



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8417

BY REPRESENTATIVES BATOCABE, GARBIN, CO, BRAVO (M.V.),
VELASCO, NOGRALES (K.A.), ROQUE, UYBARRETA, CALDERON,
PALMA, BOLILIA, LOBREGAT, SAMBAR, BRAVO (A.), CASTELO,
UMALI, VELOSO, SALCEDA, ROMUALDO, TAN (A.), BONDOC,
SALO, GARCIA (J.E.), HERRERA-DY, BIAZON, MARINO, SALON,
PADUANO, ZUBIRI, SARMIENTO (C.), VILLAFUERTE, TEJADA,
BATAOIL, GO (M.), DE VENECIA, PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, NIETO,
SUANSING (E.), TAMBUNTING, SY-ALVARADO AND BELARO,
PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 892

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ENERGY VIRTUAL ONE-STOP
SHOP FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREAMLINING THE
PERMITTING PROCESS OF ENERGY PROJECTS

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in Congress assembled:*

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Energy
Virtual One-Stop Shop Act”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the
policy of the State to:

(a) Ensure the quality, reliability, and security of electrical

1 power and energy at reasonable cost by undertaking measures to
2 guarantee that supply meets demand in a timely manner;

3 (b) Recognize the indispensable role of the private sector in
4 power generation, transmission and distribution by attracting new
5 power generation, transmission or distribution projects through
6 improved ease of doing business index, and reducing the high
7 transaction costs associated with copious requisites for proponents;

8 (c) Ensure transparency and accountability in the process of
9 approving power generation, transmission or distribution projects;
10 and

11 (d) Deliver efficient and effective service to the public by:

12 (1) Ensure timely completion of energy projects by
13 eliminating duplication, redundancy, and overlapping mandates in
14 documentary submissions and processes by supplying an online
15 platform for government agencies to coordinate and share
16 information; and

17 (2) Provide an electronic and processing system which serves
18 as a single gateway through which entrepreneurs can access all
19 information necessary in the application for a new generation,
20 transmission or distribution project, and submit all requirements
21 related to the application and through which the status of
22 applications may be monitored.

23 SEC. 3. *Scope.* – This Act shall apply to all new power
24 generation, transmission and distribution projects throughout the
25 country and all departments, bureaus, offices, government-owned or
26 -controlled corporations (GOCCs), local government units (LGUs),
27 and other entities involved in the permitting process of power
28 generation, transmission or distribution projects.

SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

(a) *Bidding documents* refer to documents issued by a procuring entity as the basis for bids, furnishing all information necessary for a prospective bidder to prepare a bid for the goods, infrastructure projects, and consulting services to be provided;

(b) *Distribution system or facilities* refer to the system of wires and associated facilities belonging to a franchised distribution utility extending between the delivery points on the transmission system, or generating plant connection and the point of connection to the premises of the end user;

(c) *Energy project* refers to the financing, development, construction and/or operation of any of power generation, transmission or distribution facilities and its associated equipment;

(d) *Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop or eVOSS* refers to an online system that allows the coordinated submission and synchronous processing of all required data and information, and provides a single decision-making portal for actions on applications for permits and/or certifications necessary for or related to an application of a proponent for new power generation, transmission or distribution projects;

(e) *Mother agency* refers to the department, which has jurisdiction over bureaus, offices, agencies, and GOCCs assigned to it by law in accordance with the applicable relationship as defined in Chapters 7, 8, and 9, Book IV of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the “Administrative Code of 1987”;

(f) *Permits and certifications* refer to the written document authorizing a person or entity to conduct specified activities in a specified area or industry for a specified period of time, involving

specified goods and/or services;

(g) *Permitting process* refers to the comprehensive procedure undertaken in order to put up a power generation, transmission or distribution project including the following phases: acquisition of an operating contract or service contract, pre-development, and construction of a power plant including date of commencement of commercial operations thereof, as well as all the required documentary requirements and fees from all government agencies involved in such procedure: *Provided*, That the procedure excludes the operational phase of the project;

