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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez and Representative Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr.

House Res No. 2633

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN 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

WHEREAS, the Philippine government is responsible for safeguarding the country's natural resources and preserving the environment by taking proactive actions through its legislative, executive, and judiciary branches;

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced an e-Tricycle Project in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which is scheduled to be launched on the first to second quarter of 2013;

WHEREAS, media attention has risen in dismay and disfavor on the questionable project design of the e-Tricycle Project of the DOE and ADB;

WHEREAS, sustainable transportation initiative should be a long-term goal of the government and not just a project focused on immediate sales of new products;

WHEREAS, executive-attached entities, civil society organizations, and individuals have raised allegations that ADB employed process-lacking lobbying and railroading for the project;

WHEREAS, executive-level conflicts of interests have already been expressed by the Department of Finance (DOF) and the Climate Change Commission (CCC) regarding the project's design with the DOF being firm on the parameter that market prices should determine the price of the e-Trike units as well as the identification of its market demand;

WHEREAS, the CCC insists that product-focused initiatives such as the electric tricycle project should and can be shouldered by the private sector and not by the Philippine government;

WHEREAS, the implementation design of the project centers power to endorse, choose, collect payments, and review e-Trike grants to Local Government Unit officials, thus, allegedly making the project prone to patronage and corruption;

WHEREAS, the e-Trikes Project is contrary to the central issue of DOE that is the persisting power shortage in Mindanao as well as the yellow alert in Luzon's power grids because the project could create more dependence on the current inefficient supply of electricity;

WHEREAS, the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) announced a lower Feed In Tariff for renewable energy. Thus, making renewable energy development more vital and needed in enduring the prevalent power crisis;

WHEREAS, members of the Clean Technology Fund Trust Fund Committee have allegedly expressed reservations with the failure of the Asian Development Bank to disclose project information to the Committee such as the flawed project cycle, which is being scrutinized to be corruption prone;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives, to direct the Committee on Energy to conduct an 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.

Adopted,

RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ, JR.