

COVER SHEET

SEC Registration Number

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Company Name

M	A	N	I	L	A		E	L	E	C	T	R	I	C		C	O	M	P	A	N	Y		A	N	D			
S	U	B	S	I	D	I	A	R	I	E	S																		

Principal Office (No./Street/Barangay/City/Town/Province)

L	O	P	E	Z		B	U	I	L	D	I	N	G	,		O	R	T	I	G	A	S		A	V	E	N	U	E
B	A	R	A	N	G	A	Y		U	G	O	N	G	,		P	A	S	I	G		C	I	T	Y	,			
M	E	T	R	O		M	A	N	I	L	A	,		P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I	N	E	S					

Form Type

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Department requiring the report

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Secondary License Type, If Applicable

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COMPANY INFORMATION

Company's Email Address

N/A

Company's Telephone Number/s

86312222/ 816220

Mobile Number

N/A

No. of Stockholders

41,975

Annual Meeting
Month/Day

Last Tuesday of May

Fiscal Year
Month/Day

December 31

CONTACT PERSON INFORMATION

The designated contact person ***MUST*** be an Officer of the Corporation

Name of Contact Person

Atty. William Pamintuan

Email Address

wspamintuan@meralco.com.ph

Telephone Number/s

8632-8014

Mobile Number

N/A

Contact Person's Address

Lopez Building, Ortigas Avenue, Pasig City
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Note: In case of death, resignation or cessation of office of the officer designated as contact person, such incident shall be reported to the Commission within thirty (30) calendar days from the occurrence thereof with information and complete contact details of the new contact person designated.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SEC FORM 17-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 17 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND SRC RULE 17(2)(b) THEREUNDER

1. For the quarterly period ended: *September 30, 2020*
2. Commission identification number: *PW-102*
3. BIR Tax Identification Code: *000-101-528-000*
4. Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter: *Manila Electric Company*
5. Country of Incorporation: *Philippines*
6. Industry Classification: (SEC use only)
7. Address of issuer's principal office: *Lopez Building, Ortigas Avenue,
Barangay Ugong, Pasig City
Postal Code: 1605*
8. Issuer's Telephone Numbers including area code: *(+632) 8631-5567*
9. Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report: *N/A*
10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of the Code, or Sections 4 and 8 of RSA:

Title of Each Class	Number of Shares of Common Stock Outstanding
Common Stock	1,127,098,705
Debt Securities – bonds	Amount of Debt Outstanding PhP10.2 Billion Fixed Rate Notes

11. Are any or all of these Securities listed on a Stock Exchange?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, the name of such Stock Exchange and the class/es of Securities:

Philippine Stock Exchange

12. Indicate by check mark whether the registrant:

- (a) has filed all reports required to be filed under Section 17 of the Code and SRC Rule 17 thereunder or Sections 11 of the RSA and RSA Rule 11(a)-1 thereunder, and Sections 26 and 141 of the Corporation Code of the Philippines, during the preceding twelve (12) months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports):

Yes ☒ No ☐

- (b) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past ninety (90) days:

Yes ☒ No ☐

PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

The 9 Months 2020 Financial Statements is hereto attached and made integral part of this report.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Please refer to the attached 9M 2020 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

Not applicable.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Regulation Code, the issuer has caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned duly authorized representatives.

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY
Issuer



WILLIAM S. PAMINTUAN
Senior Vice President
Assistant Corporate Secretary &
Information Disclosure Officer



BETTY C. SIY-YAP
Senior Vice President &
Chief Finance Officer

Date: November 16, 2020

*Cc: Disclosure Department
Listings and Disclosure Group
Philippine Stock Exchange*

*Issuer Compliance and Disclosure Department
Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp.*

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Position and Results of Operations

The following discussion and analysis of financial position and results of operations of Manila Electric Company (“*MERALCO*”) and its subsidiaries, collectively referred to as the “*MERALCO Group*” should be read in conjunction with the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements as at September 30, 2020 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019 and the audited consolidated financial statements as at December 31, 2019 . The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the Philippine Financial Reporting Standards (“*PFRSs*”). *PFRS* includes statements named *PFRS* and Philippine Accounting Standards, including Interpretations issued by the *PFRS* Council.

The financial information appearing in this report and in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements is presented in Philippine peso, *MERALCO Group*'s functional and presentation currency, as defined under *PFRS*. All values are rounded to the nearest million pesos, except when otherwise indicated. The Exchange rate used to translate U.S. dollars to Philippine peso in this report and in the accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements is US\$1.00 to ₱48.50, the closing rate as at September 30, 2020 quoted through the Philippine Dealing System.

Financial Highlights and Key Performance Indicators

(Amounts in millions, except earnings per share, and operational data)	Increase (Decrease)			
	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)	Amount	%
Condensed Statements of Financial Position				
Total assets	₱374,380	₱357,019	₱17,361	5
Current assets	114,809	117,689	(2,880)	(2)
Cash and cash equivalents	31,697	38,262	(6,565)	(17)
Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent	77,713	84,230	(6,517)	(8)
Total debt	40,778	41,253	(475)	(1)
Current liabilities	131,424	127,561	3,863	3
Condensed Statements of Income				
Revenues	₱214,208	₱241,126	(₱26,918)	(11)
Costs and expenses	200,836	218,193	(17,357)	(8)
Other income, net of expenses	1,040	1,338	(298)	(22)
Income before income tax	14,412	24,271	(9,859)	(41)
Net income	11,342	18,423	(7,081)	(38)
Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent	11,252	18,321	(7,069)	(39)
Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the parent	9.98	16.26	(6.28)	(39)
Condensed Statements of Cash Flows				
Net cash provided by operating activities	2,872	27,173	(24,301)	(89)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	8,395	(12,850)	21,245	(165)
Net cash used in financing activities	(18,057)	(26,037)	7,980	(31)
Operational Data				
Number of customer accounts (in thousands):				
Residential	6,427	6,278	149	2
Commercial	532	524	8	2
Industrial	12	11	1	9
Streetlight	5	5	—	—
Electricity sales volume (in GWh)	32,539	35,005	(2,466)	(7)
System loss (in percentage) ¹ :				
MERALCO	6.18	5.55	0.63	11
Clark Electric Distribution Corporation (“Clark Electric”)	2.13	2.16	0.03	(1)

¹ Based on 12-month moving average

The Key Performance Indicators (“KPI”) of *MERALCO* are as follows:

Financial KPI	Definition	September 30, 2020	December 31, 2019
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Debt to Equity	Total debt		
	$\frac{\text{Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent}}{\text{Total debt}}$	0.52	0.49
Current Ratio	Current assets		
	$\frac{\text{Current assets}}{\text{Current liabilities}}$	0.87	0.92
		Unaudited Nine Months Ended September 30	
		2020	2019
Profit Margin	Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent		
	$\frac{\text{Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent}}{\text{Revenues}}$	5%	8%
Return on Equity	Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent		
	$\frac{\text{Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent}}{\text{Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent}}$	14%	22%
Asset Turnover	Revenues		
	$\frac{\text{Revenues}}{\text{Average total assets}}$	0.59	0.72

OVERVIEW

MERALCO is the Philippines' largest electric power distribution company, with franchise area covering 9,685 square kilometers. It provides power to almost 7 million customer accounts in 36 cities and 75 municipalities, which include Metro Manila, all of the provinces of Rizal, Cavite and Bulacan, and parts of the provinces of Pampanga, Batangas, Laguna and Quezon. Turnover of business establishments in the franchise area accounts for more than 50% of the country's Gross Domestic Product ("GDP").

Clark Electric, a 65%-owned subsidiary of *MERALCO*, holds the power distribution franchise for the Clark Special Economic Zone ("CSEZ") in Clark, Pampanga. The *Clark Electric* franchise area covers 320 square kilometers and serves 2,586 customer accounts as at September 30, 2020. *Clark Electric* is a registered private distribution utility ("DU") with a franchise granted by Clark Development Corporation ("CDC") to own, operate and maintain a power distribution system and to distribute power exclusively within its franchise area, which includes the Clark Freeport Zone and the sub-zone. The Bases Conversion and Development Authority ("BCDA") confirmed that the power distribution franchise of *Clark Electric* within the entire CSEZ is until July 30, 2047.

The *MERALCO* Group's business is grouped into two (2) segments, namely, power and other services.

- Power

The Power segment consists of (a) electricity distribution, (b) power generation and (c) retail electricity supply ("RES").

Electricity distribution – This is principally electricity distribution and supply of power on a pass-through basis covering all captive customers in the *MERALCO* and the *Clark Electric* franchise areas in Luzon. Electricity distribution within the *MERALCO* franchise area accounts for approximately 55% of the power requirements of the country. *Clark Electric*'s franchise area covers CSEZ and the sub-zones.

Power generation – The *MERALCO* Group's re-entry into power generation is through investments in operating companies or participation in the development of power generation projects.

MERALCO PowerGen Corporation ("MGen"), the power generation arm of the *MERALCO* Group, has a 14% equity interest in Global Business Power Corporation ("GBPC"). GBPC owns a total of 854 MegaWatt ("MW") (gross) of coal and diesel-fired power plants.

MGen owns an effective 28% equity in PacificLight Power Pte Ltd. ("PacificLight Power") in Jurong Island, Singapore. PacificLight Power owns and operates a 2 x 400 MW combined cycle turbine power plant mainly fueled by liquefied natural gas ("LNG").

MGen, through San Buenaventura Power Limited ("SBPL"), a 51% owned joint venture entity, constructed and owns a 455 MW (net) supercritical coal-fired power plant in Mauban, Quezon. The Power Supply Agreement ("PSA") with *MERALCO* was approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission ("ERC") on May 19, 2015. The power plant began commercial operations on September 26, 2019.

MGen is developing a 2 x 600 MW (net) coal-fired power plant in Atimonan, Quezon through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Atimonan One Energy, Inc. ("A1E"). It will be the first ultra-supercritical coal-fired facility to be built in the country. A1E shall participate in a Competitive Selection Process ("CSP") to be conducted by *MERALCO* for a 1,200 MW greenfield power plant capacity. In the meantime, advance site preparation and early engineering are being done in order to meet the targeted operations date.

A1E is classified as a Committed Project of National Significance by the Department of Energy ("DOE") and has the requisite Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR") approvals and permits. It is also recognized by the Board of Investments ("BOI") as a registered Pioneer Project.

MGen Renewable Energy, Inc. ("MGreen"), a wholly owned subsidiary of MGen was incorporated and registered with the SEC on June 6, 2019 to engage in the development of renewable projects. Powersource First Bulacan Solar, Inc. ("First Bulacan"), 40% owned by MGreen, is engaged in the development,

construction and operation of solar-powered generation facilities, among others. *First Bulacan* is currently developing a 81 megawatt (MW) utility scale solar facility located in San Miguel, Bulacan with target commercial date of operations by first quarter of 2021, subject to additional restrictions due to the ongoing pandemic.

On September 28, 2020, *MERALCO* authorized and approved to acquire the remaining 20% stake of Sunseap Philippines Solar Holdings Pte. Ltd. in *First Bulacan*, increasing *MGreen's* total stake in *First Bulacan* from 40% to 60%.

On December 5, 2019, *MGen* acquired 70% of Nortesol III Inc. ("*NorteSol*"), a company incorporated in the Philippines and engaged in the development, construction and operation of power plant and related facilities using renewable energy system and hybrid energy system. *NorteSol* is currently developing a 110 MW dc/90 MWac floating facility in Laguna de Bay and waiting for the Laguna Lake Development Authority ("*LLDA*") leasing policy.

LagunaSol Corporation, a 100% owned subsidiary of *MGreen* was incorporated on September 24, 2020 to serve as the vehicle company for *MGreen's* floating solar projects.

RES – This covers the sourcing and supply of electricity to qualified contestable customers. *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* serve as local retail electricity suppliers within their franchise area under a separate business unit, *MPower* and *Cogent Energy*, respectively. Under Retail Competition and Open Access ("*RCOA*"), qualified contestable customers who opt to switch to contestability and elect to be among contestable customers may source their electricity supply from any retail electricity suppliers, including *MPower* and *Cogent Energy*.

The *ERC* granted the following subsidiaries distinct *RES* licenses to operate as retail electricity suppliers within Luzon and Visayas: Vantage Energy Solutions and Management, Inc. ("*Vantage*"), a wholly owned subsidiary of *MERALCO*; Solvre, Inc. ("*Solvre*"), a wholly owned subsidiary of *MGen*; MeridianX Inc. ("*MeridianX*"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Comstech Integration Alliance, Inc. ("*Comstech*"), on January 10, 2017, February 9, 2017 and February 9, 2017, respectively. Clarion Energy Management Inc. ("*Clarion*"), a wholly owned subsidiary of *Clark Electric*, has submitted the requirements for its *RES* licensing to the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the approval of its *RES* licensing is pending with the *ERC*.

- Other Services

The other services segment is involved principally in electricity-related services, such as: electro-mechanical engineering, construction, consulting and related manpower services, e-transaction and bills collection, telecommunications services, rail-related operations and maintenance services, insurance and re-insurance, e-business development, power distribution management, energy systems management, harnessing renewable energy, electric vehicle and charging infrastructure solutions. These services are provided by *MIESCOR*, Miescor Builders, Inc. ("*MBI*"), and Miescor Logistics, Inc. ("*MLI*") (collectively known as "*MIESCOR Group*"), Corporate Information Solutions, Inc. ("*CIS*"), CIS Bayad Center, Inc. ("*Bayad Center*"), Customer Frontline Solutions, Inc. ("*CFSP*") and Fieldtech Specialist, Inc. ("*Fieldtech*") (collectively referred to as "*CIS Group*"), eMeralco Ventures, Inc. ("*e-MVT*"), Paragon Vertical Corporation ("*Paragon*") and Radius Telecoms, Inc. ("*Radius*") (collectively referred to as "*e-MVI Group*"), MRail, Inc. ("*MRail*"), Comstech, eSakay, Inc. ("*eSakay*"), Lighthouse Overseas Insurance Limited ("*LOIL*"), Meralco Financial Services, Inc. ("*Finserve*"), Meralco Energy, Inc. ("*MServ*"), MSpectrum, Inc. ("*Spectrum*"), and Shin Clark Power Holdings, Inc. ("*Shin Clark*").