(h) *Power generation facilities* refer to generation facilities of all types, technology or resource, including conventional, renewable, hybrid facilities and all types of storage facilities;

(i) *Procuring entity* refers to any branch, department, office, agency, or instrumentality of the government, including state universities and colleges, GOCCs, government financial institutions, and LGUs procuring goods, consulting services, and infrastructure projects;

(j) *System operator* refers to the party responsible for generation dispatch, or the implementation of the generation dispatch schedule of the independent market operator, the provision of ancillary services, and operation to ensure safety, power quality, stability, reliability and security of the grid;

(k) *Transmission network provider* refers to the party that is responsible for operating and maintaining adequate grid capacity in accordance with the provisions of the Philippine Grid Code; and

(l) *Transmission system or facilities* refer to the high voltage backbone system of interconnected transmission lines, substations,

1 and related facilities for the purpose of conveyance of bulk power.

2 CHAPTER II

3 ENERGY VIRTUAL ONE-STOP SHOP

4 SEC. 5. *Creation and Establishment of the Energy Virtual*
 5 *One-Stop Shop (eVOSS)*. – An Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop
 6 (eVOSS) is hereby established under the supervision of the
 7 Department of Energy (DOE). Towards this end, the DOE shall
 8 maintain and update an effective information technology
 9 infrastructure system, which shall be updated regularly, subject to
 10 the provisions of this Act.

11 SEC. 6. *Powers and Functions*. – The eVOSS shall have the
 12 following powers and functions:

13 (a) Recognizes the legal effect, validity, and enforceability of
 14 electronic documents submitted in relation to applications for
 15 permits and/or certifications necessary for or related to applications
 16 for power generation, transmission or distribution projects;

17 (b) Utilizes an online payment system for all fees imposed
 18 for applications for permits and/or certifications necessary for or
 19 related to applications for power generation, transmission or
 20 distribution projects;

21 (c) Provides a secure and accessible paperless processing
 22 system through which proponents may:

23 (1) Obtain the list of electronic documentary requirements of
 24 a mother agency, its attached and/or subordinate agencies, LGUs,
 25 and other entities, and the corresponding fees and permitting
 26 process for each kind of power generation, transmission or
 27 distribution project and for each phase of the project;

28 (2) Prepare, submit and undertake appropriate actions on all

1 submitted electronic documentary requirements;

2 (3) Monitor and inquire on the status of ongoing applications
 3 for permits and/or certifications necessary for or related to
 4 applications for power generation, transmission or distribution
 5 projects, and in relation thereto, ascertain the attached and/or
 6 subordinate agencies and individuals tasked with acting on a
 7 submitted electronic document and the action or inaction thereon;

8 (4) Calculate, pay, and settle all appropriate fees
 9 electronically; and

10 (5) Submit complaints concerning inaction on submitted
 11 electronic documents.

12 (d) Provides a secure and accessible system for all mother
 13 agencies, attached and/or subordinate agencies, LGUs, and other
 14 entities involved in the permitting process of power generation,
 15 transmission or distribution projects to interoperate with respect to:

16 (1) A unified permitting process;

17 (2) Uniform templates for electronic documentary
 18 requirements;

19 (3) Compliance with mandated processing time as stated in
 20 this Act or as imposed by the coordinating council of the eVOSS,
 21 whichever is shorter;

22 (4) Updating and monitoring of all electronic documentary
 23 requirements for action;

24 (5) Determining which mother agency, attached and/or
 25 subordinate agencies, LGUs, or entity an ongoing application is in,
 26 and its status therein; and

27 (6) Other aspects of the processing system;

28 (e) Operates as a one hundred percent (100%) virtual

1 storage and rules driven system built as an integrated shared
 2 service of the mother agency, attached and/or subordinate agencies,
 3 LGUs, and other entities involved in the permitting process of
 4 power generation, transmission or distribution projects; and

5 (f) Utilizes a technology platform and an operations
 6 management software platform for the mother agency, attached
 7 and/or subordinate agencies, LGUs, and other entities involved in
 8 the permitting process of power generation, transmission or
 9 distribution projects to build their defined processes and forms
 10 within a strict time frame using published standards.

