

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE INAUGURATION OF THE COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT  
(PHASE 2) OF THE SARANGANI ENERGY CORPORATION AND  
PRESENTATION OF THE HYDROPOWER PROJECT OF SIGUIL  
HYDROPOWER ECONOMIC ZONE**

[Delivered in Barangay Kamanga, Maasim, Sarangani Province | 22  
November 2019]

Kindly sit down.

I was looking at the other lectern, it's a state-of-the-art. *[laughter]* Mas maganda maraming... Well...

Sarangani Province Vice Governor Elmer De Peralta; Senator Bong Go; Maasim Municipal Mayor Zyrex Pacquiao and the other local government officials; Energy Regulatory Commission Chairperson Agnes Devanadera; officials and employees of the Alsons Consolidated Resources led by Chairman Tomas Alcantara; other distinguished guests; mga kababayan.

Today, we mark another milestone in our quest to provide safe, reliable and affordable power to the island of Mindanao and the rest of the Philippines.

I am pleased to lead the inauguration of the Phase 2 of the 105-megawatt Coal-Fired Power Plant of the Sarangani Energy Corporation and the launching of the 14.5-megawatt Siguil Hydropower Project.

SEC Phase 2 will add to the same capacity of SEC Phase 1, which began operations in April this year, providing a combined 210-megawatt baseload power capacity to more than 2.15 [million] households in Sarangani Province, Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Dapitan, Digos, Dipolog, General Santos, Iligan, Kidapawan, Koronadal, and Pagadian, among others. Wow.

Meanwhile, the Siguil Hydropower Project is Alsons Power's first venture into renewable energy. It is a 4.25 billion peso hydroelectric power plant at the Siguil River basin in Maasim with a 14.5-megawatt capacity and can

provide additional power to General Santos and Sarangani when it begins operations in 2022.

I am pleased to note that since June 2016, the power supply in Mindanao has greatly improved. From experiencing power deficiencies, which resulted in power interruptions in the past, it currently has excess power generation.

Siguro naman sa politiko mahirap na magdaya ngayong 2022 with the kind of brightness that we are about to experience. *[applause]* Meron na tayong energy, ang kailangan na lang natin 'yung mga politiko nagpuputol ng kuryente. *[laughter]*

You know it's too far away to be speculating or even talking about it. But I am on my way out. What I can assure you, ladies and gentlemen, that it will be a clean election during my time. *[applause]*

I will not allow anybody, friend or foe, alliances with us or on the other side. It will be equal treatment for all. And what I can assure you is that I am warning and I did it last election when I said: Do not, you know, mess up with elections.

Allow the Filipino to vote freely and the votes counted correctly. At this early, I am not entering into any alliances that would derail the elections. You can be sure that I will be out of office and I will not stay even a minute longer when my term ends.

But elections aided with the power of Siguil and the Alcantara group coming in providing the lights, I am sure that Celso would be comfortable and stop complaining about the...*[applause]*

On this note, I wish to acknowledge the important contribution of power generation companies to the country's development, particularly here in Mindanao.

Through their consistent efforts to expand power coverage nationwide, they are providing much needed support to the government's Build, Build, Build... Isa pa 'tong p\*\*. *[laughter]*

Sabi ko sa kanila hindi ko kailangan 'yung build, build, build. Do not give me that kind of s\*\*\*. I want build, use, build, use, build, use. Eh kung build, build, build lang, parang 'yang bilbil naka... *[laughter]* You know what bilbil is? Malaki 'yung pus-on na naka... *[laughter]*

It is my hope that more power generation companies will invest in renewable energy projects in the Philippines to support the government's advocacy for environmental protection and conservation of natural resources.

I am for climate change, I really do. I can understand. I have a little learning of everything. Not much but I can understand. Now the problem is the Climate Change Commission is always calling for a meeting.

And always it's how much carbon footprints you'll leave on planet earth. And it's all talking, it's all conferences so that this time I said it would be a waste of money. And I would not really also agree to something of a ratio and proportion vis-à-vis with your economy and the hugeness of your... Hindi pwede 'yang ganun eh that you limit me to this because I would need more for mine.

Kung ganun ang attitude ng... And America has separated. Medyo mahirap 'yan. Ako, I am for climate change. But the one thing that is not present and therefore becomes a very inutile commission is it does not have sanctions. You can commit so many things there, excess of carbon monoxide and all, and yet there is no sanction.

