systems” by keeping the power line corridors clear of dangerous obstructions.</p> <p>The measure prohibits the planting of tall growing plants, constructing hazardous improvements, and conducting any hazardous activities within the power line corridor. Likewise, the measure declares unlawful the prevention or refusal of the entry of duly authorized agents of power line owner or operator in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The conference committee adopted the provision on Right of Eminent Domain as contained in the House version which states that the power to exercise the right of eminent domain granted to any person with a franchise to operate, manage or maintain electric power lines shall be governed by pertinent provisions of the Rules of Court.</p>