11 SEC. 7. *eVOSS Coordinating Council.* – There shall be an
 12 eVOSS Coordinating Council composed of the Secretary of the DOE
 13 as Chairperson, the Secretary of the Department of Information and
 14 Communications Technology (DICT) as Vice-Chairperson, and the
 15 following as members:

16 (a) Secretary of the Department of Environment and
 17 Natural Resources (DENR);

18 (b) Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local
 19 Government (DILG);

20 (c) Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry
 21 (DTI);

22 (d) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment
 23 (DOLE);

24 (e) Chairperson of the Energy Regulatory Commission
 25 (ERC);

26 (f) Administrator of the National Electrification
 27 Administration (NEA);

28 (g) Chairperson of the National Commission on Indigenous

1 Peoples (NCIP);

2 (h) President of the National Power Corporation (NPC);

3 (i) Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Commission
 4 (SEC);

5 (j) Chairperson of the Metro Manila Development Authority
 6 (MMDA);

7 (k) Chairperson of the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB);

8 (l) Administrator of the Philippine Coconut Authority
 9 (PCA); and

10 (m) One (1) representative each from the power generation,
 11 transmission and distribution sectors and end users: *Provided*, That
 12 the said representatives shall be nominated by the sector concerned
 13 and chosen by the DOE to serve for a term of three (3) years:
 14 *Provided, further*, That the said representatives shall be nonvoting
 15 members.

16 The members of the eVOSS Coordinating Council shall
 17 designate their permanent representatives and at least three (3)
 18 alternates who must be knowledgeable in the represented mother
 19 agency's role, requirements, fees, and internal processes with
 20 respect to power generation, transmission or distribution projects as
 21 well as that of the attached bureaus, offices, and agencies at both
 22 the national and local levels: *Provided*, That the involvement of the
 23 attached bureaus, offices, and agencies at both the national and
 24 local levels, GOCCs, and other entities in the permitting process of
 25 power generation, transmission or distribution projects shall be a
 26 prerequisite to the mother agency's membership in the eVOSS
 27 Coordinating Council.

28 The eVOSS Coordinating Council may, as may be necessary,

1 invite the heads of other agencies and instrumentalities including
2 the following:

- 3 (a) Department of Agriculture (DA);
- 4 (b) Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR);
- 5 (c) Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
- 6 (d) Department of Transportation (DOTr);
- 7 (e) Independent Market Operator (IMO);
- 8 (f) National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP);
- 9 (g) National Water Resources Board (NWRB); and
- 10 (h) Philippine National Police (PNP).

11 SEC. 8. *Duties and Responsibilities of the eVOSS*
12 *Coordinating Council.* – The eVOSS Coordinating Council shall be
13 convened within two (2) months from the effectivity of this Act.

14 The eVOSS Coordinating Council shall have the following
15 duties and responsibilities:

- 16 (a) Promulgate its internal rules governing its meetings,
17 creation of *ad hoc* committees and such other activities as may be
18 necessary to effectively implement the provisions of this Act and
19 achieve its policy objectives while ensuring the responsiveness of
20 the eVOSS to the needs of the energy sector and changing
21 developments in information technology;
- 22 (b) Promote collaborative relationships and open
23 communication among members of the eVOSS Coordinating
24 Council;
- 25 (c) Encourage effective collaboration and consensus building
26 in decision-making by the eVOSS Coordinating Council;
- 27 (d) Ensure that all key and relevant issues and concerns are
28 discussed, deliberated upon, and solved in a timely manner;

