

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Third Regular Session**

House Resolution No. 1937



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Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

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**A RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO POWER SUPPLY SHORTAGES ESPECIALLY DURING THE SUMMER SEASON WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING THE QUALITY, RELIABILITY, SECURITY, AND AFFORDABILITY OF ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY IN THE COUNTRY**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to ensure quality, reliable, secure and affordable electric power supply to homes and industries in order to stimulate the development of the nation;

**WHEREAS**, with movement restrictions imposed to reduce local transmission of COVID-19 country, workplaces have adopted alternative work arrangements, educational institutions have shifted to blended learning and more businesses have adopted digital technologies to facilitate contactless transactions. All of these rely on a steady supply of electric power, thus, the increasing need for the government to take steps towards improving the country's power supply;

**WHEREAS**, for the past few years, the country has been experiencing power supply issues with various areas across the country having power outages, particularly during the summer season. This problem worsened this past year as demand for power continues to increase due to the adoption of alternative work and learning arrangements;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Energy, during the Joint Congressional Power Commission last April 2021, has earlier assured legislators and the public that it does not see any "demand-driven energy shortage" for the summer season;

**WHEREAS**, despite this however, the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines declared red and yellow alerts for the Luzon grid from May 31 to June 4 as demand spiked and power supply became insufficient due to outages in several power plants. On 31 May 2021, DOE's projected supply margin for the week is around 700 megawatts(MW) but the actual supply margin is just 215 MW;

**WHEREAS,** consumers were left to endure rotational brownouts amidst high indices—making them vulnerable to potential health risks such as heat stroke and cramps. Rotational brownouts likewise affect both workers’ and learners’ productivity as work and academics are largely dependent on the use electronic devices and the internet;

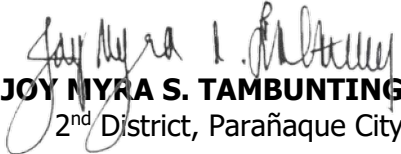
**WHEREAS,** energy officials have earlier claimed that the power outages have been caused by the planned and unplanned maintenance shutdowns of several power plants, and by the failure of some generators to deliver their contracted capacity. This explanation however has been recurrently used by the energy sector for the past few years;

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Energy issued a statement last 10 June 2021 that the outages experienced from May 31 to June 4 were due to the noncompliance of the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) to secure firm ancillary services contracts that will serve as power reserves when plants went on outages;

**WHEREAS,** in the interest of improving service to the public and ensuring security of energy supply in the country, it is incumbent upon the Department of Energy to provide long-term solutions to this problem. DOE must remain true to its mandate and provide specific plans towards protecting the public and the economy from losses due to power outages and the resulting high prices of electricity due to limited power supply.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,** that the House of Representatives direct the House Committee on Energy to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on long-term solutions to power supply shortages especially during the summer season with the end in view of ensuring the quality, reliability, security, and affordability of electric power supply in the country.

Adopted,

  
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