Below is the summary of *MERALCO Group's* business segments:

BUSINESS SEGMENTS	
Power	Other Services
Electricity distribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MERALCO</i> • <i>Clark Electric</i> Power generation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MGen</i> and its subsidiaries RES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MERALCO</i> through <i>MPower</i> business unit • <i>Clark Electric</i> through <i>Cogent Energy</i> business unit • <i>Vantage</i> • <i>Solvre</i> • <i>MeridianX</i> • <i>Clarion</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CIS Group</i> • <i>Comstech</i> • <i>e-MVI Group</i> • <i>eSakay</i> • <i>Finserve</i> • <i>LOIL</i> • <i>MIESCOR Group</i> • <i>MRail</i> • <i>MServ</i> • <i>Spectrum</i> • <i>Shin Clark</i>

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The tables below summarize the consolidated results of operations and the contribution of each business segment to *MERALCO Group's* revenues, costs and expenses, other income, and net income.

Unaudited				
For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2020				
	Power²	Other Services	Inter-segment Transactions	Consolidated
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Revenues	₱208,434	₱7,415	(₱1,641)	₱214,208
Costs and expenses	196,867	5,630	(1,661)	200,836
Other income (expense) - net	1,461	(401)	(20)	1,040
Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent	10,478	864	(90)	11,252

Unaudited				
For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2019				
	Power³	Other Services	Inter-segment Transactions	Consolidated
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Revenues	₱235,376	₱7,856	(₱2,106)	₱241,126
Costs and expenses	213,960	6,394	(2,161)	218,193
Other income (expense) - net	1,730	(336)	(56)	1,338
Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent	17,773	650	(102)	18,321

²Principally electricity distribution

³Ibid

2020 compared with 2019

REVENUES

The following table shows the composition of *MERALCO Group*'s consolidated revenues by business segment.

Unaudited						
For the Nine Months Ended September 30						
	2020		2019		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Power ⁴	₱208,434	98	₱235,376	98	(₱26,942)	(11)
Other services	7,415	3	7,856	3	(441)	(6)
Inter-segment transactions	(1,641)	(1)	(2,106)	(1)	465	(22)
Total	₱214,208	100	₱241,126	100	(₱26,918)	(11)

Consolidated electric revenues, representing 98% of total revenues, declined by 11% largely on account of lower pass-through charges and lower sales volume.

Non-electric revenues, which accounted for 3% of consolidated revenues, decreased by 6% due to lower transactions of subsidiaries as a result of the imposition of total lockdown during Enhanced Community Quarantine ("ECQ"), and limited movements during Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) and GCQ in Metro Manila.

Power

Revenues from the power segment consist of generation, transmission, distribution, subsidies and other charges related to electricity distribution and energy trading. *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* distribute electricity to industrial, commercial and residential customers while *MPower*, *Cogent Energy*, *Vantage* and *Meridian X* supply electricity to their respective contestable customers.

Electricity revenues of ₱208,434 million, which represent 98% of total revenues, were lower by 11% compared with same period in 2019, mainly due to (a) lower pass through generation charges and (b) lower sales volume. Generation, transmission and system loss charges, which represent 76% of total electricity revenues, were lower than same period in 2019 mainly due to the following: (a) *MERALCO*'s force majeure claims related to the ECQ resulting in lower fixed costs of PSAs; (b) lower generation costs with the implementation of new PSAs which were concluded under the Competitive Selection Process ("CSP") in December 2019; (c) lower Wholesale Electricity Spot Market ("WESM") prices driven by improved supply conditions in the Luzon grid; and (f) the appreciation of the Philippine peso versus the U. S. dollars; and (f) lower fuel prices.

MERALCO's 12-month moving average system loss ("SL") rate was 6.18% as at September 30, 2020. This is 1.07 percentage points below the revised SL regulatory cap of 7.25%, mainly due to the shift in sales mix toward higher loss-to-serve residential customers, and unbilled volume from meters which were inaccessible as a result of the community quarantine. *Clark Electric*'s 12-month moving average SL rate was at 2.13%, 5.12 percentage points below the regulatory cap and 0.03 percentage point lower than last year.

The following table summarizes the customer count as at September 30, 2020 and 2019 and the corresponding energy sales volume per customer class for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019:

Customer Class	No. of Customers		Electricity Sales		% Change	
	<i>(in thousands)</i>		<i>(in GWh)</i>		No. of Customers	Electricity Sales
	2020	2019	2020	2019		
Residential	6,427	6,278	12,543	10,920	2	15
Commercial	532	524	11,063	13,712	2	(19)
Industrial	12	11	8,827	10,268	9	(14)
Streetlights	5	5	106	105	–	1
Total	6,976	6,818	32,539	35,005	2	(7)

⁴Ibid

Consolidated energy sales volume declined by 7% to 32,539 GWh, which include volume distributed by *Clark Electric* of 373 GWh. *MERALCO* volume was 7% lower while *Clark Electric* volume was 14% lower than 2019.

This decline in volumes reflects the net effect of the *ECQ* through *GCQ* period. As at September 30, 2020, residential volume was at 39% (31% in 2019), commercial was at 34% (39% in 2019) while industrial accounted for 27% (29% in 2019).

Overall customer count grew 2% to nearly 7 million for a total year-on-year addition of almost 200 thousand new accounts with residential, commercial, and industrial segments growing at 2%, 2% and 9%, respectively.

The community quarantine impacted heavily on *MERALCO*'s sales mix as consumption shifted to residential customers.

Other Services

Non-electric revenues consist mainly of businesses generated by (i) foreign attachments to the *MERALCO* poles; (ii) space rental; and (iii) subsidiaries, which include (a) *MIESCOR Group* from its *EPC*, and operations and maintenance works involving various substations and transmission/telecommunications lines; (b) *MServ* for the supply and installation of powerhouse, load side and substation equipment, and energy efficiency services; (c) *Bayad Center* handling payment collections for corporate and government billers in over 9,100 sites and collection partners, spot billing volumes, remittances and other fee-based transactions; and (d) *Radius* which operates the largest end-to-end fiber optic network in the country.

COSTS AND EXPENSES

Consolidated costs and expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 amounted to ₱200,836 million, lower by ₱17,357 million compared with ₱218,193 million in 2019. The following table shows the breakdown of consolidated costs and expenses by business segment:

	Unaudited					
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30					
	2020		2019		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Power ⁵	₱196,867	98	₱213,960	98	(₱17,093)	(8)
Other services	5,630	3	6,394	3	(764)	(12)
Inter-segment transactions	(1,661)	(1)	(2,161)	(1)	500	(23)
Total	₱200,836	100	₱218,193	100	(₱17,357)	(8)

⁵*Ibid.*

Power

Costs and expenses of power segment for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 amounted to ₱196,867 million, 8% lower compared with ₱213,960 million in the same period in 2019. The details of costs and expenses are summarized in the following table:

Unaudited						
For the Nine Months Ended September 30						
	2020		2019		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Purchased power	₱156,122	80	₱183,355	86	(₱27,233)	(15)
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	8,161	4	8,172	4	(11)	–
Depreciation and amortization	5,653	3	6,020	3	(367)	(6)
Contracted services	4,804	2	4,776	2	28	1
Others	22,127	11	11,637	5	10,490	90
Total	₱196,867	100	₱213,960	100	(₱17,093)	(8)

Purchased power accounted for 80% and 86% of the total costs and expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The electricity distributed by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* are contracted through *PSAs* with generators and long-term Power Purchase Agreements (“*PPA*”) with Independent Power Producers (“*IPP*”). The balance was purchased from the *WESM*.

The purchased power cost in 2020 decreased by 15% compared with 2019 due to lower volume consumption and lower generation cost with the (i) implementation of the competitively priced *PSAs* beginning December 26, 2019 (₱4.37 per *kWh* in 2020 versus ₱5.09 per *kWh* in 2019); (ii) lower prices at the *WESM* (₱3.28 per *kWh* in 2020 versus ₱6.20 per *kWh* in 2019) with the improved supply condition in the Luzon Grid; (iii) force majeure claims related to the *ECQ* resulting in lower fixed costs of *PSAs*; (iv) overall lower fuel costs (US\$ 6.80 per Giga Joule (“*GJ*”) of oil-indexed Malampaya gas in 2020 versus US\$ 7.98 per *GJ* in 2019); and (v) appreciation of the peso versus the US\$ (₱48.50:US\$1 as at September 30, 2020 versus ₱51.24:US\$1 at end September 2019).

Contracted services amounted to ₱4,804 million, higher by ₱28 million compared with last year. Contracted services include information system/*IT* services, cloud subscriptions, and customer-related expenses such as billings and collections, meter reading, and messengerial services.

Other expenses consist of business taxes and permits, provision for probable losses and expenses from claims, provision for doubtful accounts, costs of materials, transportation, and other corporate expenses. The higher other expenses was due provisions for probable losses and expenses from claims, including additional expected credit losses on trade receivables and impairment on advances to an associate, and accounting accretion of the Day 1 gain recognized in 2019.

Other Services

Costs and expenses of other services business segment for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 amounted to ₱5,630 million, 12% lower compared with ₱6,394 million in the same period in 2019.

Unaudited						
For the Nine Months Ended September 30						
	2020		2019		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	₱2,357	42	₱2,477	38	(₱120)	(5)
Contracted services	1,332	24	1,266	20	66	5
Depreciation and amortization	441	8	380	6	61	16
Others	1,500	26	2,271	36	(771)	(34)
Total	₱5,630	100	₱6,394	100	(₱764)	(12)

Contracted services pertain to costs directly related to revenue generating projects, repairs and maintenance expenses, online and cloud subscriptions, among others.

Other expenses consisted mainly of materials, transportation and travel, taxes, rental and utility expenses.

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)

The following table shows the breakdown of other income, net of expenses by business segment:

Unaudited				
For the Nine Months Ended September 30				
	2020	2019	Increase/Decrease Amount	%
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Power ⁶	₱1,461	₱1,730	(₱269)	(16)
Other services	(401)	(336)	(65)	19
Intersegment transactions	(20)	(56)	36	(64)
Total	₱1,040	₱1,338	(₱298)	(22)

Other income – net for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 is down by ₱298 million compared with last year due to lower interest and other financial income, higher interest and financial charges, higher foreign exchange losses, and effect of equity in net income in 2020 versus equity in net losses in 2019 of associates and joint ventures.

Power

Breakdown of other income (expenses) of power segment is as follows:

Unaudited				
For the Nine Months Ended September 30				
	2020	2019	Increase/Decrease Amount	%
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Interest and other financial income	₱1,844	₱2,392	(₱548)	(23)
Interest and other financial charges	(1,141)	(1,051)	(90)	9
Equity in net earnings (losses) of associates and joint ventures	720	(265)	985	(372)
Foreign exchange losses	(548)	(74)	(474)	641
Others	586	728	(142)	(20)
Total	₱1,461	₱1,730	(₱269)	(16)

Interest and other financial income declined by ₱548 million due to reduced placements for the nine months of 2020 and lower yields of investments compared with same period last year. Billed receivables continue to age with extended payment terms granted to customers during quarantine.

The additional loan of ₱10 billion drawn in November 2019 resulted in higher interest and other financial charges.

Equity in net earnings in 2020 is largely from SBPL and GBPC. SBPL started commercial operations in September 2019.

Higher foreign exchange losses was due to the appreciation of the Philippine peso vis-à-vis U. S. dollar.

⁶*Ibid.*

NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The following table shows the breakdown of net income attributable to equity holders of the parent by business segment:

Unaudited						
For the Nine Months Ended September 30						
	2020		2019		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Power ⁷	₱10,478	93	₱17,773	97	(₱7,295)	(41)
Other services	864	8	650	4	214	33
Inter-segment transactions	(90)	(1)	(102)	(1)	12	(12)
Total	₱11,252	100	₱18,321	100	(₱7,069)	(39)

Net income attributable to equity holders of the parent decreased by ₱7,069 million as a result of (a) lower sales volume compared with the same period last year; (b) the recognition of impairment of *MERALCO* group's advances to FPM Power Holdings Limited ("*FPM Power*") amounting to ₱2.7 billion; and (c) provision for expected credit losses on billed receivables of ₱1.4 billion.

CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

Utility Plant and Others

During the first nine months of 2020, completed and on-going construction of electric distribution-related facilities, and upgrade and major rehabilitation of existing electrical facilities and IT related assets amounted to ₱10,705 million, while depreciation and amortization incurred totaled ₱5,728 million. There were no significant disposals nor changes in this account.

Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures

Additional equity infusions in *SBPL*, *First Bulacan* and other joint ventures during the nine months period ended September 30, 2020 totaled ₱722 million. Equity in net earnings of associates and joint ventures recognized in the first nine months of 2020 amounted to ₱717 million, largely from *SBPL*, *GBPC* and Rockwell Business Center Joint Venture.

Deferred Tax Assets

The increase in deferred tax assets was mainly related to provisions recognized during the period.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Changes during the nine months ended September 30, 2020 are as follow: net cash used for financing activities of ₱18,057 million, net cash provided by operations of ₱2,872 million and net cash provided by investing activities of ₱8,395 million.

