

Republic of the Philippines  
**ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City



**13**  
**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Series of 2018**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION'S (ERC) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT CALLED "ERC WEB PORTAL FOR INTERACTIVE AND SYSTEMATIC EXCHANGE" (eWISE) AND AUTHORIZING ITS LAUNCHING ON JUNE 27, 2018**

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) resolved to revisit its existing system and processes;

**WHEREAS**, in the third quarter of 2014, upon the request of ERC, the World Bank engaged Castalia Strategic Advisors (CSA), a consulting firm that specializes in governance and regulation of infrastructure services, to assess and provide solutions to improve the processes and system of the ERC;

**WHEREAS**, CSA's review of the existing processes and system revealed that ERC's current system and processes need enhancement in order that it may efficiently and effectively achieve its mandate/vision;

**WHEREAS**, CSA first proposed a re-designed process for its Capital Expenditure (CAPEX), Reinvestment Fund for Sustainable Capex (RFSC), Power Supply Agreement (PSA), and Rules for Setting Electric Cooperatives' Wheeling Rates (RSEC-WR);

**WHEREAS**, ERC is one of the cooperating agencies to the Access to Sustainable Energy Programme (ASEP), a foreign-assisted (World Bank) project which started in April 2016;

**WHEREAS**, ASEP is a 4-year collaboration between the European Union and the Philippine Government supporting the Government's goal of inclusive economic growth and attainment of 90% household electrification by 2017 under the Philippine Development Plan and the Department of Energy's Household Electrification Development Plan;

**WHEREAS**, one of the components of ASEP is technical assistance and capacity building of ERC on its regulatory function;

**WHEREAS**, the World Bank engaged SRA Information Technology (SRA), a leading global provider of quality business software solutions and environmental data management systems, and Castalia Strategic Advisors (CSA) to revise and streamline the ERC's work processes;

**WHEREAS**, in January, 2017, pursuant to its World Bank engagement, SRA developed an IT system, an interactive portal for regulated entities to interact with the ERC and for ERC to manage submissions and tracking of regular filings, requests for approvals and other requirements, called ERC Web Portal for Interactive and Systematic Exchange (eWISE);

**WHEREAS**, initially, the eight processes for Capital Expenditures (Capex), Power Supply Agreement (PSA), Rules Setting for Electric Cooperatives-Wheeling Rates (RSEC-WR), Performance Based Regulation (PBR), Consumer Complaint (CC), Market Monitoring (MM), Certificate of Compliance (COC) and Uniform Reportorial Requirement (URR) were re-designed by SRA and CSA;

**WHEREAS**, the trials for the six (6) processes (CC, PBR, PSA, RSEC-WR, CAPEX, COC) and two (2) sub-processes (Show Cause Order (SCO) and Motion for Reconsideration (MR) were done through a user acceptance testing method by the representatives of the Regulatory Operations Service (ROS), Consumer Affairs Service (CAS), Market Operations Service (MOS) and Legal Service (LS) under the supervision of the eWISE Team within a period of seven (7) months which started in November 2017 until May 2018;

**WHEREAS**, the eight (8) re-designed processes were integrated into the system and trainings of the Training Champions and initial Users of the same were conducted from May 24, 2018 to June 11, 2018. These processes, as streamlined, will provide efficient, effective and better service to the regulated entities and the public;

**WHEREAS**, the eWISE project is in line with the State's policy and objective enunciated under Sections 2 and 3 of R.A. 8792 (Electronic Commerce Act of 2000), respectively, thus:

“Section 2. Declaration of Policy - The State recognizes the vital role of information and communications technology (ICT) in nation-building; the need to create an information-friendly environment which supports and ensures the availability, diversity and affordability of ICT products and services; x x x

Section 3. Objective – This Act aims to facilitate x x x transactions, arrangements, agreements, contracts and exchanges and storage of information through the utilization of electronic, optical and similar

medium, mode, instrumentality and technology to recognize the authenticity and reliability of electronic documents related to such activities and to promote the universal use of electronic transaction in the government and general public." (underlining supplied)

**WHEREAS**, the re-designed processes when implemented will, in effect, revise some of the requirements set forth under the ERC Rules of Practice and Procedure (RPP), hence, the need to amend the pertinent provisions therein;

**WHEREAS** , there are some requirements under the ERC RPP that can not be dispensed with such as those prescribed under Rule 3, Section 4 on verification and certification against forum shopping which requires notarization, and Rule 6, Section 3 on proof of compliance with pre-filing requirements which needs the submission of a copy of the newspaper publication, which will both necessitate the physical submission of documents;

**WHEREAS**, relative to the foregoing, Part IV, Section 27, paragraph (d) of R.A. 8792 (Electronic Transactions In Government) mandates a "public hearing and due publication in newspapers of general circulation of "the appropriate rules, regulations, or guidelines" relative to the government use of electronic data messages, electronic documents and electronic signatures;

**WHEREAS**, in keeping with the above requirement, a public hearing/consultation to solicit the comments/suggestions and address the concerns of the regulated entities, parties and the public should be conducted;

**WHEREAS**, with the assistance of the eWISE team, the concerned Services/Divisions are required to be ready with their respective re-designed processes as well as the rules (RPP) that will be affected/revised for public consultation, comments and/or suggestions;

**WHEREAS**, the eWISE, a pioneering project, is one of the five E's projects of the ERC;

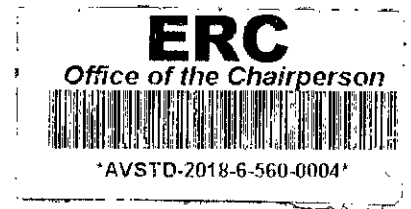
**WHEREAS**, given its capabilities, advantages and benefits, the eWISE project will be launched during the ERC anniversary on June 27, 2018;

**NOW THEREFORE**, after a thorough and due deliberation, the Commission, **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES** to **APPROVE** the Energy Regulatory Commission's Information Technology Enhancement Project called "ERC Web Portal For Interactive and Systematic Exchange (eWISE);

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to authorize, as it hereby **AUTHORIZES** the launching of the eWISE Project on June 27, 2018.


Pasig City, June 19, 2018.


  
**AGNES VST DEVANADERA**  
Chairperson and CEO



  
**ALFREDO J. NON**  
Commissioner

  
**GLORIA VICTORIA C. YAP-TARUC**  
Commissioner

  
**JOSEFINA PATRICIA A. MAGPALE-ASIRIT**  
Commissioner

  
**GERONIMO D. STA. ANA**  
Commissioner