



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SAMAR
Catbalogan City

Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan

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Item No.: 18

Date: 25 2026 AUG

SAMAR

August 12, 2026

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: AUG 17 2026
By: Q. W. S.

The Honorable Leonardo "Sandy" Morales Javier Jr.
Office of the Provincial Vice Governor/Sangguniang Panlalawigan
New Leyte Provincial Government Complex,
Barangay Campetic, Palo, Leyte, 6501, Philippines

Sir/Madam:

Respectfully transmitted are copies of **Resolutions No. 18-661-26, 18-679-26 Series of 2026** of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, this province, for your information.

Very truly yours,

By the direction of the Body:


ATTY. JOSE CRISOSTOMO Y. GUADES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan



Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan

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EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 55th REGULAR SESSION OF THE 18th SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN, THIS PROVINCE, HELD AT THE SESSION HALL CAPITOL BUILDING, CATBALOGAN CITY, SAMAR ON 04 AUGUST 2026.

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: AUG 17 2026
By: [Signature]

RESOLUTION NO. 18-661-26

{Sponsored by: Hon. Beethoven M. Bermejo}

RESOLUTION MANIFESTING THE FIRM SUPPORT OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF SAMAR TO THE PROTEST OF SAMELCO I AND SAMELCO II MEMBER-CONSUMER-OWNERS AGAINST THE EXCESSIVE AND/OR IRREGULAR WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY SPOT MARKET (WESM) PRICING AND LINE LOSS AND CONGESTION CHARGES (LLCC); AND REQUESTING THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (ERC), THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE), AND THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO CONDUCT AN URGENT REVIEW, INVESTIGATION, AND REVISION OF THE WESM OPERATIONS, RULES, AND PRICING METHODOLOGY

WHEREAS, SAMELCO I and SAMELCO II encountered excessive power billings from the Independent Electricity Market Operator of the Philippines (IEMOP) pertaining to their WESM transactions and LLCC, specifically during the months of January, June and July of this year – in prior years, they also experienced similar excessive billings but not as frequent and excessive as this year;

WHEREAS, the rate impact of these LLCC ranged from over P1/kwh to P4/kwh, triggering violent reactions from consumers, business sector, and local government officials, considering that the people are also confronted with increased prices of basic commodities brought about by the increase of fuel prices;

WHEREAS, to put things in proper perspective and clearly illustrate how burdensome these LLCC to the people and economy of Samar, here are the billings received by both electric cooperatives for the months of January, June, July and August 2026, which amounts are collected by the consumers in the Province of Samar:

	January	June	July	August (Preliminary)
SAMELCO I	P23,398,666.56	P14,283,337.46	P32,697,749.44	P23,225,420.92
SAMELCO II	P37,533,530.35	P32,724,527.22	P60,832,584.69	P43,287,059.71

WHEREAS, they are questioning the pricing methodology in WESM where the price is determined by the Marginal Plant, which is usually high if not the highest, and not the true cost of power as required under the EPIRA Law;

WHEREAS, they are also questioning the LLCC on the ground that SAMELCO I and SAMELCO II are situated in Region 8 where the biggest geothermal plant is located with current reported capacity of 420 MW, enough to supply the actual demand of Region 8 of approximately 270 MW; moreover, the consumers should not pay for the cost of the congestion of the grid for the availability of the grid is the responsibility of the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP);

WHEREAS, SAMELCO I and SAMELCO II, together with the other electric cooperatives in Region 8 who are also affected by these LLCC and WESM pricing, exerted efforts in bringing these matters to the attention of the appropriate government agencies;

WHEREAS, on 17 July 2026, the Federation of Rural Electric Cooperatives in Region VIII (FRECOR 8) adopted Resolution no. 2026-07-08 entitled "A RESOLUTION MANIFESTING THE STRONG PROTEST OF THE ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS IN THE DIFFERENT AREA OF COVERAGE OF THE FEDERATION OF RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES OF REGION VIII (FRECOR 8) ON THE HIGH GENERATION COSTS, AND URGENTLY REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) AND THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND INVESTIGATE THE WESM OPERATION, RULES AND PRICING METHODOLOGY TO SAVE REGION VIII ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES MEMBER-CONSUMERS-OWNERS FROM INAPPROPRIATE, NOT TRUE COST, AND EXCESSIVE LINE LOSS AND CONGESTION COST (LLCC);

WHEREAS, according to settlement data from the IEMOP, the cumulative LLCC billed to the eleven (11) ECs of Region VIII surged to an all-time record high of ₱572.9 Million in July 2026 alone, a staggering 107% increase from the ₱276.5 Million billed in June 2026;

WHEREAS, further data reveals that for the seven-month period from January to July 2026, the cumulative LLCC forced upon the hard-working electricity consumers of Region VIII has reached a massive total of ₱1.55 Billion;

WHEREAS, this regional LLCC burden is highly volatile and disproportionately distributed, with the July 2026 preliminary billing showing LLCC rates spiking to as high as ₱5.99/kWh for LEYECO IV, ₱5.81/kWh for SAMELCO II, and ₱5.31/kWh for LEYECO V, resulting in an oppressive regional average LLCC rate of ₱4.03/kWh;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Samar recognizes its duty to protect the welfare of its constituents and to amplify the voice of the Member-Consumer-Owners in ensuring fair and just electricity rates for the communities of Samar;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of **HON. BEETHOVEN M. BERMEJO**, duly seconded by the Body, in session duly assembled, be it-

RESOLVED, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to MANIFEST THE FIRM SUPPORT OF THE SANGGUNIAN PANLAWIGAN OF SAMAR TO THE PROTEST OF SAMELCO I AND SAMELCO II MEMBER-CONSUMER-OWNERS AGAINST THE EXCESSIVE AND/OR IRREGULAR WESM PRICING AND LINE LOSS AND CONGESTION CHARGES (LLCC); AND REQUESTING THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (ERC), THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE), AND THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO CONDUCT AN URGENT REVIEW, INVESTIGATION, AND REVISION OF THE WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY SPOT MARKET (WESM) OPERATIONS, RULES, AND PRICING METHODOLOGY;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Sangguniang Panlalawigan respectfully appeals before the Office of the President, the Department of Energy and the Energy Regulatory Commission to:

1. Immediately suspend temporarily the WESM Operation pending review and revision of the WESM Rules setting the WESM Price and the pricing methodologies affecting the computation of LLCC;
2. Review and revise the mathematical formulation of the LLCC to assess if the same is lawful and appropriate, and if consistent with the law requiring transparency and true cost of electricity;
3. Consider other immediate regulatory reliefs for the consumers of SAMELCO I and SAMELCO II;

RESOLVED, FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution be furnished to the **Office of the President, Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), the Department of Energy (DOE)** for appropriate and immediate action;

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Resolution.


ATTY. JOSE CRISOSTOMO Y. GUADES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

ATTESTED and CERTIFIED ADOPTED BY:


ABBIE JOY IRIGON-YULO
Assistant President Pro Tempore