Trade and Other Receivables

The higher trade and other receivables balance was due to extension of payment due dates for billings during the *ECQ* period in accordance with the advisories issued by the Department of Energy and the *ERC*.

Financial and Other Current Assets

The lower balance of financial and other current assets was due to maturities of certain debt securities and recognition of provision for impairment on *MERALCO*'s advances to an associate.

⁷*Ibid.*

2019 compared with 2018

REVENUES

The following table shows the composition of *MERALCO Group*'s consolidated revenues by business segment.

	Unaudited					
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30					
	2019		2018		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Power ⁸	₱235,376	98	₱221,266	98	₱14,110	6
Other services	7,856	3	7,751	3	105	1
Inter-segment transactions	(2,106)	(1)	(1,606)	(1)	(500)	31
Total	₱241,126	100	₱227,411	100	₱13,715	6

Revenues from power segment, representing 98% of total revenues, grew by 6%. The increase in electric revenues is brought about largely by higher prices in the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market ("WESM"), and the increased consumption across all customer sectors.

Revenues from other services segment were primarily generated by certain subsidiaries, namely, (i) *CIS Group*, with its fees from payment collections for corporate and government billers in 10,049 sites and collection partners, spot billing volumes, remittances and other fee-based transactions; (ii) *Radius*, with higher recurring revenues as a result of an expanding customer base and high service reliability; (iii) *eSakay*, with its sales of e-vehicles to electric vehicles expansion enterprises, Makati-Mandaluyong route operations, and e-shuttle services, (iv) *MServ*, with its revenues from the supply and installation of powerhouse, loadside and substation equipment, and from energy efficiency services; and (v) *MIESCOR*, with revenues from Engineering, Procurement and Construction ("EPC") and electromechanical contracts.

Power

Revenues from the power segment consist of generation, transmission, distribution, subsidies and other charges related to electricity distribution and retail supply. *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* distribute electricity to industrial, commercial and residential customers while *MPower*, *Cogent Energy*, and *Vantage* supply electricity to their respective contestable customers.

The average *MERALCO* retail rate for the nine months ended was at ₱9.00 per *kWh*, 8% higher than the same period last year, with generation charge representing 59% of total electricity bill rate. Transmission, distribution, system loss, and taxes and universal charges (including the increased Feed-in-Tariff Allowance or "FIT-All") represented 8%, 16%, 4% and 13% of the average retail price, respectively.

Average generation charge to consumers was ₱5.32 per *kWh*, ₱0.26 per *kWh* or 5% higher than the average rate in the same period last year with higher WESM prices driven by the increased cost of imported coal, and outages of certain power plants. WESM prices peaked at ₱8.89 per *kWh* in 2019 compared with ₱5.10 per *kWh* in 2018. The average coal price for the nine (9) months ended September 2019 was at US\$93.66 per MT compared with US\$102.08 per MT for the same period in 2018, while oil prices averaged at US\$63.55 per barrel (Dubai crude) against US\$68.32 per barrel in 2018. The peso moved from ₱52.58 to US\$1 as at December 31, 2018 to ₱52.93 (peak) in January, but settled at ₱51.24 as at September 30, 2019. The stronger peso throughout the month of September 2019 mitigated the impact of increased consumption and higher fuel cost.

MERALCO's 12-month moving average system loss ("SL") rate as at September 30, 2019 was at 5.55% (inclusive of one percentage point sub-transmission loss). This is 0.12 percentage points better than the 12-MMA SL of 5.67% for the same period in 2018 and lower by 1.7 percentage points versus the newly set SL cap of 7.25%, which includes 1% assumed typical sub-transmission and substation technical losses. The

ongoing *SL* reduction initiatives, together with the continuing contributions from all previous *SL* reduction activities, yielded improvements to the *MERALCO SL* performance.

The following table summarizes the customer count as at September 30, 2019 and 2018 and the corresponding energy sales volume per customer class for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018:

Customer Class	No. of Customers (in thousands)		Electricity Sales (in GWh)		% Change	
	2019	2018	2019	2018	No. of Customers	Electricity Sales
Residential	6,278	6,017	10,920	10,111	4	8
Commercial	524	510	13,712	12,938	3	6
Industrial	11	10	10,268	9,768	10	5
Streetlights	5	5	105	104	–	1
Total	6,818	6,542	35,005	32,921	4	6

Consolidated residential energy sales volume, which accounted for 31% of the total consolidated energy sales volumes, grew strongest at 8%, followed by commercial energy sales volume growing at 6% with 39% share of the total sales volume. Industrial energy sales volume which had 29% of the energy sales volume grew 5%.

Other Services

Non-electric revenues consist mainly of businesses generated by (i) foreign attachments to the *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* poles; (ii) space rental; and (iii) revenues from subsidiaries, which include (a) *MIESCOR Group* from its *EPC*, and operations and maintenance works for various substations and transmission/telecommunications lines, which would have generated higher revenues, save for the delayed award of certain projects; (b) *MServ* for the supply and installation of powerhouse, loadside and substation equipment, and energy efficiency services; (c) *CIS Group* handling payment collections for corporate and government billers, spot billing volumes, remittances and other fee-based transactions; (d) *Radius* with higher recurring revenues as a result of an expanding customer base and high service reliability; and (e) *eSakay* with its sales of e-vehicles to electric vehicles expansion enterprises, Makati-Mandaluyong route operations, and e-shuttle services.

COSTS AND EXPENSES

Consolidated costs and expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 amounted to ₱218,193 million, higher by ₱11,233 million compared with ₱206,960 million in 2018. The following table shows the breakdown of consolidated costs and expenses by business segment:

	Unaudited					
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30					
	2019		2018		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
	(Amounts in millions)					
Power ⁹	₱213,960	98	₱201,984	98	₱11,976	6
Other services	6,394	3	6,607	3	(213)	(3)
Inter-segment transactions	(2,161)	(1)	(1,631)	(1)	(530)	32
Total	₱218,193	100	₱206,960	100	₱11,233	5

⁹*Ibid.*

Power

Costs and expenses of power segment for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 amounted to ₱213,960 million, 6% higher compared with ₱201,984 million in the same period in 2018. The details of costs and expenses are summarized in the following table:

Unaudited						
For the Nine Months Ended September 30						
	2019		2018		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Purchased power	₱183,355	86	₱174,461	86	₱8,894	5
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	8,172	4	8,118	4	54	1
Depreciation and amortization	6,020	3	5,116	3	904	18
Contracted services	4,776	2	4,310	2	466	11
Others	11,637	5	9,979	5	1,658	17
Total	₱213,960	100	₱201,984	100	₱11,976	6

Purchased power accounted for 86% of the total costs and expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 and 2018. All of the electricity distributed by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* were contracted through *PSAs* with generators and long-term Power Purchase Agreements (“*PPA*”) with Independent Power Producers (“*IPPs*”). The balance was purchased from the *WESM*.

The purchased power cost in 2019 increased by 5% compared with 2018 due to (i) higher volume, and (ii) higher *WESM* prices due to outages of a number of baseload plants and the strong demand particularly during peak hours. The average purchased power cost of *MERALCO* for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 was ₱5.79 per *kWh*, 1% lower than the same period in 2018. Coal prices averaged at US\$93.66 per *MT* in 2019 while natural gas, which is indexed against crude oil, was at US\$8.03 per *GJ* in 2019.

Depreciation and amortization grew by 18% as implementation of emergency capital expenditures (“*CAPEX*”) to address customer and load growth requirements, improve service efficiency and customer experience, ensure network resiliency and hardening, and meet *IT*, security and safety requirements were completed.

Contracted services amounted to ₱4,776 million, higher by ₱466 million compared with last year. Contracted services include information system/information technology services and, cloud subscriptions. Customer-related expenses such as billings and collections, meter reading, and messengerial services also increased due to growth in number of customer accounts.

Other expenses consist of business taxes and permits, provision for probable losses and expenses from claims, provision for doubtful accounts, costs of materials, transportation, and other corporate expenses.

Other Services

Costs and expenses of other services business segment for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 amounted to ₱6,394 million, 3% lower compared with ₱6,607 million in the same period in 2018.

Unaudited						
For the Nine Months Ended September 30						
	2019		2018		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	₱2,477	38	₱2,214	34	₱263	12
Contracted services	1,266	20	1,492	23	(226)	(15)
Depreciation and amortization	380	6	357	5	23	6
Others	2,271	36	2,544	38	(273)	(11)
Total	₱6,394	100	₱6,607	100	(₱213)	(3)

Salaries, wages and employee benefits is higher by ₱263 million due to the increase in manpower count for new projects.

Decrease in contracted services by ₱226 million is caused by lower project subcontractor costs for those projects that were completed and substantially completed.

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)

The following table shows the breakdown of other income (expenses) by business segment:

Unaudited				
For the Nine Months Ended September 30				
	2019	2018	Increase/Decrease	
			Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Power ¹⁰	₱1,730	₱2,951	(₱1,221)	(41)
Other services	(336)	(23)	(313)	1,361
Intersegment transactions	(56)	(25)	(31)	124
Total	₱1,338	₱2,903	(₱1,565)	(54)

Other income for the nine months ended September 30, 2019 is lower compared with the same period last year mainly due to the depreciation of peso against dollar the U.S. resulting in foreign exchange loss in 2019 compared with the same period last year. This was partially offset by (i) higher interest earned from cash and cash equivalents and investments, and (ii) lower interest expense resulting from settlement of long-term interest bearing financial liabilities.

Power

Breakdown of other income (expenses) of power segment is as follows:

Unaudited				
For the Nine Months Ended September 30				
	2019	2018	Increase/Decrease	
			Amount	%
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Interest and other financial income	₱2,392	₱1,907	₱485	25
Interest and other financial charges	(1,051)	(1,325)	274	(21)
Equity in net losses of associates and joint ventures	(265)	(346)	81	(23)
Foreign exchange gains (losses)	(74)	2,055	(2,129)	(104)
Others	728	660	68	10
Total	₱1,730	₱2,951	(₱1,221)	(41)

Interest and other financial income increased by ₱485 million due to higher yields of investments compared with the same period last year.

Interest and other financial charges increased by ₱274 million in 2019 compared with the same period last year due to (i) the debt repayment during the first quarter of 2019, and (ii) accounting adjustments to recognize accretion of deemed interest in 2018. In February 2019, holders of ₱8.7 billion of MERALCO's 7-Year fixed rate notes exercised their "Put Option". The impact of lower interest bearing financial liabilities was partially offset by the higher re-pricing of interest rates.

¹⁰/bid.

The nine-month period ended September 30, 2019 resulted in foreign exchange losses due to appreciation of peso against the U.S. dollar. The exchange rate of U.S. dollar is ₱51.83 as at September 30, 2019 (vs. ₱52.58 in December 31, 2018) and ₱54.02 as at September 30, 2018 (vs. ₱50.82 in December 31, 2017).

NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The following table shows the breakdown of net income attributable to equity holders of the parent by business segment:

	Unaudited					
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30					
	2019		2018		Increase/Decrease	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Power ¹¹	₱17,773	97	₱17,449	96	₱324	(2)
Other services	650	4	816	4	(166)	(20)
Inter-segment transactions	(102)	(1)	(53)	—	(49)	92
Total	₱18,321	100	₱18,212	100	₱109	1

CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

Utility Plant and Others

The ₱4,776 million increase in utility plant and others reflects completed construction of new electric distribution-related facilities and upgrade in major rehabilitation of existing electrical facilities totaling to about ₱15,440 million, net of depreciation and amortization of ₱5,857 million for the period.

Deferred Tax Assets

The increase in deferred tax assets mainly represents tax timing differences recognized for the nine months period ended September 30, 2019.

Other Noncurrent Assets

Other noncurrent assets increased mainly due to net under-recoveries of pass-through charges recognized during the period as a result of increasing prices of pass-through charges.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The decrease in cash and cash equivalents was due to net cash used in investing activities of ₱12,850 million, and net cash used in financing activities of ₱26,037 million, offset by cash generated from operations amounting to ₱27,152 million.

Trade and Other Receivables

Trade and other receivables decreased due to the collection efficiency as of September 2019.

Other Noncurrent Liabilities

Other noncurrent liabilities pertain to estimated liabilities for claims and statutory matters. Additional obligations were recognized during the period.

Trade and Other Current Liabilities

The decrease in trade and other current liabilities represents impact of lower purchased power liabilities from decreased average purchased power rate per kWh in September 2019.

¹¹*ibid.*

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The following tables show the cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019 and the capitalization and other selected consolidated financial data as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019:

	Unaudited	
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
<u>Cash Flows</u>		
Net cash provided by operating activities	₱2,872	₱27,173
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	8,395	(12,850)
Net cash used in financing activities	18,057	26,037
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	6,790	11,714
<u>Capital Expenditures</u>	10,711	15,522
	September 30, 2020	December 31, 2019
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
<u>Capitalization</u>		
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities		
Current	₱5,013	₱5,115
Noncurrent	12,392	12,745
Notes payable	23,373	23,393
Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent	77,713	84,230
<u>Other Selected Financial Data</u>		
Total assets	374,380	357,019
Utility plant and others	156,217	151,441
Cash and cash equivalents	31,697	38,262

As at September 30, 2020, cash and cash equivalents amounted to ₱31,697 million, ₱6,565 million lower compared with ₱38,262 million as at December 31, 2019. Following are the significant cash flow activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2020: (i) cash generated from operations of ₱2,872 million, (ii) proceeds from maturity of investments in *FVOCI* and debt securities at amortized cost of ₱92,454 million, (iii) proceeds from short-term investments of ₱23,680 million, (iv) interest and other financial income received amounting to ₱2,299 million; offset by (v) payment for capital expenditures of ₱10,496 million, (vi) capital infusion in joint ventures of ₱722 million, (vii) investments in *FVOCI* and debt securities at amortized cost totaling ₱93,850 million, (viii) short-term investments of ₱5,472 million, and (ix) payment of cash dividends of ₱16,745 million.

