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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. **753**

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Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE MINDANAO POWER SUPPLY SITUATION WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENACTING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE SAME

*WHEREAS*, it is a declared policy of the State to ensure and accelerate total electrification of the country, providing in the process reliability, quality, security and affordability in the supply of electric power;<sup>1</sup>

*WHEREAS*, there appears to be an undeniable power crisis in Mindanao where rotating brownouts occur lasting one to two hours on a daily basis;

*WHEREAS*, such electric power shortage is said to be due to limited generation capacity and dependence of Mindanao on hydropower sources, specifically the 700 megawatt Agus Pulangi hydropower complex;

*WHEREAS*, according to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), there is an expected growth of power demand in Mindanao at an annual rate of 4.56 percent from 2011 to 2030 and, as such, excess in demand for power may be projected to exceed prevailing generation capacity by 2014 unless power generation capacity is increased accordingly;

*WHEREAS*, however, the Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA), through its chairperson claims that there is no actual power shortage in Mindanao, insisting that there is still a total of 65 megawatts of untapped

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<sup>1</sup> Republic Act No. 9136, Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001.

power capacity from Mindanao's hydropower sources, not to mention the existence of two geothermal power plants in the area;<sup>2</sup>

*WHEREAS*, ascertaining the power supply situation in Mindanao is a matter of significant concern if only to: 1) confirm its true situation; 2) determine the issues to be resolved; and 3) institute policy reforms, even if it would mean amending Republic Act No. 9136;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED* that the Senate Committee on Energy conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the real situation of the purported Mindanao Power Crisis with the end in view of enacting legislative measures to address the same.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francis G. Escudero', written over a horizontal line.

**FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO**

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<sup>2</sup> Philippine Star, 13 March 2012.