1 (e) Recommend the removal or inclusion of mother agencies
2 and other entities in the permitting process and in the eVOSS
3 Coordinating Council: *Provided*, That a mother agency or entity
4 may be removed for reasons of redundancy or lack of expressed legal
5 mandate: *Provided, further*, That a mother agency or entity may be
6 included if supported by an express legal mandate: *Provided*,
7 *finally*, That the inclusion of an attached bureau, office, and agency
8 at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs in the eVOSS
9 Coordinating Council shall be limited to its mother agency;

10 (f) Initiate disciplinary action against any member as
11 provided in Section 15 of this Act: *Provided*, That disciplinary
12 actions against the IMO and the System Operator shall be
13 determined and initiated by the ERC;

14 (g) Within three (3) months upon the effectivity of this Act,
15 design a detailed process flow of each phase of the permitting
16 process for each kind of power generation, transmission or
17 distribution project, which should reflect, among others:

18 (1) Documentary requirements and fees from each and any
19 government bureau, office, and agency, at both national and local
20 levels, GOCCs, LGUs, and other entities involved in the permitting
21 process; and

22 (2) Internal process flow of the entire organization of the
23 mother agency, including the attached bureaus, offices, agencies at
24 both the national and local levels, GOCCs, and other entities in
25 which the applications pass through, the individuals who approve
26 the same, and the maximum number of days required for the
27 release of an action on such applications, the total of which must be
28 within the time frame indicated herein, or as imposed by the eVOSS

1 Coordinating Council, whichever is shorter;
 2 (h) Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act,
 3 streamline the said detailed process flow by:
 4 (1) Agreeing on and creating unified forms of electronic
 5 documents to replace existing documentary requirements;
 6 (2) Removing duplications and redundancies in required
 7 documents; and
 8 (3) Creating a simplified internal process flow within each
 9 government bureau, office, or agency at both the national and local
 10 levels, GOCCs, and other entities involved in the permitting process
 11 such that applications with complete electronic documents shall all
 12 be resolved within the time frame indicated in Sections 10, 11 and
 13 12, which shall be counted from the submission of complete
 14 documentary requirements: *Provided*, That the time frame for
 15 applications with the LGUs and the NCIP shall be governed by
 16 Sections 12 and 13 of this Act: *Provided, further*, That failure of
 17 bureaus, offices, and agencies at both the national and local levels,
 18 GOCCs, LGUs, and other entities involved in the permitting process
 19 to release their actions on applications duly filed with complete
 20 supporting documents within the prescribed time frame shall be
 21 deemed approval of such application;
 22 (4) Reviewing the time frame stated in this Act to release
 23 actions on applications with complete documentary requirements
 24 and impose a new time frame on such applications: *Provided*, That
 25 the new time frame shall not be shorter than the time frame stated
 26 in this Act;
 27 (5) Ensuring the linkage of an online payment system to the
 28 streamlined process flow;

1 (6) Developing the terms of reference for the eVOSS
 2 developer, which shall be chosen through a public bidding under the
 3 Bids and Awards Committee of the DOE;
 4 (7) Determining a reasonable processing fee for proponents
 5 who use the eVOSS; and
 6 (8) Meeting biannually upon the operationalization of the
 7 eVOSS: *Provided*, That special meetings may be called at any time
 8 by the Chairperson or at the instance of any member to, among
 9 others:
 10 (i) Monitor and assess the performance of the eVOSS;
 11 (ii) Determine congestion points, if any, in the existing
 12 system, and the mechanisms to address them;
 13 (iii) Receive and resolve complaints from government
 14 personnel and power generation, transmission or distribution
 15 developers who use the system;
 16 (iv) Convey information, if any, of the agency's updated
 17 requirements and internal processes which make the current
 18 system more efficient;
 19 (v) Identify redundant requirements or those not expressly
 20 mandated by law, and recommend to the Chairperson the removal
 21 of the requirement from the permitting process and the concerned
 22 mother agency, if applicable, from the eVOSS Coordinating Council;
 23 (vi) Identify redundant requirements, which are expressly
 24 mandated by law and submit a recommendation on the matter to
 25 the Joint Congressional Power Commission (JCPC); and
 26 (vii) Prepare and submit the annual report to the JCPC.
 27 SEC. 9. *Functions and Responsibilities of the eVOSS*
 28 *Coordinating Council Secretariat.* – The Investment Promotion