Debt Financing

In December 2013, *MERALCO* offered, sold and issued by way of public offering in the Philippines, 7- and 12-year corporate bonds, puttable in five (5) and 10 years, respectively, with an aggregate principal amount of up to ₱15.5 billion and with an overallotment option of up to ₱5.0 billion. The 12-year corporate bonds also include a call option, whereby *MERALCO* may redeem (in whole but not in part only) the outstanding bonds on the 7th year from issue date at the early redemption price of 101.0%. The put and call options are clearly and closely related to the host instruments, and thus, were not recognized separately.

The Bonds are listed on and traded through the Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corporation.

The net proceeds of the bonds were utilized for refinancing certain loans including principal payments, accrued interest, prepayment penalties and other financing costs.

Holders of the 7-year bonds totaling ₱8.32 billion exercised the put option, which were settled by *MERALCO* in March 2019. The outstanding balance of the 7-year bonds was ₱3.2 billion and is classified as current portion of interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

MERALCO's loan agreements require compliance with debt service coverage of 1.1 times calculated at specific measurement dates. The agreements also contain restrictions with respect to creation of liens or encumbrances on assets, issuance of guarantees, mergers or consolidations, disposition of a significant portion of its assets and related party transactions.

As at September 30, 2020, *MERALCO* is in compliance with all of the covenants of its loan agreements.

Equity Financing

MERALCO's preferred shares are presented as debt with the dividends declared recorded as interest expense. Accumulated and unpaid dividends were accrued and classified as accrued interest payable. Coupon rate on such preferred share is fixed at 10%. The preferred shares were issued related to service applications, which required extension or new distribution facilities beyond a specific distance or standard provisions. Beginning April 8, 2005, such requirement was discontinued. Instead, as provided in the "Implementing Guidelines of the Magna Carta for Residential Electricity Consumers", customers were required to advance the costs of extension of lines and installation of additional facilities. All of the outstanding preferred shares have been called for redemption as at June 30, 2011, consistent with the terms of the Preferred Shares Subscription Agreement. Total unclaimed dividends amounted to ₱250 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019. Interest is no longer accrued when the preferred shares have been called.

As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, *MERALCO*'s capital stock consists of: (Amounts in millions except par value and number of shares)

Common stock - ₱10 par value	
Authorized - 1,250,000,000 shares	₱12,500
Issued - 1,127,271,117 shares	11,273
Treasury - 172,412 shares	(11)

Treasury shares represent subscribed shares and the related rights of employees who have opted to withdraw from the Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("*ESPP*") in accordance with the provisions of the *ESPP* and which *MERALCO* repurchased.

The table below summarizes the cash dividends declared during the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Per Share	Amount
				<i>(In millions)</i>
July 27, 2020	August 20, 2020	September 15, 2020	₱4.70	₱5,294
February 24, 2020	March 20, 2020	April 15, 2020	10.40	11,716
July 29, 2019	August 20, 2019	September 20, 2019	5.46	6,159
February 26, 2019	March 22, 2019	April 15, 2019	10.59	11,940

The *BOD*-approved dividend policy of *MERALCO* consists of (i) regular cash dividends equivalent to 50% of *CCNI* for the year, and (ii) special dividend determined on a "look-back" basis. Declaration and payment of special dividend are dependent on the availability of unrestricted retained earnings and availability of free cash. The declaration, record and payment dates shall be consistent with the guidelines and regulations of the Philippine *SEC*.

RISK FACTORS

The major factors affecting *MERALCO*'s financial position and results of operations are:

- Regulated rates and cost recoveries
- Sales volume and Philippine economic conditions
- Electricity supply
- Industry restructuring

Regulated Rates and Cost Recoveries

The most significant determinants of *MERALCO*'s and *Clark Electric*'s rate structure vis-à-vis operating results are valuation of regulatory asset base ("*RAB*"), allowable return and permitted cost recoveries. Distribution rates billed by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* were approved by the *ERC* and were set at rates that allowed a reasonable rate of return on investments. *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric*'s rate structure also allows pass-through of certain purchased power costs, *SL* charge up to an annual cap enforced by the *ERC*, taxes, among others.

Performance-Based Regulations ("PBR")

MERALCO is among the Group A entrants to the *PBR*, together with two (2) other private *DUs*.

Rate setting under *PBR* is governed by the Rules for Distribution Wheeling Rates ("*RDWR*"). The *PBR* scheme sets tariffs once every Regulatory Period ("*RP*") based on the *RAB* of each *DU*, and the required operating and capital expenditures to meet operational performance and service level requirements responsive to the needs for adequate, reliable and quality power, efficient service, and growth of all customer classes in the franchise area as approved by the *ERC*. *PBR* also employs a mechanism that penalizes or rewards a *DU* depending on its network and service performance.

Rate filings and settings are done on a *RP* basis. One (1) *RP* consists of four (4) Regulatory Years ("*RYs*"). A *RY* for *MERALCO* begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year. The 4th *RP* for the Group A *DUs* began on July 1, 2015 and ended on June 30, 2019. *MERALCO* is operating in the first *RY* of the 5th *RP*.

Clark Electric is among the four (4) Group D entrants to the *PBR*. Similar to *MERALCO*, it is subject to operational performance and service level requirements approved by the *ERC*. A *RY* for *Clark Electric* begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The 3rd *RP* for *Clark Electric* began October 1, 2015 and shall end on September 30, 2019.

MERALCO's 4th *RP* ended on June 30, 2019 and is currently operating in the 5th *RP*, while *Clark Electric*'s 3rd *RP* ended on September 30, 2019 and is operating in the 4th *RP*. Both *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* have yet to undergo the reset process and are awaiting the release by the *ERC* of the final rules.

Sales Volume and Philippine Economic Conditions

Consolidated electricity sales volumes decreased by 7% year-on-year to 32,539 *GWh*. The community quarantine impacted heavily on *MERALCO*'s sales mix as consumption shifted to higher loss-to-serve residential customers.

The increase in residential sales volume was the result of the continuing *WFH* arrangement as well as online education for most of the student population. Warmer temperature also increased household consumption. For the nine (9) months ended September 30, 2020, the average maximum temperature reached 32.7°C, 0.5°C higher compared with 2019.

With the gradual easing under *GCQ*, industrial and commercial sales volumes showed signs of recovery although residential sales volumes continue to account for a larger share of total volumes. As at September 30, 2020, residential volume was at 39% (31% in 2019), commercial was at 34% (39% in 2019) while industrial accounted for 27% (29% in 2019).

Commercial sales volume recovery is attributable to the increasing business activities of traditional sales drivers, which are retail establishments, hotels and restaurants. In addition, some public schools have resumed operations although limited to reproduction and distribution of class modules and, serving as hub for teachers to conduct and record online learnings.

Industrial sales volumes were boosted by the semiconductor industry which has been allowed to operate at 100% capacity with the increased demand for 5G and automotive electronics. The continuing demand for consumer driven industries, which include food and beverage, chemicals, and packaging contributed to the catch-up energy volume.

MERALCO upgraded a total of 1,324 *DTs* during the *ECQ* through Modified *ECQ* (“*MECQ*”) period as residential energy consumption continued to grow.

Electricity Supply

The electricity distributed by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* are contracted through *PSAs* with generators and long-term *PPA* with *IPPs*. The remaining balance is purchased from the *WESM*. *WESM* is a venue where suppliers and buyers trade electricity as a commodity.

On September 26, 2018, *IEMOP* took over *WESM* from *PEMC* in compliance with the mandate of Republic Act 9136, otherwise known as the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (“*EPIRA*”), for *WESM* to be run by an independent operator. Under the policy and regulatory oversight of the *DOE* and *ERC*, *PEMC* will remain as governing body for *WESM* to monitor compliance by the market participants with the market rules.

The *ERC* and *DOE* issued several resolutions and circulars requiring *DUs* to undergo *CSP* in their supply procurement and specifying procedures in implementing the same.

IPPs

MERALCO

First Gas Power Corporation (“FGPC”) and FGP Corp. (“FGP”)

In compliance with the *DOE*’s program to create a market for Camago-Malampaya gas field and enable its development, *MERALCO* has committed to contract 1,500 *MW* of the 2,700 *MW* output of the Malampaya gas field.

Accordingly, *MERALCO* entered into separate 25-year *PPAs* with *FGPC* (March 14, 1995) and *FGP* (July 22, 1999) for a minimum number of *kWh* of the net electric output of the Sta. Rita and San Lorenzo power plants, respectively, from the start of their commercial operations. The *PPA* with *FGPC* terminates on August 17, 2025, while that of *FGP* ends on October 1, 2027.

On January 7, 2004, *MERALCO*, *FGP* and *FGPC* signed an Amendment to their respective *PPAs*. The negotiations resulted in certain new conditions including the assumption of *FGP* and *FGPC* of community taxes at current tax rate, and subject to certain conditions increasing the discounts on excess generation, payment of higher penalties for non-performance up to a capped amount, recovery of accumulated deemed delivered energy until 2011 resulting in the non-charging of *MERALCO* of excess generation charge for such energy delivered beyond the contracted amount but within a 90% capacity quota. The amended terms under the respective *PPAs* of *FGP* and *FGPC* were approved by the *ERC* on May 31, 2006.

Under the respective *PPAs* of *FGP* and *FGPC*, the fixed capacity fees and fixed operating and maintenance fees are recognized monthly based on the actual Net Dependable Capacity tested and proven, which is usually conducted on a semi-annual basis.

QPPL

MERALCO entered into a *PPA* with *QPPL* on August 12, 1994, which was subsequently amended on December 1, 1996. Under the terms of the amended *PPA*, *MERALCO* is committed to purchase a specified

volume of electric power and energy from *QPPL*, subject to certain terms and conditions. The *PPA* is for a period of 25 years from the start of commercial operations up to July 12, 2025.

In a Letter Agreement signed on February 21, 2008, the amount billable by *QPPL* included a transmission line charge reduction in lieu of a previous rebate program. The Letter Agreement also provides that *MERALCO* make advances to *QPPL* of US\$2.85 million per annum for 10 years beginning 2008 to assist *QPPL* in consideration of the difference between the transmission line charge specified in the Transmission Line Agreement (“*TLA*”) and the *ERC*-approved transmission line charge in March 2003. *QPPL* shall repay *MERALCO* the same amount at the end of the 10-year period in equal annual payments without adjustment. However, if *MERALCO* is able to dispatch *QPPL* at a plant capacity factor of no less than 86% in any particular year, *MERALCO* shall not be required to pay US\$2.85 million on that year. This arrangement did not have any impact on the rates to be charged to consumers and hence, did not require any amendment in the *PPA*, as approved by the *ERC*.

Committed Energy Volume to be Purchased

The following are forecasted purchases/payments to *FGPC*, *FGP* and *QPPL* corresponding to the Minimum Energy Quantity (“*MEQ*”) provisions of the contracts. The forecasted fixed payments include capacity charge and fixed operation and maintenance cost escalated using the U.S. and Philippine Consumer Price Index.

Year	MEQ	Equivalent Amount
	<i>(In million kwh)</i>	<i>(In Millions)</i>
2020	14,195	₱24,244
2021	14,195	24,988
2022	14,195	25,716
2023	14,195	26,058
2024-2030	33,194	57,820

Power Supply Generators Under PSAs

Masinloc Power Partners Co. Ltd. (“MPPCL”)

The *ERC*, for the *MPPCL* case, issued an Order dated October 11, 2016 resolving to consider *MERALCO*’s “Manifestation and Motion” as a new application for approval of *PSA*. In view of the said Order, *MERALCO* and *MPPCL* filed a Joint Application for approval of the supplemental agreement extending the term of their *PSA* for an additional three (3) years. The initial hearing for the case was set on May 25, 2017 and a series of hearings ensued, however, a petition for intervention and opposition was filed by a consumer group, mainly on the ground that the parties, in extending the *PSA*, failed to conduct a *CSP*, thus, omitting a key policy and regulatory requirement of the *DOE* and *ERC* in assuring the least cost of electricity supply procured by *MERALCO* in order to oppose the extension of the *PSA*. On December 19, 2019, *MERALCO* and *MPPCL* entered into an Agreement to Amend the supplemental agreement, whereby the Parties resolved to extend the *PSA* for an additional period of one (1) year reckoned from the date of the approval by the *ERC* of the said Agreement to Amend. The Agreement to Amend supersedes the previous 3-year extension of term provided in the supplemental agreement. *MERALCO* and *MPPCL* are set to file a Joint Manifestation to the *ERC* seeking approval of said Agreement to Amend. As at October 26, 2020, the hearing of the case is suspended, while the parties await the resolution of the *ERC*.

Philippine Power and Development Company (“Philpodeco”)

On May 15, 2014, *MERALCO* and *Philpodeco* executed a *PSA*. *Philpodeco* operates three (3) run-of-river hydro power plants, namely: (i) Palakpakin, a 448 kW hydro power plant located at Barangay Prinza, Calauan, Laguna; (ii) Calibato, a 75 kW Calibato hydro power plant located at Barangay Sto. Angel, San Pablo City, Laguna; and (iii) Balugbog, a 528 kW hydro power plant located at Barangay Palina, Nagcarlan, Laguna. The *PSA* has a term of five (5) years from the delivery period commencement date.

