

BUKIDNON SECOND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (BUSECO), Petitioner,

-versus-

ERC CASE NO. 2016-004 DR

BUKIDNON SUB-TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (BSTC), Respondent.

DOCKETED Date: SEP 4 2016 By:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that on 09 September 2016, Bukidnon Second Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BUSECO) filed a *Petition* with even date against Bukidnon Sub-transmission Corporation (BSTC) pursuant to Section 43 of Republic Act No. 9136, otherwise known as the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 (EPIRA).

In the said *Petition*, Petitioner BUSECO alleged the following:

PARTIES

- 1. That petitioner is an Electric Cooperative created under P.D 269 with main office address at Tankulan, Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon;
- 2. That respondent BUKIDNON SUB-TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (BSTC) has office address at Dacuyan Compound, Hagkol, Valencia City, Bukidnon where summons and other processes of this Honorable Commission may be served;
- 3. That BSTC is a consortium of First Bukidnon Electric Cooperative (FIBECO) and petitioner Bukidnon Second Electric Cooperative Inc. (BUSECO) for the purpose of acquiring the 69kV line sold or disposed by the TRANSCO/NAPOCOR;

NATURE OF THE PETITION

4. That BSTC, by virtue of a Sub-transmission Connection Agreement which was executed last July 2015, imposed connection charges to BUSECO, as follows:

ARTICLE XII. CONNECTION CHARGES

The charges to be included in the billing shall be the following with their corresponding amount:

- a. Connection charge Two Hundred Twenty Three Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen Pesos and Fifty-Six Centavos (Php 223,518.56),
- b. Residual Sub-Transmission Charge Seven Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand One Hundred Forty Eight Pesos and Thirty-Two Centavos (Php 729,148. 32),

Provided, that within 6 months BSTC must apply for new RSTC rate with ERC. Provided, further, that the new approved RSTC rate shall be applied for the subsequent Agreement;

- 5. That the 6-month period for the authority to charge CC-RSTC has expired on January 26, 2016 without the new CC-RSTC rates having been approved by the Commission;
- 6. That there being no legal basis for the CC-RSTC, petitioner stopped payment to respondent;
- 7. That likewise, aside from the lack of authority from the Commission, petitioner also questions validity of the inclusion of the Value Added Tax (VAT);
- 8. That while there is still a pending dispute resolution between the parties before the ERC, respondent threatened petitioner with Disconnection scheduled on 15 September 2016 at 12:00 noon, copy of the notice is herein attached as ANNEX "B;"
- 9. That the Notice was furnished to the local government units, copies of which are attached hereto as Annex "C", to the general public and through the social media, particularly Facebook, Annex "D";
- 10. That the disconnection of petitioner will cause massive and irreparable damage and injury to the member consumers of petitioner including the (19) hospitals in its service area, dislocate trade and businesses, aside from great inconvenience that will be suffered by the residential consumers;
- 11. That not only the local franchise area of petitioner will be affected, but even national interest will be adversely compromised, prompting Senator Miguel Zubiri to pass

Senate Resolution No. 133 calling for an investigation in aid of legislation of the impending disconnection of petitioner, copy of which is hereto attached as Annex "E;"

- 12. That this is pure harassment on the part of respondent because petitioner, after all is willing to pay, provided there will an order from the ERC imposing the CC-RSTC and will put this payment in escrow to show good faith on the part of petitioner;
- 13. That respondent further misled the public that petitioner has already connected the CC-RSTC from its members consumers but refuses to pay this to BSTC, which is farthest from the truth, because considering the lack of authority from the ERC, petitioner did not include this in its billing statements to its members-consumers and neither was this passed on;

RELIEFS SOUGHT

WHEREFORE, foregoing premises considered, it is most respectfully prayed of this Commission to issue a Cease and Desist Order, directing respondent BSTC not to disconnect petitioner on 15 September 2016 and on any other dates until the ERC makes a ruling on the validity of the rate application of BSTC.

Such other reliefs, just and equitable under the premises, are likewise prayed for.

The Commission has set the *Petition* for expository presentation, Pre-trial Conference, and presentation of evidence on **03 October 2016 (Thursday) at two o'clock in the afternoon (2:00 P.M.) at the ERC Hearing Room, 15th Floor, Pacific Center Building, San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City.**

All persons who have an interest in the subject matter of the proceeding may become a party by filing, at least five (5) days prior to the initial hearing and subject to the requirements in the Commission's 2006 Rules of Practice and Procedure, a verified petition with the Commission giving the docket number and title of the proceeding and stating: (1) the petitioner's name and address; (2) the nature of petitioner's interest in the subject matter of the proceeding, and the way and manner in which such interest is affected by the issues involved in the proceeding; and (3) a statement of the relief desired.

All other persons who may want their views known to the Commission with respect to the subject matter of the proceeding may file their opposition to the *Petition* or comment thereon at any stage of the proceeding before the conclusion of Petitioner's presentation of

ERC CASE NO. 2016-004 DR NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING/13 SEPTEMBER 2016 PAGE 4 OF 4

evidence. No particular form of opposition or comment is required, but the document, letter or writing should contain the name and address of such person and a concise statement of the opposition or comment and the grounds relied upon.

WITNESS, the Honorable Chairman JOSE VICENTE B. SALAZAR and the Honorable Commissioners ALFREDO J. NON, GLORIA VICTORIA C. YAP-TARUC, JOSEFINA PATRICIA A. MAGPALE-ASIRIT, and GERONIMO D. STA. ANA, Energy Regulatory Commission, this 13th day of September 2016 in Pasig City.

ATTY. NATHAN J. MARASIGAN

Chlef of Staff
Office of the Chairman and CEO

LS: ARO/ICO/OVB/APV

Copy Furnished:

- Atty. Eleuterio F. Diao, IV
 Counsel for Petitioner BUSECO
 1906 Bontong, Camaman-an,
 Cagayan de Oro City
- Bukidnon Second Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BUSECO)
 Petitioner
 Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon
- 3. Romeo Y. Pacanan

 President and CEO

 Bukidnon Sub-transmission Corporation (BSTC)

 Dacuyan Compound, Hagkol, Valencia City
- Bukidnon Sub-transmission Corporation (BSTC)
 Respondent
 Dacuyan Compound, Hagkol, Valencia City
- 5. First Bukidnon Electric Cooperative (FIBECO) Maramag, Bukidnon
- 6. National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) BIR Road corner Quezon Avenue Quezon City