1 Staff (IPS) of the DOE shall be expanded and renamed as
 2 Investment Promotion Office (IPO) and shall serve as the
 3 Secretariat to the eVOSS Coordinating Council. The organizational
 4 structure and staffing complement of the IPO shall be determined
 5 by the DOE Secretary in consultation with the Department of
 6 Budget and Management (DBM) and in accordance with existing
 7 civil service rules and regulations.

8 In addition to the existing functions of the IPS, the IPO is
 9 hereby mandated to:

10 (a) Fulfill its duties as the Secretariat of the eVOSS
 11 Coordinating Council:

12 (1) Assist the Chairperson or in his absence, the
 13 Vice-Chairperson, in setting the meeting schedule and agenda of the
 14 eVOSS Coordinating Council;

15 (2) Provide administrative and technical support to the
 16 eVOSS Coordinating Council;

17 (3) Provide documents and reports, which contain relevant,
 18 accurate, timely and clear information necessary for the eVOSS
 19 Coordinating Council to fulfill its duties; and

20 (4) Perform such other duties as the Chairperson or eVOSS
 21 Coordinating Council may delegate to the Secretariat;

22 (b) Develop and implement the eVOSS in accordance with
 23 the provisions of this Act and instructions of the eVOSS
 24 Coordinating Council; and

25 (c) Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the
 26 effective implementation of this Act.

27 SEC. 10. *Time Frame.* – The mother agencies shall ensure
 28 that all actions on applications before them, their attached bureaus,

1 offices, and agencies, at both the national and local levels, and
 2 GOCCs as well as other entities, shall be released within the time
 3 frames stated below: *Provided*, That the time frame shall be the
 4 total number of days for the mother agency and its attached
 5 bureaus, offices, and agencies, at both the national and local levels,
 6 and GOCCs, as a whole to release actions on applications: *Provided*,
 7 *further*, That the time frame shall be counted from the submission
 8 of complete documentary requirements:

9 (a) The DOE and all its attached bureaus, offices, and
 10 agencies, at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs: sixty
 11 (60) calendar days;

12 (b) The DAR and all its attached bureaus, offices, and
 13 agencies, at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs: ninety
 14 (90) calendar days;

15 (c) The DA and all its attached bureaus, offices, and
 16 agencies, at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs: seventy-
 17 five (75) calendar days;

18 (d) The DENR and all its attached bureaus, offices, and
 19 agencies, at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs: one
 20 hundred eighty-five (185) calendar days: *Provided*, That this time
 21 frame excludes the NWRB;

22 (e) The ERC: sixty (60) calendar days for the purpose of the
 23 issuance of Certificate of Compliance (COC); and seventy-five (75)
 24 calendar days for the issuance of provisional approval for rate cases:
 25 *Provided*, That for rate cases that require final approval, one
 26 hundred eighty (180) calendar days: *Provided, further*, That for rate
 27 cases that require final approval of intervenors and oppositors,
 28 three hundred sixty (360) calendar days;