On June 2, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for the approval of its *PSA* with *Philpodeco*. This *PSA* provides that *MERALCO* shall accept all the energy deliveries of *Philpodeco* as measured by the latter’s billing meter. Hearings on this case have been completed and *MERALCO* has submitted its Formal

Offer of Evidence (“FOE”). On January 25, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Motion to Resolve the case. On May 22, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion to Resolve seeking *ERC* confirmation of the extension of the term of the *PSA* with *Philpodeco* from May 15, 2019 to October 25, 2019. On October 24, 2019, *MERALCO* wrote *DOE* asking for exemption from the requirement for *CSP* for a further extension of the term of the *PSA* with *Philpodeco* from October 25, 2019 to May 15, 2020. On the same date, *MERALCO* also filed a Manifestation with Motion to Resolve seeking *ERC* confirmation of the said extension of term. In its letter to *Philpodeco* dated December 18, 2019, the *DOE* has taken the position that “xxx [u]nder Section 45(b) of Republic Act No. 9136, *ERC* is the sole authority mandated to review and approve *PSAs*.” On May 15, 2020, the *PSA* with *Philpodeco* expired. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending decision by the *ERC*.

Bacavalley Energy Inc. (“BEI”)

MERALCO signed a *CSE* with *BEI* on November 12, 2010. *BEI* owns and operates a four (4) *MW* renewable energy generation facility powered by landfill gas in San Pedro, Laguna. The *CSE* has a term of two (2) years from the delivery period commencement date.

Purchases from *BEI*, an embedded renewable energy generator, are *VAT* zero-rated and exempt from power delivery service charge. *MERALCO* filed an application for the approval of the *CSE* with the *ERC*, for the provisional implementation of the contract on December 15, 2010. In an order dated January 31, 2011, the *ERC* provisionally approved the said application.

After a series of negotiations, *MERALCO* and *BEI* signed the Letter Agreements dated March 1, 2013 and March 5, 2013, extending the *CSE* between said parties for another two (2) years from March 16, 2013, or until March 15, 2015. In its Order December 9, 2013, the *ERC* allowed the *CSE* to be extended until March 15, 2015. On March 12, 2015, *MERALCO* and *BEI* executed a Letter of Agreement extending the *CSE* until March 15, 2016. On March 16, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion to the *ERC* for approval of the extended term. On March 1, 2016, *BEI* requested for another extension of the *CSE* for another two (2) years. In its letter dated April 7, 2016, *MERALCO* denied *BEI*’s request to extend the *CSE*. On May 18, 2018 and January 25, 2019, *MERALCO* filed Urgent Motions to Resolve the case. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and *MERALCO* is awaiting the *ERC*’s decision.

SBPL

On May 30, 2014, *MERALCO* signed a long-term *PSA* for a 455 *MW* net capacity and electric output with *SBPL*.

On June 2, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for approval of its *PSA* with *SBPL*. On May 19, 2015, *MERALCO* received the *ERC* Decision with modification for the approval of the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *SBPL*. *SBPL* began commercial operations on September 26, 2019.

Bacman Geothermal, Inc. (“BGI”)

On November 25, 2014, *MERALCO* signed a *PSA* with *BGI* for the purchase of up to 50 *MW* capacity and energy from the latter’s power plant. On March 4, 2015, the Joint Application for approval of said *PSA* was filed with the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending decision by the *ERC*, but the *PSA*, which was never implemented, already expired on December 25, 2019. On August 10, 2020, *MERALCO* and *BGI* filed a joint manifestation with the *ERC*, manifesting that the Joint Application for approval of the *PSA* is already deemed moot considering the provisions of the *PSA* are already inapplicable and unenforceable given the expiration of the *PSA* without being implemented by *MERALCO* and *BGI*.

PSAs with Application for Approval with the ERC

Pangea Green Energy Philippines, Inc. ("PGE")

On May 31, 2012, *MERALCO* signed a *CSE* with *PGE*, a biomass power plant located in Payatas, Quezon City using methane gas extracted from the Payatas landfill as its fuel. Its plant has a total nominal generating capacity of 1,236 kW. The *CSE* is for a period of two (2) years from the delivery period commencement date.

On June 15, 2012, *MERALCO* filed an application for approval of the *CSE*. On August 28, 2012, the *ERC* issued an Order provisionally approving the application. On August 29, 2013, the *ERC* extended the provisional authority in its Order dated August 12, 2013. On March 2, 2015, *MERALCO* and *PGE* executed a Letter of Agreement extending the *CSE* until February 29, 2016. On March 4, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* for the approval of the extended term. On September 16, 2015, *MERALCO* received a letter from *PGE* seeking the termination of the *CSE* effective October 15, 2015. The termination of the *CSE* was thereafter formalized in the Letter Agreement dated October 29, 2015 where the parties agreed to terminate the *CSE* effective October 9, 2015, which was *PGE*'s Facility Registration Date with the *WESM*. On January 8, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* seeking approval of the extended term of March 4, 2015 until October 9, 2015. On May 17, 2018 and January 25, 2019, *MERALCO* filed Urgent Motions to Resolve the case. In its Order dated February 18, 2019, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to submit certain documents to facilitate its evaluation of the application. On March 29, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Manifestation. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and any Decision remains pending with the *ERC*.

TMO

On March 4, 2013, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *TMO* for their 243 MW generating facility at the Navotas Fish Port Complex, Navotas City, which is an interconnection at *MERALCO*'s Grace Park-Malabon 115 kV line. *TMO* is an embedded generator. *TMO* shall construct at its own cost, operate and maintain the 115 kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO*'s system. *TMO* and *MERALCO* subsequently signed a Supplement to the Interconnection Agreement dated July 3, 2014 covering the construction of a second line from the connection point at the Grace Park-Malabon 115 kV line to the *TMO* switchyard.

On September 27, 2013, *MERALCO* signed a *PSA* with *TMO* for the output of the barge-mounted, bunker oil-fired diesel engines moored at the Fish Port Complex in Navotas, Manila. On September 30, 2013, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for the approval of the *PSA*. In an Order dated November 4, 2013, the *ERC* granted the prayer for provisional authority. After hearing and submission of the required documents, including the *FOE*, the case is now submitted for decision.

On December 17, 2014, *MERALCO* and *TMO* entered into an Amendment to the *PSA* based on the power situation outlook for 2015 and 2016 issued by the *NGCP* that the reserve capacity will be below the Contingency Reserves due to the maintenance shutdowns and forced outages of major power plants in Luzon. The amendment to the *PSA* was filed for approval with the *ERC* on January 21, 2015. In an Order dated April 6, 2015, the *ERC* approved the amendment in the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *TMO* with modification. In an Order dated July 1, 2015, the *ERC* clarified that the provisional approval, while not specifically modifying nor stating any condition with respect to the implementation of the outage provisions of the amendment, covers the increase in outage allowance and the minor change in operating procedures.

On June 16, 2015, *MERALCO* received the Omnibus Motion for Partial Reconsideration and Deferment of Implementation of the Order dated April 6, 2015; Urgent Resolution of the Application; and Confidential Treatment filed by *TMO*.

In an Order dated April 5, 2016, the *ERC* ruled that the provisional authority granted to *MERALCO* and *TMO* is extended unless revoked or made permanent. On June 10, 2016 and July 5, 2016, respectively, *MERALCO* and *TMO* filed a Motion for Clarification of the *ERC* Order dated April 5, 2016. Said motions are still pending decision by the *ERC*. On January 3, 2017, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion informing the *ERC* of the extension of the term of the *PSA* from June 26, 2017 to June 25, 2018. In an Order dated June 6, 2017, the *ERC* noted *MERALCO*'s Manifestation and Motion and confirmed one (1) year extension of the *PSA*.

MERALCO and *TMO* were further directed to strictly comply with the provisions of *ERC* Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016, in particular, the one (1) time limit for renewal of the *PSA*. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and the decision remains pending with the *ERC*.

Solar Philippines Tarlac Phase 2

On February 22, 2019, after being declared the winning power supplier in a *CSP*, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* for the purchase of up to 50 MW of electric output from Phase 2 of its solar plant in Tarlac. The application for approval of the *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* was filed on March 18, 2019. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending decision by the *ERC*.

FNPC

Following conduct and completion of a *CSP*, *MERALCO* confirmed effectivity of the *PSA* with *FNPC* dated December 13, 2017, for the purchase of 414 MW electric energy generated by the San Gabriel Gas Plant beginning *ERC* approval and ending on February 23, 2024. A joint application for approval of the *PSA* with *FNPC* was filed on March 19, 2018. In an Order dated June 5, 2018, the *ERC* granted interim relief to provisionally implement the *PSA*. On June 26, 2018, *MERALCO* and *FNPC* implemented the *PSA* based on the June 5, 2018 Order of the *ERC*. On August 8, 2018, a party filed an intervention to the case. *MERALCO* and *FNPC* filed their Comment/Opposition to said intervention. *FNPC* thereafter filed a Compliance with Motion for Confidential Treatment of Information. Thereafter, the pre-trial conference on the case was concluded. As at October 26, 2020, the parties are awaiting the order of the *ERC* resolving pending matters and setting the case for another hearing.

Montalban Methane Power Corporation ("MMPC")

On May 13, 2009, *MERALCO* filed an Application with the *ERC* for approval of its *CSE* with *MMPC* which the *ERC* approved with modification in its Decision dated December 3, 2012. In a Letter Agreement dated June 6, 2013, the *CSE* was extended until September 11, 2013 and parties agreed to automatically renew the *CSE* for a series of 3-month terms unless *MMPC* informs *MERALCO* in writing no longer than 30 days before the lapse of each 3-month term that it no longer intends to extend the *CSE*. Upon information from *MMPC*, in a Letter Agreement dated January 21, 2015, the parties agreed to terminate the *CSE* effective January 26, 2015. However, despite the termination of the *CSE*, *MMPC* was still able to inject energy to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. In its letter dated June 9, 2015, *MMPC* sought the *ERC*'s assistance to, among other things, recover reasonable charges for the energy that was generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. In a letter dated July 20, 2015, the *ERC* suggested that *MERALCO* and *MMPC* discuss and agree on the possible mechanism for the compensation of energy generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. Pursuant to the directive of the *ERC*, *MERALCO* and *MMPC* entered into a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") covering the payment of energy generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. On July 1, 2020, *MERALCO* received the *ERC* Decision dated November 5, 2019 approving the collection from the customers of the payment of energy generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system in five (5) equal monthly installments and the remittance of the same to *MMPC*, beginning the billing period following *MERALCO*'s receipt of the Decision.

Panay Energy Development Corporation ("PEDC")

On April 26, 2016, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *PEDC* for the purchase of up to 70 MW of electric output from the 150 MW coal-fired power generating facility that *PEDC* owns and operates in Brgy. Ingore, La Paz, Iloilo. In its letter dated November 23, 2016, the *ERC* informed *MERALCO* that the *ERC* has provisionally approved the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *PEDC* in its Order dated July 11, 2016. On January 10, 2017, *MERALCO* and *PEDC* filed their Joint Motion to Admit the *FOE* with Joint Urgent Motion for Early Resolution of the Application, seeking to, among other things, already source 70 MW from *PEDC* beginning January 28, 2017 in order to temper the anticipated additional burden that the *SPEX*-Malampaya outage may bring to end-users. On March 3, 2017, *PEDC* filed a Motion partially seeking reconsideration of the provisional rate approved under the *PSA*. On October 3, 2017, *PEDC* filed a Supplemental Motion for Reconsideration. On April 30, 2018, *MERALCO* received *PEDC*'s Manifestation and Motion praying that *MERALCO* be authorized by the *ERC* to collect from its customers the difference between the provisional rate

approved by the *ERC* and the rates originally applied for under the *PSA*. As at October 26, 2020, further *ERC* action is pending.

Meanwhile, several consumers filed their petitions to intervene. On July 19, 2017, *MERALCO* filed its consolidated opposition to these petitions. On August 30, 2017, the *ERC* issued an order denying the requests for intervenor status but treating them instead as oppositors. Oppositors filed their respective *MRs*, which the *ERC* likewise denied in an Order dated November 17, 2017. On January 15, 2018, the *ERC* conducted a hearing for the purpose of giving intervenor, a consumer group, a chance to present its evidence. However, due to its unjustified and continued absence, the consumer group was deemed to have waived its right to present its evidence. Thus, the *ERC* deemed the case submitted for decision. On January 19, 2018, *MERALCO* received a motion filed by an oppositor before the *CA* seeking additional time to file a Petition for Review. In a decision dated February 28, 2018, the *CA* denied the Petition, prompting the oppositor's filing of an *MR*. On December 3, 2018, *MERALCO* received the *CA*'s Notice of Resolution granting the oppositor's *MR* without necessarily giving due course to the oppositor's Petition for Review and requiring *MERALCO* and *PEDC* to file their respective comments thereto. *MERALCO* and *PEDC* have filed their respective comments. On December 7, 2018, *MERALCO* filed its Comment with Opposition to the *CA*'s Resolution. As at October 26, 2020, the case is awaiting further action from the *CA*.

In the meantime, on May 17, 2019, *MERALCO* received the *SC* Decision that effectively required all *PSA* applications for *ERC* approval filed on or after June 30, 2015 to undergo *CSP*. Consequently, on October 8, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation that it has requested *DOE* for exemption from *CSP* for a *PSA* with *PEDC* for an additional period up to one (1) year and preparations for the implemented term of their *PSA* (i.e., not covered by *CSP* exemption) is already underway. On January 15, 2020, the *DOE* issued a *CSP* exemption for a period of one (1) year from August 26, 2019 to August 25, 2020. On July 11, 2020, the Terms of Reference for the *CSP* of the *PSA* for its remaining term was submitted by *MERALCO* to the *DOE* for approval.

