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# Job growth and environmental responsibility: Yuchengcos defend PetroWind's expansion in Aklan

**BILYONARYO.COM** 

February 21, 2024(https://bilyonaryo.com/2024/02/21/)



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PetroWind Energy Inc., controlled by the Yuchengco Group, has defended its 14-megawatt wind farm expansion in Malay, Aklan, amid opposition raised by the Boracay Foundation.

The company emphasized its commitment to environmental protection and compliance with regulations while addressing the project's benefits for the region.

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"We assure stakeholders of our wind farm project in Aklan that we are employing extensive and effective impact mitigation measures in the development of our Phase 2," the company said in a statement.

PWEI's first wind farm in Nabas-Malay, Aklan, generates 36 MW and was commissioned in June 2015.



Responding to concerns about the project's potential impact on the Nabaoy River, PWEI highlighted its "Ridge-to-River Restoration and Rehabilitation (R4) Program" presented at public hearings. This program, developed with local and international experts, implements slope stabilization and erosion control measures.

The company cited recent inspections by various government agencies confirming PWEI's adherence to environmental compliance requirements under the environmental compliance certificate, special agreement on protected area, and forestland use agreement.

PWEI emphasized obtaining all necessary permits and local government endorsements before project commencement. It clarified that the project serves as a government initiative under the Department of Energy with PWEI acting as the service contractor.

The company stressed the project's importance in stabilizing Panay's power supply through sustainable energy sources. It urged stakeholders to rely on accurate information and avoid speculation.

PetroWind argued that unsubstantiated concerns could hinder investments, tax revenues, and employment opportunities in Aklan.

PWEI reiterated its commitment to environmental protection, clean energy generation, and Corporate Social Responsibility programs in its host communities. The company aims to contribute to the Philippines' goal of achieving 35% renewable energy by 2030.

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