- 1 (f) The NGCP: one hundred fifty (150) calendar days;
- 2 (g) The NWRB: thirty (30) calendar days for applications not
3 requiring sustainability plan, one hundred twenty (120) calendar
4 days for applications requiring sustainability plan, which is in
5 order, and one hundred eighty (180) calendar days for applications
6 with protests or cases;
- 7 (h) The Philippine Electricity Market Corporation: fifteen
8 (15) calendar days;
- 9 (i) The DOTr and all its attached bureaus, offices, and
10 agencies, at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs: thirty
11 (30) calendar days;
- 12 (j) The PNP: fifteen (15) calendar days;
- 13 (k) The DPWH and all its attached bureaus, offices, and
14 agencies, at both the national and local levels, and GOCCs: thirty
15 (30) calendar days;
- 16 (l) The Philippine Nuclear Research Institute: fifteen (15)
17 calendar days; and
- 18 (m) All other mother agencies and all their respective
19 attached bureaus, offices, and agencies, at both the national and
20 local levels, and GOCCs not expressly stated in this Act but are part
21 of the permitting process of power generation, transmission or
22 distribution projects: fifteen (15) calendar days.
- 23 SEC. 11. *Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)/Indigenous*
24 *Peoples (IPs)*. – The certificate of free, prior and informed consent
25 prescribed in Sections 58 and 59 of Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise
26 known as “The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997”, requiring
27 applicants for energy generation projects to obtain the free and prior
28 informed consent of the host ICCs/IPs shall be issued within

1 thirty (30) days from the issuance of the ICCs/IPs of their resolution
2 of consent. Any extension of such period due to justifiable grounds
3 shall require the NCIP to submit a workplan to the eVOSS
4 Coordinating Council, including the details, time frame and grounds
5 for approval.

6 The failure of the NCIP to issue a certificate of free, prior and
7 informed consent within the given period shall be deemed an
8 approval of the Certificate of Precondition (CP) application.

9 In case of non-consent, the NCIP shall transmit the resolution
10 of non-consent to the DOE within ten (10) days from the submission
11 of complete documentary requirements, and a copy thereof to the
12 eVOSS.

13 The NCIP shall issue a Certificate of Non-Overlap within
14 thirty (30) days. Failure on the part of the NCIP to release the same
15 within the specified period shall be deemed an approval of the
16 application. Failure to release the Certificate of Free, Prior and
17 Informed Consent, or a Resolution of Non-Consent within the
18 specified period shall result in a provisional approval of the power
19 generation, transmission or distribution project: *Provided*, That
20 such provisional approval shall be valid only for seventy-five (75)
21 days: *Provided, further*, That the said period shall be used by the
22 ICC/IP to continue consideration of the application: *Provided*,
23 *however*, That upon the lapse of the said period, the ICC/IP shall
24 issue either the Certificate of Free, Prior and Informed Consent, or
25 a Resolution of Non-Consent: *Provided, finally*, That if no such
26 certification or resolution is issued, the provisional approval shall
27 become a final approval.

28 A Resolution of Non-Consent may be given exclusively on the

1 basis of a violation of any of the following grounds:

- 2 (a) Right of ownership;
- 3 (b) Right to develop lands and natural resources;
- 4 (c) Right to stay in the territories;
- 5 (d) Right in case of displacement;
- 6 (e) Right to safe and clean air and water; and
- 7 (f) Right to claim parts of reservations.

8 SEC. 12. *Delegated Powers.* – The DOE shall have the
9 authority to issue a provisional approval, permit, and/or
10 certification relating to applications for permits and/or certifications
11 necessary for or related to applications for power generation,
12 transmission or distribution projects before the Board of
13 Investments, Department of Justice, and DOLE: *Provided*, That
14 actions on such applications shall be released within fifteen (15)
15 calendar days from submission of complete documentary
16 requirements: *Provided, further*, That said provisional approvals,
17 permits, and/or certifications shall be considered valid and binding
18 unless otherwise revoked by the concerned agencies upon finding of
19 noncompliance with laws and rules and regulations during the
20 conduct of a postaudit.