First Bulacan

On December 22, 2016, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *First Bulacan* for the purchase of 50 MW of electric output from its solar plant in San Miguel, Bulacan. On February 23, 2017, after conduct of a *CSP* wherein *First Bulacan* was declared as the winning power supplier, the application for approval of the *PSA* with *First Bulacan* was filed. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on July 12, 2017.

In a Decision promulgated on June 20, 2019, the *ERC* approved the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *First Bulacan* subject to certain conditions. The applicable rate shall be ₱4.69 per kWh, subject to 2% annual escalation, excluding the franchise and benefits to host communities charge.

Solar Philippines Tanauan Corporation ("Solar Philippines Tanauan")

On December 22, 2016, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tanauan* for the purchase of 50 MW of electric output from its solar plant in Tanauan, Batangas. On February 27, 2017, after conduct of a *CSP* wherein *Solar Philippines Tanauan* was declared as the winning power supplier, the application for approval of the *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tanauan* was filed. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on July 12, 2017. In a Decision promulgated on February 28, 2020, the *ERC* approved the *PSA* with modification.

Solar Philippines Tarlac Phase 1

On October 6, 2017, after being declared the winning power supplier in a *CSP*, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* for the purchase of up to 85 MW of electric output from Phase one (1) of its solar plant in Tarlac. The application for approval of the *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* was filed on October 19, 2017. Hearings have been completed and parties await *ERC* resolution on *Solar Philippines Tarlac*'s opposition to a consumer group's intervention, which shall prompt submission of case for final decision. Meanwhile, in an Order promulgated on June 8, 2018, the *ERC* granted Interim Relief to provisionally implement the *PSA*. On July 3, 2018, *Solar Philippines Tarlac* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration of the said Order. *MERALCO* and *Solar Philippines Tarlac* agreed on a way forward, subject to resolution of the Motion for Partial Reconsideration, and began implementation of the *PSA* on August 20, 2018. On

July 13, 2018, *MERALCO* filed its *Comment with Opposition* in so far as the adjustment of the timelines under the *PSA* is concerned. On November 26, 2018, a consumer group filed its *Comment with Opposition*, likewise with respect to *Solar Philippines Tarlac*'s motion for the adjustment of the timelines under the *PSA*. In its Order dated January 23, 2019, the *ERC* partially granted the Motion for Partial Reconsideration filed by *Solar Philippines Tarlac* and allowed the 2% annual escalation under the *PSA*. On June 25, 2019, the *ERC* promulgated its Order leaving the adjustment of the timelines set under the *PSA* to the discretion of *MERALCO* and *Solar Philippines Tarlac*. As at October 26, 2020, the parties are awaiting *ERC*'s final decision on the Joint Application.

Interim Power Supply Agreements ("IPSAs")

On January 24, 2017, in view of the Malampaya shutdown that was to coincide with the scheduled outage of other plants, *MERALCO* signed an *IPSA* with Strategic Power Development Corporation ("*SPDC*") for the supply of 100 MW per hour of electric power from 0901H to 1000H and from 2001H to 2100H, and 150 MW per hour of electric power from 1001H to 2000H, from January 28, 2017 until February 16, 2017. An application for approval of such *IPSA* was filed before the *ERC* on February 9, 2017. The said *IPSA* was effective immediately, on the condition that disallowances and penalties that the *ERC* may impose as a result thereof shall be for the account of *SPDC*. *MERALCO* and *SPDC*, in a letter agreement dated February 15, 2017, agreed to extend the term of the *IPSA* until March 25, 2017 under the same terms and conditions of the *IPSA*. On February 16, 2017, *MERALCO* and *SPDC* filed a Joint Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* apprising the Honorable Commission of the extended term and praying that the same be duly considered and approved accordingly. The hearings on this case have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on July 21, 2017. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and *MERALCO* awaits the *ERC*'s final decision on the *IPSA*.

On April 15, 2019, in view of the *NGCP* forecast that low voltage situations will occur for the weekdays of May up to the first half of June 2019 every time the Luzon peak demand exceeds 11,200 MW, *MERALCO* signed two (2) separate *IPSAs* with: (i) *MEI* for the purchase of 70 MW of electric power, subject to a net dependable capacity test, from April 26, 2019 to June 25, 2019, from *MEI*'s Gas Turbine Power Plant in Navotas Fishport Complex, Navotas City; and (ii) *TMO* for the purchase of up to 200,000 kW contract capacity and associated energy, subject to restatement based on the results of capacity test, from April 26, 2019 to April 25, 2020, from *TMO*'s 242 MW-installed capacity, barge-mounted, bunker-fired diesel power generating and interconnection facilities in Navotas City. For the said *IPSAs*, *MERALCO* also received the *DOE*'s grant of exemption from the requirement for *CSP*. The applications for approval of said *IPSAs* were filed before the *ERC* on April 17, 2019. In accordance with the said *IPSAs*, with the filing of the joint applications and *DOE*'s exemption, the mutual obligations to sell and purchase power under said agreements were implemented beginning April 26, 2019. On July 1, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Formal Offer of Evidence on the *TMO IPSA* Joint Application. Thereafter, on July 3, 2019, *MERALCO* received petitions for intervention in both cases. On July 15, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Opposition to the petition for intervention filed in the *TMO IPSA* Joint Application considering that the same was already filed out of time. On the other hand, in light of the declarations of yellow and red alerts in the Luzon Grid by *NGCP*, *MERALCO* and *MEI*, in a Letter Agreement dated June 20, 2019, agreed to extend their *IPSA* until September 25, 2019. Further, given continuing declarations of yellow and red alerts in the Luzon grid by *NGCP*, *MERALCO* and *MEI*, in a Letter Agreement dated September 23, 2019, agreed to further extend their *IPSA* until April 25, 2020. *MERALCO* also received the *DOE*'s grant of exemption from the requirement for *CSP* for said periods. In a Letter Agreement dated January 28, 2020, *MERALCO* and *MEI* agreed on another extension of their *IPSA* from April 26, 2020 to June 25, 2020 in view of *DOE*'s forecast, presented to *MERALCO* in a meeting with the *DOE* on January 16, 2020, which showed red alert situation in the Luzon grid for the period from April to June 2020. *MERALCO* wrote *DOE* on January 29, 2020 to request for exemption from the requirement for *CSP* for said period. However, the *PSA* with *MEI* was not extended as the *DOE* did not issue any exemption to be able to further extend the *PSA*. Thus, on April 25, 2020, the *PSA* with *MEI* expired. As at October 26, 2020, the cases are pending decision by the *ERC*.

Clark Electric

SMEC

On March 20, 2013, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC*, as the *IPP* Administrator of the Sual coal-fired thermal power plant, entered into a *PSA* through December 25, 2019, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of

the Agreement. The initial contracted capacity from the plant was pegged at 55 MW which may be increased up to 70 MW.

On July 9, 2015, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC* filed a joint application for the amendment of the *PSA*, which prayed that *Clark Electric* be allowed to get additional supply from *SMEC* as replacement power during scheduled maintenance shutdown of the Sual Power Plant Unit 1 at rate lower than that of the *WESM* rate. Although a decision has yet to be granted by the *ERC* with respect to the said application, it has, nonetheless, granted *Clark Electric*'s application for Interim Power Supply Agreements for the replacement power during the outage of Sual Power Plant Unit 1 in 2016 and in 2017 through the *ERC* orders dated September 20, 2016 and September 13, 2017, respectively.

With the effectivity of *RCOA*, the various contestable customers shifted their power supply sourcing from *Clark Electric* to their respective *RES*. In line with the switching, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC* agreed to gradually lower the *PSA* contracted capacity by an aggregate of 40 MW in 2017 to manage the electric retail rates of its captive customers.

On October 10, 2019, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC* jointly filed an Extremely Urgent Motion for the Confirmation of the *PSA* Extension in which the *ERC* resolved to grant an interim relief to extend the implementation of the *PSA* from December 26, 2019 to December 25, 2020.

SPDC

On February 20, 2017, *Clark Electric* executed an agreement for the power supply with *SPDC*, the *IPP* Administrator of the 345 MW San Roque Hydroelectric Power Plant in Barangay San Roque, San Miguel, Pangasinan. *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* agreed that the latter shall supply a total of 25 MW, consisting of 20 MW (firm) and 5 MW (non-firm) capacities during Mondays to Saturdays, excluding national holidays from trading intervals 0901H to 2100H. This *PSA* was entered into by *Clark Electric* to diversify its source of capacity and also to mitigate its exposure to the *WESM* during the outages of its then lone power supplier, *SMEC*. The *PSA* was jointly filed by *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* on May 19, 2017 for *ERC* approval. On May 29, 2019 and May 30, 2019, *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* received respectively the Honorable Commission's Order dated December 19, 2019, which granted interim relief to implement the *PSA*. In view of this, the parties immediately implemented the *PSA* beginning July 2019 billing period.

On December 10, 2019, *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* filed an Extremely Urgent Motion for the Confirmation of the *PSA* Extension praying for the confirmation of the extension of the *PSA* effective December 26, 2019 to December 25, 2020. On December 19, 2019, the *ERC* issued an order which granted an interim relief to implement the said extension.

On June 17, 2020, *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* filed a Joint Ex-Parte Manifestation to the *ERC* as stipulated in the June 1, 2020 Supplemental Agreement to mitigate the rate impact of the imposition of Enhanced Community Quarantine ("ECQ") throughout Luzon to contain the spread of *COVID-19*.

TransCo/NGCP

Clark Electric entered into a Transmission Service Agreement with *TransCo* beginning March 30, 2006 until terminated, in accordance with the Open Access Transmission Service ("OATS") rules.

In January 2009, by virtue of *RA* No. 9511, *NGCP* acquired the franchise to engage in *TransCo*'s business of conveying or transmitting electricity.

Clark Electric executed a Transmission Service Agreement on December 26, 2013 with *NGCP* for the provision of necessary transmission services in accordance with the *OATS* rules for five (5) years until December 25, 2018. This was renewed for another five years until December 25, 2023.

Interconnection Agreement with Alternergy Wind One Philippine Holdings Corporation ("Alternergy")

On March 1, 2012, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *Alternergy*, an embedded generator, for the latter's 90 MW wind farm renewable energy plant in Pililla, Rizal, which shall interconnect at

MERALCO's Malaya-Teresa 115 kV line. Under the agreement, *Alternergy* shall construct at its own cost, operate and maintain the 115 kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO's* system. On September 3, 2014, *MERALCO* signed a supplement to the Interconnection Agreement with *Alternergy* to temporarily connect the latter's facilities to *MERALCO's* Malaya-Caliraya 115 kV line until December 31, 2015 and thereafter, proceed to the ultimate connection at the Malaya-Teresa 115 kV line. In its letter to *MERALCO* dated October 30, 2015, *Alternergy* expressed its intention to extend its use of the 115 kV line until the completion of the construction of the Phase 2 Line or until December 31, 2017. In the letter agreement dated December 2, 2015, *MERALCO* and *Alternergy* formalized the extended use of said line.

Interconnection Agreement with Alternergy Sembrano Wind Corporation ("Alternergy Sembrano")

On March 23, 2017, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *Alternergy Sembrano*, an embedded generator, for the latter's 81 MW wind farm renewable energy plant in Pililla, Rizal, which shall also interconnect at *MERALCO's* Malaya-Teresa 115 kV line. On May 4, 2018, *Alternergy Sembrano* filed an application with the *ERC* to develop, own and/or operate a dedicated point-to-point 115 kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO's* system. On November 15, 2018, the said case was submitted for decision by the *ERC*.

Interconnection Agreement with Maibarara Geothermal, Inc. ("MGI")

On December 6, 2012, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *MGI*, an embedded generator, for the latter's 20 MW (with maximum capacity of 40 MW) geothermal facility plant in Sto. Tomas, Batangas, which shall interconnect at *MERALCO's* FPIP - Los Baños 115 kV line. *MGI* shall construct at its own cost, operate and maintain the 115kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO's* system. In its Decision dated September 30, 2013, the *ERC* approved *MGI's* application for authority to develop, own and operate dedicated point-to-point facilities to connect to the distribution system of *MERALCO*.

Interconnection Agreement with ATN Philippines Solar Energy Group, Inc. ("ATN")

On December 8, 2014, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *ATN*, an embedded generator, for the latter's 25.2 MW solar generating facility in Rodriguez, Rizal, to be connected to *MERALCO's* Novaliches 44 YJ, Diliman 435 VU and Parang 412 YL circuits. *ATN* shall construct at its own cost, operate dedicated point-to-point lines and facilities that will connect its generating facility to *MERALCO's* system. In its Decision dated June 8, 2015, the *ERC* approved *ATN's* application for authority to develop, own and operate a dedicated point-to-point lines and facilities.

Cagbalete Island Microgrid Electrification Expansion Capital Expenditure Project ("Cagbalete Microgrid Project")

On July 23, 2019, *MERALCO* inaugurated the first phase of its power microgrid in Cagbalete Island, Quezon Province as part of its continuing initiative of rural energization using sustainable energy. The microgrid is a hybrid generating plant that features a 60 kW PV system, 150 kWh battery energy storage system and two (2) units of 30 kW diesel generators, which shall provide 24 x 7 power to the residents of the island.