UN should better understand that. It has to have a sanction for violators. The problem is I hope Australia would stick with the commission because it will add more prestige; and second, the clout. But without a sanction, I do not think that it will succeed. It will only fail and worsen the situation for the coming generation.

You and I know that if you cannot arrest climate change now, sigurado 'yan, our children will suffer more severe climate changes, typhoons and all. And what's the... Another problem is --- I don't know. Maybe there's so much water going underground. The tectonic guys are playing inside the bowels of the earth giving us the scare. But then nobody but nobody can predict earthquakes. So the Philippines is the window of the Pacific.

And that is why --- let me veer away just for you to know. Alam ko alam ninyo 'to --- mas bright kayo sa akin.

We cannot depend on this situation now na it's the consumer --- the Republic of the Philippines, people, and the producers, the farmers. Lahat na bubunga nila, harvest time. They can plant and harvest but it is always a contingent one in the Philippines. Now to say that you stop importation just because they're going to produce the --- projected number, that would be a folly because I said we are the window to the Pacific island.

And you know there's never a way of knowing how much typhoon would ravage our plant including the rice land and whether there would be a good harvest or not. So delikado 'yan sabihin mo na --- well I have been greatly misunderstood.

Sabagay, I have always been misunderstood. My presidency was a misunderstood venture. Ganun talaga. At ang sinabi ko, we have to import because the producer cannot fill up the requirements, it's lacking. But thereas a produce which they have to sell.

And I said to Dar, you have to buy it. Maski na mataas nang kaunti. I would understand that there's a prevailing market value for all. It's always the law of supply and demand. So they must have something there that is a reasonable pricing and for the consumers which is us to buy all. Bilihin talaga natin lahat 'yung kanila. Before we venture into this rice tariffication imports.

My duty is not to the businessmen. I have nothing to do with them. I don't care what happens to them. I care about the people and I said, "Buy this because you are buying social unrest."

'Yan ang sinasabi ko sa Cabinet. Bilihin mo na lang 'yung social unrest that would accompany if there is really something of a --- their products, their produce, their sweat. Hindi mo mabayaran at they are in perpetual agony of debt.

You solve the problem. Ang sabi nila, 'yun ang sa Cabinet. Ang sabi na --- we will lose if you buy the... Well the farmgates, make it a mandatory thing. 'Yung tao man, tama lang makapag-ano sila sa mga utang nila, their debts, while they are planting, harvesting, they have nothing. Puro lista-lista lang 'yan. So when the time comes when they sell, that's the time that they have money to give to the creditors.

But then allow them a leeway of comfort in life. So who bears the burden? The Filipino people. We lose. Yes, we lose. How many billions? Five, six, seven billions. So what? It's our money. It's your money. And we are, I said, buying social unrest. It's more expensive to deal with, especially if these guys would join the NPA. It's a rich --- a fertile ground for...

'Yan ang sinasabi ko. Ito namang --- baka nandito ngayon. Isahin ko na lang. Sa vaping. You know, do not listen to those lawyers and... Bugok na 'yan sila, maniwala ka. *[laughter]* You happen to elect one of the --- not really bright but progressive.

Remember I was a prosecutor for many years. Kung hindi ba tanga 'yang mga buang, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*\*\*\* 'yan. You know, nicotine is prohibited. You cannot use nicotine here. I will arrest you. There's a law. It's based on the national law and the pollution and everything. It's deleterious to the health. It's a hazard to health.

Now, there's a law regarding the use of nicotine. I do... I do not have to issue an executive order. Paka-bobo naman itong mga g\*\*\* na ito. Na meron ng law about nicotine. If you use vaping in public, there is nicotine. And so without the other chemical combustion there, you are already violating the law in vaping because it contains nicotine.

Now, why am I ordering its confiscation? Because it is thrown to the consumers and under the Consumers' Protection Act, if the thing that they -- - we are importing is prohibited by the place where it was made, then automatically it is also not good and it is should --- should be by operation of common sense.

If it is bawal sa Vermont, that's in California, the protection --- the Consumers' Protection Law says that if a thing is not legal there, where it was made or manufactured, then it cannot be legal here.

There's legal --- there's already the law. Nicotine.