21 CHAPTER III

22 PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES

23 SEC. 13. *Administrative Offenses.* – The following acts,
24 when committed by a government official and/or employee, shall be
25 considered administrative offenses:

- 26 (a) Willful refusal to participate in the eVOSS;
- 27 (b) Willful acts which delay the operationalization of the
28 eVOSS;

1 (c) Failure to comply with the mandated time frames as
2 provided in this Act, or as imposed by the eVOSS Coordinating
3 Council; and

4 (d) Tampering with the eVOSS or any part or component
5 thereof.

6 SEC. 14. *Confidentiality.* – No business plan, financial
7 projection and feasibility study submitted by any power generation,
8 transmission or distribution project developer shall be divulged or
9 released to any one other than an authorized person or agency.
10 Other business plan, financial projection and feasibility study
11 provided by any power generation, transmission or distribution
12 developer shall be divulged or released to any one, subject to the
13 Freedom of Information (FOI) manual of each agency concerned.

14 SEC. 15. *Penalties.* – Any person found guilty of willful
15 refusal to participate in the eVOSS or willful delay in the
16 operationalization of the eVOSS shall be penalized as follows:

- 17 (a) First offense - Thirty (30) days suspension without pay;
- 18 (b) Second offense - Three (3) months suspension without
19 pay; and
- 20 (c) Third Offense - Dismissal and perpetual disqualification
21 from public service.

22 Any person found guilty of failing to comply with the
23 mandated time frames as provided in this Act or imposed by the
24 eVOSS Coordinating Council shall be penalized as follows:

- 25 (1) First offense - Thirty (30) days suspension without pay
26 and mandatory attendance in Values Orientation Program;
- 27 (2) Second offense - Six (6) months suspension without pay;
28 and

1 (3) Third offense - Dismissal and perpetual disqualification
2 from public service, and forfeiture of retirement benefits.

3 Any person found guilty of tampering with the eVOSS or its
4 components shall suffer the penalty of dismissal and perpetual
5 disqualification from public service.

6 SEC. 16. *Administrative Jurisdiction.* – The administrative
7 jurisdiction over any violation of the provision of this Act shall be
8 vested in the Civil Service Commission or the DILG, in accordance
9 with appropriate laws and issuances.

10 SEC. 17. *Civil and Criminal Liability.* – The finding of
11 administrative liability under this Act shall not be a bar to the filing
12 of criminal, civil, or other related charges under existing laws
13 arising from the same act or omission as herein enumerated.

14 CHAPTER IV

15 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

16 SEC. 18. *Right of Eminent Domain.* – Subject to the
17 limitations and procedures prescribed by law, the power to exercise
18 the right of eminent domain granted to any person with a franchise
19 to operate, manage, or maintain the electric power lines shall be
20 governed by the pertinent provisions of the Rules of Court.

21 SEC. 19. *Appropriations.* – The initial amount to implement
22 the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's
23 appropriations of the DOE and thereafter, such sums as may be
24 necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
25 Act.

26 SEC. 20. *Oversight Committee.* – Upon the effectivity of this
27 Act, the JCPC created under Republic Act No. 9136 or the

1 “Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001” shall exercise
2 oversight powers over the implementation of this Act.

3 SEC. 21. *Reportorial Requirements.* – The eVOSS
4 Coordinating Council shall take all necessary measures to ensure
5 that the provisions of this Act are properly implemented and shall
6 submit annual reports on the program implementation and fund
7 utilization to the JCPC.

8 SEC. 22. *Evaluation.* – Upon recommendation of the eVOSS
9 Coordinating Council, or within five (5) years after the effectivity of
10 this Act, the JCPC shall conduct a systematic evaluation of the
11 accomplishments and impact of this Act for purposes of determining
12 remedial legislation.

13 SEC. 23. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any
14 provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the
15 other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall
16 continue to be in full force and effect.

17 SEC. 24. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules
18 and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with or
19 contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended
20 or modified accordingly.

21 SEC. 25. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
22 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
23 general circulation.

Approved,

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