On May 31, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an application dated May 29, 2019 to implement the proposed *Cagbalete Microgrid Expansion Project* to allow *MERALCO* to serve the rest of the residents in Cagbalete Island. The *Cagbalete Microgrid Expansion Project* with an estimated cost of ₱219 million, will utilize a scaled-up hybrid generation system by similarly using solar photovoltaic ("PV") panels, diesel generators and lithium-ion battery storage as main components. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its Formal Offer of Evidence on August 15, 2019. In an Order dated August 27, 2020, the *ERC* requested additional information regarding the *Cagbalete Microgrid Expansion Project*. *MERALCO* filed its Compliance on October 15, 2020. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action by the *ERC*.

Industry Restructuring

Under the *EPIRA*, the Philippine power industry continues to undergo fundamental restructuring.

These restructuring measures include:

- the deregulation of, and introduction of competition in, power generation and supply activities and pricing;
- the privatization of the *NPC*'s power generating assets and *IPP* contracts;
- the unbundling of the relative costs of the various segments of the power supply chain and reflecting these in the bills to customers;
- freedom of consumers to choose electricity suppliers;
- open and non-discriminatory access in the networks of *DUs*, subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions precedent;
- the implementation of the *WESM*; and
- removal of inter-grid, intra-grid, and inter-class cross-subsidies.

ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

1. Implementation of *PBR*

As *DUs*, *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* are subject to the rate-making regulations and regulatory policies of the *ERC*. Billings of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* to customers are itemized or “unbundled” into a number of bill components that reflect the various activities and costs incurred in providing electricity distribution services. The adjustment to each bill component is governed by mechanisms promulgated and enforced by the *ERC*, mainly: [i] the “Rules Governing the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanisms and Corresponding Confirmation Process for Distribution Utilities”, which govern the recovery of pass-through costs, including over- or under-recoveries of the bill components, namely, (a) generation charge, (b) transmission charge, (c) *SL* charge, (d) lifeline and inter-class rate subsidies, and (e) local franchise and business taxes; and [ii] the “Rules for the Setting of Distribution Wheeling Rates” (“*RDWR*”), as modified, which govern the determination of *MERALCO*'s distribution, supply, and metering charges.

The rate-setting mechanism of *Clark Electric* is likewise in accordance with the *ERC* regulations. The following is a discussion of matters related to rate-setting of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric*:

PBR

a. *MERALCO*

MERALCO is among the Group A entrants to the *PBR*, together with two (2) other private *DUs*.

Rate-setting under *PBR* is governed by the *RDWR*. The *PBR* scheme sets tariffs once every Regulatory Period (“*RP*”) based on the regulated asset base (“*RAB*”) of each *DU*, and the required operating and capital expenditures (“*OPEX*” and “*CAPEX*”, respectively) to meet operational performance and service level requirements responsive to the need for adequate, reliable and quality power, efficient service, and growth of all customer classes in the franchise area as approved by the *ERC*. *PBR* also employs a mechanism that penalizes or rewards a *DU* depending on its network and service performance.

Rate filings and settings are done on a *RP* basis. One (1) *RP* consists of four (4) Regulatory Years (“*RYs*”). A *RY* for *MERALCO* begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year. The 5th *RP* for Group A *DUs* began on July 1, 2019 and shall end on June 30, 2023.

Maximum Average Price (“MAP”) for the 3rd RP

After rate setting process for a *RP*, *MERALCO* goes through a rate verification process for each *RY* within the *RP*. In each of *RYs* 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, *MERALCO* filed for the respective *MAP* with the *ERC* provisionally approved the foregoing distribution *MAPs* for each of the *RY*. However, as at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting the final approval of the *ERC*.

Interim Average Rate beginning RY 2016

On July 10, 2015, the *ERC* provisionally approved an interim average rate of ₱1.3810 per *kWh* (excluding efficiency adjustment) and the rate translation per customer class, which was reflected in the customer bills starting July 2015. *MERALCO* has completed the presentation of its evidence and is set to file its *FOE* after the *ERC* rules on pending motions. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC*'s ruling on these motions is pending.

Pending a reset, *MERALCO*, as authorized by the *ERC* continues to bill customers using the last *ERC* approved interim rate.

While *MERALCO* complied with the directive to refund the total amount of ₱263.9 million representing regulatory reset costs, equivalent to ₱0.0731 per *kWh* in its July 2019 billing, it wrote a letter seeking clarification or reconsideration on the basis for the refund of the regulatory reset cost, including the imposition of and basis for the interest computed therein. The refund was included as a separate line item in *MERALCO*'s July 2019 billing to its customers. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to reply to *MERALCO*'s letter.

MERALCO recognized provisions for any resulting over-recoveries. The movements in and the balance of the "Other noncurrent liabilities" account in the consolidated statements of financial position include these provisions, consistent with the limited disclosure as allowed in Philippine Financial Reporting Standards ("PFRSs") as it may prejudice the position of *MERALCO*.

4th and 5th RP Reset Application

MERALCO's 4th *RP* ended on June 30, 2019 and is currently operating in the 5th *RP*. Under *ERC* Resolution No. 25, Series of 2016 dated July 12, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated a Resolution modifying the *RDWR* for privately-owned *DUs* entering the *PBR*. The *ERC* has directed *MERALCO* and Private Electric Power Operators Association ("*PEPOA*") to publish the Resolution. However, *MERALCO* sought clarification from the *ERC* on certain issues in the Resolution, including the need to await the final decision of the *ERC* on the Petition for the Rule Making filed by a consumer group to amend the *PBR*.

In a Notice dated November 16, 2016, the *ERC* approved the draft "Regulatory Asset Base Roll Forward Handbook for Privately Owned Electricity Distribution Utilities" ("*RAB Handbook*") for posting in its website. All interested parties were asked to submit their respective comments on the draft *RAB Handbook*. In an Omnibus Motion filed on February 9, 2017, *MERALCO* submitted its initial comments to the draft *RAB Handbook* but moved for the deferment of the proceedings until the consumer group's Petition as referred in the preceding paragraph has been resolved. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to resolve *MERALCO*'s Omnibus Motion.

On December 21, 2018, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for the Adoption of the Proposed Issues Paper and Revised *RDWR* for the 5th *RP* of the First Entry Group Under *PBR*. As at April 27, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to act on *MERALCO*'s Petition.

On June 13, 2019, the *ERC* posted the working drafts of the *RDWR* and "Regulatory Reset for the Fourth and Fifth Regulatory Period for the First Entry Group of Privately Owned Distribution Utilities subject to Performance Based Regulations" Issues Paper. The Draft Rules and Issues Paper were works in progress by the technical staff that will be presented to the *ERC* together with the consolidated inputs from stakeholders. Interested parties were given until July 1, 2019 to submit their comments to the drafts. The public consultation was originally scheduled on July 5, 2019. *MERALCO* and other stakeholders have submitted their respective comments.

In a Notice dated July 4, 2019, the *ERC* cancelled the public consultation and gave the stakeholders until July 15, 2019 to submit their additional comments. Public consultations were scheduled in Cebu, Davao and Manila on July 24, 26 and 29, 2019, respectively.

MERALCO submitted additional comments on July 15, 2019 and August 2, 2019 and attended public consultations. *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the *ERC* on the matter.

In preparation for the regulatory reset process, the *ERC* directed all *DUs* under *PBR* to submit certain information in connection with the validation of the actual/historical expenditures for prior years. For *MERALCO*, the period covered is from July 1, 2011 to September 30, 2019. The original deadline of the *ERC* for submission of the requested data was set on April 30, 2020. However, *MERALCO*, in a letter dated April 6, 2020, requested for the deferment of the submission of the requested data until the normalization of operations after the Enhanced Community Quarantine (“*ECQ*”) has been lifted. In a letter dated July 30, 2020, the *ERC* gave *MERALCO* an extension of until August 31, 2020 to comply with the directive. On September 1, 2020, *MERALCO* gave its partial compliance and requested for an additional three (3) months to complete its submission. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the *ERC*.

Capital Expenditures (“CAPEX”) for 4th RP and RY 2020

Absent the release by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern the filing of missed period, *MERALCO* filed its applications for approval of authority to implement its *CAPEX* program pursuant to Section 20(b) of Commonwealth Act No. 146, as amended, otherwise known as the Public Service Act, for each of the RPs beginning July 1, 2015.

Absence the approval, *MERALCO* manifested several applications as Emergency *CAPEX* and proceeded with the implementation of the *CAPEX* to avoid compromising the network reliability.

Clark Electric

Clark Electric is among the four (4) Group D entrants to the *PBR*. Similar to *MERALCO*, it is subject to operational performance and service level requirements approved by the *ERC*. A *RY* for *Clark Electric* begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the following year. The 3rd *RP* for *Clark Electric* began on October 1, 2015 and ended on September 30, 2019. *Clark Electric* is to undergo the reset process and is awaiting the release by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern the filing of its 3rd *RP* reset application.

3rd RP PBR Reset for Clark Electric

Pending the issuance by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern missed period and subsequent regulatory period, the approved *MAP* for *RY* 2015 was used beginning *RY* 2016.

On February 18, 2016, December 29, 2016, May 17, 2018 and July 5, 2019, *Clark Electric* filed with the *ERC* its proposed *CAPEX* program for *RYs* 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, respectively. *Clark Electric* applied for an approval to implement the *CAPEX* in order to continue meeting the electricity requirements of its current and future customers, improve the flexibility, reliability and stability of its distribution network as well as improve customer service. Manifestations as emergency projects were submitted to the *ERC* on October 9, 2019 covering most of the applied *CAPEX* Projects for *RYs* 2016, 2017 and 2018. As at October 26, 2020, the application is pending approval by the *ERC*.

2. Application for Recoveries

Applications for the Confirmation of Over/Under-recoveries of Pass-through Charges

MERALCO

On July 13, 2009, the *ERC* issued Resolution No. 16, Series of 2009, adopting the “Rules Governing the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanisms and Corresponding Confirmation Process for Distribution Utilities”. These rules govern the recovery of pass-through costs, including under- or over-recoveries with respect to the following bill components: generation charge, transmission charge, *SL* charge, lifeline and inter-class rate subsidies, local franchise and business tax. On October 18, 2010, the *ERC* promulgated *ERC* Resolution No. 21, Series of 2010, amending the *SL* true-up formula contained in Resolution No. 16, Series of 2009, and setting March 31, 2011 (covering adjustments implemented until the billing month of December 2010) and

March 31, 2014 (covering adjustments from January 2011 to December 2013) as the new deadlines for *DUs* in Luzon to file their respective applications. Subsequent filings shall be made every three (3) years thereafter. On December 15, 2010, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 23, Series of 2010 to govern the recovery of senior

citizens discounts and specified that post-verification shall coincide with the timeframes in Resolution No. 16, Series of 2009, as amended by Resolution No. 21, Series of 2010.

On June 1, 2015, the *ERC* approved with modification *MERALCO*'s applications for the confirmation of its under- or over-recoveries of its pass-through costs for the periods June 2003 to December 2010 and January to December 2011, directing *MERALCO* to collect net under-recoveries of ₱909 million and ₱1,535 million, respectively, without carrying charges, until such time that the full amount has been collected. As at October 26, 2020, the recovery of the net under-recoveries is on going.

On March 31, 2014, *MERALCO* filed its application with the *ERC* to confirm its recoveries of net generation charge under-recoveries of ₱559 million, transmission charge over-recoveries of ₱639 million, net lifeline subsidy over-recoveries of ₱75 million, *SL* over-recoveries of ₱502 million from January 2012 to October 2013, and net senior citizens discount over-recoveries of ₱0.4 million from February 2011 to October 2013, excluding proposed carrying charges. Under- or over-recoveries from November and December 2013 supply months were excluded in the meantime, in view of the pending *SC* and *ERC* cases involving pass-through costs for these months. As at October 26, 2020, hearings are ongoing.

On January 29, 2016, *MERALCO* filed its application to confirm its under-recoveries of generation charge for special programs of ₱250.7 million, excluding carrying charges, covering the period March 2007 to December 2011. As at October 26, 2020, the application is pending before the *ERC*.

On March 31, 2017, *MERALCO* filed its application with the *ERC* to confirm its net generation charge over-recoveries of ₱4,919 million, net transmission charge over-recoveries of ₱632 million, net lifeline subsidy over-recoveries of ₱131 million, net *SL* over-recoveries of ₱1,243 million, net senior citizen discount over-recoveries of ₱2 million from January 2014 to December 2016 and real property tax ("*RPT*") payments under-recoveries of ₱1,090 million from June 2014 to December 2016. On May 11, 2017, the *ERC* provisionally approved *MERALCO*'s application to refund the over-recoveries of pass-through charges (generation costs, transmission costs, system loss, life line subsidies and senior citizen discount) for the period January 2014 to December 2016 amounting to ₱6,927 million. The Order deferred action on *MERALCO*'s application for the recovery of *RPT* payments, citing the absence of any rule or guideline providing for the process of confirmation, approval and recovery of *RPT*. The ₱6,927 million substantially in the refund was included in the June 2017 until August 2017 billings to customers except with respect to an amount to which a manifestation was filed for refund in order to zero out the remaining balance. *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on April 27, 2018. As at October 26, 2020, the application is pending final approval by the *ERC*.

On September 1, 2020, *MERALCO* filed its application with the *ERC* to confirm its net generation charge under-recoveries of ₱2,382 million, net transmission charge over-recoveries of ₱440 million, net lifeline subsidy over-recoveries of ₱31 million, net *SL* over-recoveries of ₱971 million, and net senior citizen discount over-recoveries of ₱3 million from January 2017 to December 2019. The case is set for initial hearing on January 21, 2021.

Clark Electric

Clark Electric filed its application for the approval of the calculations for the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanism for generation, transmission and system loss rates on April 1, 2014 in conformity with the said resolutions. A public hearing was held on June 17, 2014 and the *ERC* decision was received by *Clark Electric* on January 13, 2017. On January 30, 2017, *Clark Electric* filed a *MR* on the decision of the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the *MR* is pending decision by the *ERC*.

