



August 28, 2012

Trust Fund Committee  
Clean Technology Fund  
Climate Investment Funds

Dear members of the CTF Trust Fund Committee:

The opposition regarding the e-trikes project is commonly identified as a grievance from third parties outside the negotiation ends that are the Philippine Department of Energy and Asian Development Bank. However, government entities, especially in the legislature, are expressing doubts with the design of the said project. Apart from the previously cited House Resolution No. 2562 that was first filed by legislators from the majority block of the Philippine House of Representatives, another legislator from the power crisis-ridden island of Mindanao filed a resolution to ensure that the issue will be taken up as an agenda of the present Congress.

Marked as House Resolution No. 2633 and titled as "A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AND INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROPOSED REVISED INVESTMENT PLAN SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO THE CLEAN TECHNOLOGY FUND TRUST FUND COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PROCUREMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF 100,000 ELECTRIC TRICYCLES", the resolution explicitly directs "the House of Representatives' Committee on Energy to conduct and inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the above issue and thus serve notice to all concerned, particularly the DOE, DOF, ADB, the Clean Technology Fund Trust Fund Committee and other agencies and entities, which may shed light and resolve the issue".

HR No. 2633 was filed few weeks after the Energy Regulation Commission's announcement of the new Feed-In Tariff rate for renewable energy. After the announcement, the legislator through this resolution expressed doubts on whether procuring and deploying electric tricycles are the right approaches in addressing the current power crisis in Mindanao and in parts of Luzon and Visayas. This concern is only one of many similarly raised by other critics of the project, all of which boil down to the problematic design of the DOE/ADB flagship project.

As if this was not enough, the Energy Department has recently moved the deadline, for the second time, for submission of proposals to supply an initial 5,000 e-trikes, citing "concerns" which they say have to be addressed. The department however declined to discuss these concerns despite an existing law mandating transparency in government transactions.

Please refer to the attached news clipping for more information. We have also attached copies of HR Nos. 2562 and 2633 for your reference.

Problems have been identified by committee members, observers, and other stakeholders alike, and yet the answers from the proponents have been dismal almost at every exchange. Your honored organization deserves more time to rethink the approval of this project. More importantly, we Filipinos deserve a better project design if we are to enter yet again another financial agreement. We have nothing more to say except to appeal for prudence, and in turn for the halt of the full implementation of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Rowena F. Bolinas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rowena F. Bolinas  
National Coordinator