So when you --- vaping, you are spewing nicotine and a hundred other chemicals not known yet --- as yet. And it has not passed the FDA. And Secretary Duque says it's bad. To whom shall I seek the medical expertise? Well of course I will listen to Duque, he's the Secretary of [Health].

Otherwise, if I don't believe him, I will just have to fire him. There's no sense in keeping a person whom you will not follow. Tapos na 'yung...

Well, anyway, those are the tidbits of being here. Para malaman ninyo. I'm so pissed off with this guy. Eh walang alam eh. And the others --- itong IBP. Anong Bar exam ba itong mga ulol na 'to?

I am pleased to note that since June 2016, the power supply in Mindanao has greatly improved. From experiencing power deficiencies, which resulted in power interruptions in the past, it currently has excess power generation.

Sus, pasalamat talaga ako. And you know how it really worth hardship for the people. Power is a very essential ingredient sa buhay ng tao ngayon.

That is why one of the conditions... I don't know if you invited your competitor or not really but your...

Si Aboitiz, when he started a power plant there, sabi ko papayag ako but give me the assurance that Davao City will continually --- continuous supply of energy. Give me that assurance and I will approve your application on the local level. Sabi niya, "Oo." Kaya si Aboitiz, si Sabin... Ah si ano, si --- si Sabin. Pagka nagkulang-kulang ito, sabihin mo lang sa kanya hinahanap ko siya. *[laughter]*

To date, the total installed capacity in Mindanao has reached 4,038 megawatts with dependable capacity of 3,486 megawatts. Mindanao's 2019 peak demand is only [at] 2,013 [megawatts].

On this note, I wish and I am very happy to acknowledge the important contribution of power generation companies to the country's development, particularly here in Mindanao.

Through their consistent efforts to expand power coverage nationwide, they are providing much needed support to the government's Build, Build, Build -- I have not heard of use, use, use *[laughter]* --- and the electrification programs that help significantly in propelling the Philippine economy forward.

It is my hope that more power generation companies will invest in renewable energy projects in the Philippines to support the government's advocacy [for] environmental protection and conservation of natural resources.

I ask our friends in the private sector to work closely with the Department of Energy, the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to effectively harmonize efforts towards ensuring inclusivity, sustainability, and efficiency in power generation.

Be assured that this administration is determined in its goal to achieve power security in the country, consistent with its drive to uplift the living conditions of our people.

Before, like these big projects, the worry has always been corruption. In all of the contracts with government and everything, somebody has to shell out something. And it is because the Filipino is not assertive enough. Unlike the Americans, they demand and they stand by their rights.

Ang Pilipino kasi natatakot. Whenever he approaches a window diyan sa --- whether it could be the BIR or the permits in the local level, clearances, may kaba siya. If there is always... I have observed that. I have been --- I have been mayor for 23 years. Nakikita ko na medyo kabado sila, na baka pahirapan o hingian. The best way really is just to report to the governor.

Or if there is nobody whom you can turn to, you just address me sa 8888 `yan diyan sa ano --- posted every morning PTV-4 government channel --- and I will call you. I will fetch --- I'll ask the Air Force to fetch you wherever you are. I'll bring you to Malacañan and tell me who that idiot is and I will have that son of a b\*\*\*\* brought in front of me. And tingnan ninyo kung ano ang ginagawa ko sa kanila. P\*\*\*\*\* j\*\*.

Sabihin ko sa iyo ha. Kayong nakikinig lahat, sinisipa ko kayo at sinasampal ko talaga kayo. I have been doing it and I will always do it. Hinihiya... The only way that you are really afraid of is to be humiliated in public and to be branded as a thief, as a son of a b\*\*\*\*.

Kaya `pag may magsumbong sa akin how --- maski na kaunti, sa police, or... You tell me `pag may humihingi. You have access to Malacañang 24 hours, especially if it is corruption. Tell me. Do not be afraid kasi `yung tao na isinumbong mo kausapin ko `yun bago ko bugbugin `yun.

Sabihin ko sa kanya, "P\*\*\*\*\* j\*\* mo, `pag may nangyari diyan sa tao nag-report sa iyo, ikaw ang papatayin ko." Para klaro.

Be assured that this administration is determined in its goal to achieve power security in the country.

Daghang salamat sa inyong tanan. *[applause]*

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