On March 31, 2017, *Clark Electric* filed with the *ERC* its second application for the approval of the calculations for the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanism for generation, transmission and system loss rates which covered years 2014, 2015 and 2016. A public hearing was held on October 25, 2017. On March 5, 2020, *Clark Electric* received an *ERC* Order dated December 9, 2019 directing *Clark Electric* to refund over-recoveries of transmission costs amounting to ₱22 million and to collect under-recoveries of generation and system loss costs amounting to ₱6 million and ₱4 million, respectively. Refund and collection of under- or over-recoveries of these pass-through charges is for a period of six (6) months starting the next billing period from the receipt of the *ERC* Order or such time that the full amount shall have been refunded.

Deferred Purchase Price Adjustment

On October 12, 2009, the *ERC* released its findings on *MERALCO*'s implementation of the collection of the approved pass-through cost under-recoveries for the period June 2003 to January 2007. The *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to refund to its customers ₱268 million of deferred purchase power adjustment (“*PPA*”) transmission line costs related to Quezon Power (Philippines) Limited Company (“*QPPL*”) and deferred accounting adjustments incurred along with ₱184 million in carrying charges, or an equivalent ₱0.0169 per *kWh*. *MERALCO* implemented the refund beginning November 2009 until September 2010. However, the *ERC* has yet to rule on *MERALCO*'s deferred purchase price adjustment under-recoveries of ₱106 million, which is not a transmission line fee. On November 4, 2009, *MERALCO* filed an *MR* with the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the *MR* is still pending resolution by the *ERC*.

Applications for Recovery of Local Franchise Tax (“LFT”)

MERALCO has filed distinct applications or provisional authority to implement new *LFT* rates based on Ordinances from the cities of Manila, Quezon City, Binan, Makati, Valenzuela, Taguig and Pasig. Some hearings have been completed and are awaiting final approval. Application for recovery of taxes paid have been filed and pending Decision by the *ERC*.

3. *RCOA*

The transition period for *RCOA* commenced on December 26, 2012 in accordance with the joint statement released by the *ERC* and the *DOE* on September 27, 2012 and the Transitory Rules for the Implementation of *RCOA* (*ERC* Resolution No. 16, Series of 2012). The commercial operations of *RCOA* started on June 26, 2013.

On March 31, 2014, the *ERC* issued a Resolution on the Withdrawal of the Rules on Customer Switching and the Retention of the Code of Conduct for Competitive Retail Market Participants. On the same date, the *ERC* also issued a Resolution adopting the Rules on the Establishment of Customer Information by the Central Registration Body (“*CRB*”) and Reportorial Requirements, mandating all *DUs* to submit to the *ERC* and *CRB* information on end-users with (i) monthly average peak demand of at least one (1) *MW* for the preceding 12 months; and (ii) monthly average peak demand of 750 *kW* but not greater than 999 *kW*. The *ERC* will use these information in issuing the certificates of contestability.

On October 22, 2014, the *ERC* issued a resolution suspending the issuance of *RES* licenses. Under the resolution, the *ERC* resolves to hold in abeyance the evaluation of *RES* license applications and suspend the issuance of such licenses until such time that the amendments to the Rules for the issuance of *RES* licenses have been made by the *ERC*.

On July 1, 2015, the *DOE* published a Department Circular “Providing Policies to Facilitate the Full Implementation of *RCOA* in the Philippine Electric Power Industry”. The Circular essentially provided for mandatory contestability.

On March 8, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 05 Series of 2016 entitled “A Resolution Adopting the 2016 Rules Governing the Issuance of Licenses to Retail Electricity Suppliers (*RES*) and Prescribing the Requirements and Conditions Therefor”. The Resolution removed the term local *RES* as one of the entities that may engage in the business of supplying electricity to the contestable market without need of obtaining a license therefor from the *ERC*. Moreover, while an affiliate of a *DU* is allowed to become a *RES*, the allowance is “subject to restrictions imposed by the *ERC* on market share limits and the conduct of business activities”.

On May 12, 2016, the *ERC* issued Resolutions No. 10 and 11, Series of 2016, which:

1. Provided for mandatory contestability. Failure of a contestable customer to switch to *RES* upon date of mandatory contestability (December 26, 2016 for those with average demand of at least one (1) *MW* and June 26, 2017 for at least 750 *MW*) shall result in the physical disconnection from the *DU* system unless it is served by the supplier of last resort (“*SOLR*”), or, if applicable, procures power from the *WESM*;

2. Prohibits *DUs* from engaging in the supply of electricity to the contestable market except in its capacity as a *SOLR*;
3. Mandates Local *RESs* to wind down their supply businesses within a period of three (3) years;
4. Imposes upon all *RESs*, including *DU*-affiliate *RESs*, a market-share cap of 30% of the total average monthly peak demand of all contestable customers in the competitive retail electricity market; and,
5. Prohibits *RESs* from transacting more than 50% of the total energy transactions of its supply business, with its affiliate contestable customers.

On May 27, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a Petition before *RTC-Pasig*, praying that: (a) a *TRO* and subsequently a Writ of Preliminary Injunction (“*WPI*”) enjoining the *DOE* and *ERC* from implementing the assailed rules be issued; and the assailed rules be declared null and void for being contrary to the *EPIRA* and its *IRR*. In an Order dated June 13, 2016, *RTC-Pasig* granted a 20-day *TRO*, which became effective on June 16, 2016. In an Order dated July 13, 2016, *RTC-Pasig* granted a *WPI*, which became effective on July 14, 2016, and shall be effective for the duration of the pendency of the Petition.

Meanwhile, the *ERC* filed a Petition for Certiorari and Prohibition with prayer for *TRO* and/or *WPI* before the *SC*, which asserted that *RTC-Pasig* has no jurisdiction to take cognizance of *MERALCO*’s Petition, citing Sec. 78 of the *EPIRA*. A similar petition was subsequently filed by the *DOE* before the *SC*.

On October 10, 2016, the *SC*, in relation to the Petition filed by the *DOE*, issued a *TRO* that restrained, *MERALCO*, the *RTC-Pasig*, their representatives, agents or other persons acting on their behalf from continuing the proceedings before the *RTC-Pasig*, and from enforcing all orders, resolutions and decisions rendered in Special Civil Action No. 4149 until the petition before the *SC* is finally resolved. In a Resolution dated November 9, 2016, the *SC* denied *MERALCO*’s *MR*.

On November 2, 2016, in relation to the Petition filed by the *ERC*, the *SC* issued a Resolution dated September 26, 2016, which partially granted the Petition of the *ERC*. While the *SC* allowed the *RTC-Pasig* to proceed with the principal case of declaratory relief, it nonetheless issued a Preliminary Mandatory Injunction (“*PMI*”) against *RTC-Pasig* to vacate the preliminary injunction it previously issued, and Preliminary Injunction (“*PI*”) ordering the *RTC-Pasig* to refrain issuing further orders and resolutions tending to enjoin the implementation of *EPIRA*. On November 14, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration with Very Urgent Motion to lift *PMI/PI*.

On November 24, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated a resolution moving the contestability date of end users with an average monthly peak demand of at least one (1) *MW* from December 31, 2016 to February 26, 2017. On January 17, 2017, *MERALCO*, through its counsel, received an *SC* Resolution dated December 5, 2016, which consolidated the *SC DOE* Petition with the *SC ERC* Petition. The same resolution also denied the Motion for Partial Reconsideration filed by *MERALCO*.

In relation to the *ERC* and *DOE* Petitions, a separate Petition for Certiorari, Prohibition and Injunction was filed by several institutional customers. In said Petition, said customers sought to declare as null and void, as well as to enjoin the *DOE* and *ERC* from implementing *DOE* Circular No. 2015-06-0010 and *ERC* Resolution Nos. 5, 10, 11 and 28, Series of 2016. Acting on the Petition, the *SC en banc* through a Resolution dated February 21, 2017, issued a *TRO* enjoining the *DOE* and the *ERC* from implementing *DOE* Circular No. 2015-06-0010 and *ERC* Resolution Nos. 5, 10, 11 and 28, Series of 2016. Pursuant to the foregoing, *PEMC* has taken the position that the *TRO* enjoined the voluntary contestability of 750 *kW* to 999 *kW* customers and has not allowed them to switch to the contestable market. The *DOE*, in a press release, has advised that it is in the process, together with *PEMC* and *ERC*, of drafting a general advisory for the guidance of *RCOA* stakeholders. The *PCCI* petition was consolidated with two (2) other separate petitions filed by an educational institution and several *DUs*. The *DOE* and *ERC* have also filed a consolidated comment on these petitions.

On November 29, 2017, the *DOE* issued two (2) *DOE* Circulars, namely: DC 2017-12-0013, entitled, Providing Policies on the Implementation of *RCOA* for Contestable Customers in the Philippines Electric Power Industry and DC 2017-12-0014, entitled Providing Policies on the Implementation of *RCOA* for *RES* in the Philippine Electric Power Industry. The *DOE* Circulars became effective on December 24, 2017.

Under the *DOE* Circular No. DC 2017-12-0013, it is provided that voluntary participation for contestable customers under *RCOA*-Phase 2 shall now be allowed upon effectivity of said Circular, while voluntary participation of contestable customers with a monthly average peak demand of 500 *kW* to 749 *kW* for the preceding 12 months and demand aggregation for electricity end users within a contiguous area with an aggregate average peak demand of not less than 500 *kW* for the preceding 12-month period, will also be allowed by June 26, 2018 and December 26, 2018, respectively.

On December 22, 2017, *MERALCO* wrote the *ERC* and *DOE* to seek guidance on the impact of the *DOE* Circulars in the light of the *TRO* issued by the *SC*. On January 17, 2018, the *DOE* responded that there is no legal impediment to the implementation of the *DOE* Circulars but it defers to the *OSG* for guidance on the legal aspect of the issuances. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to respond to *MERALCO*'s letter.

In a Notice dated September 23, 2020, the *ERC* released its draft "Resolution Prescribing the Timeline for the Implementation of *RCOA*" for comments of interested parties. *MERALCO* submitted its comments thereto.

4. Interim Pre-Emptive Mitigating Measure in the *WESM*

On May 5, 2014, the *ERC* issued Resolution No 8, Series of 2014, setting an interim pre-emptive mitigating measure in the *WESM*, which established a price threshold in the *WESM* applied over a 72-hour period, which is determined through a rolling average generated weighted average price ("GWAP") of ₱8,186 per *MWh*. Also, a secondary cap amounting to ₱6,245 per *MWh* is imposed upon a breach of the threshold, or secondary cap mechanism. Such interim measure aims to mitigate sustained high prices in the *WESM* during the May and June 2014 supply months. On June 16, 2014, the *ERC* issued another resolution extending the effectivity of the pre-emptive mitigating measure for 45 days from expiration or until August 9, 2014. Public consultation and a subsequent focus group discussion were held on July 23 and 25, 2014, respectively. On August 5, 2014, the *ERC* resolved to (i) adopt a permanent pre-emptive mitigating measure that will be applied in the *WESM*; (ii) direct all interested stakeholders to submit their proposed measures within 20 days from effectivity of such resolution; and (iii) extend the effectivity of the secondary cap mechanism for a period of 120 days from August 10, 2014 or until the *ERC* establishes a permanent pre-emptive mitigating measure in the *WESM*, whichever comes earlier.

On September 29, 2014, the *ERC* conducted a public consultation on the proposed permanent pre-emptive mitigating measures in the *WESM*. Parties were then given until October 7, 2014 to file their additional comments, if any.

On October 24, 2014, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee issued a Joint Resolution to further extend the interim offer price cap in the *WESM* for 120 days starting October 24, 2014 to harmonize with the finalization of the permanent pre-emptive mitigating measure which shall be applied in the *WESM*. On February 20, 2015, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee issued a joint resolution which extended further the imposition of the interim *WESM* offer price cap at its current level until September 30, 2015.

In December 2014, in its Resolution No. 20, Series of 2014, the *ERC* adopted and established a permanent pre-emptive mitigation measure in the *WESM*. The *ERC* set a cumulative price threshold ("CPT") amounting to an average spot price of ₱9,000 per *MWh* over a rolling 7-day period or 168-hour trading interval. Once this *CPT* for said period is breached, it triggers the imposition of a price cap amounting to ₱6,245 per *MWh*. The price cap shall be imposed until after a determination that succeeding *GWAP* rolling average is already below the *CPT*. The pre-emptive measure has taken effect beginning January 9, 2015.

The imposition of the mitigating measure was questioned by the Philippine Independent Power Producers Association ("*PIPPA*") in the *RTC-Pasig* through a Petition for Declaratory Relief with Application for *TRO* and/or Writ of Preliminary Injunction. The Petition prayed for, among others, that the *ERC* Resolutions pertaining to the secondary cap mechanism be declared void *ab initio*. The original petition was subsequently amended to reflect the promulgation of the subsequent *ERC* resolutions extending the effectivity of the *WESM* price cap. On July 21, 2014, *MERALCO* filed its Motion for Leave to Intervene and to Admit Attached Comment in Intervention. The *RTC-Pasig* admitted *MERALCO*'s intervention and comment in its Order dated October 28, 2014. However, in a Motion for Leave to Admit Supplement Petition, *PIPPA* moved for leave to file a supplemental petition to include *ERC* Resolution No. 20, Series of 2014 which provides for a permanent

mitigating measure in the *WESM*. In an Order dated May 5, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* denied the Motion for Leave to File and Admit Supplemental Petition. *PIPPA* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration which was denied by the *RTC-Pasig* in its Resolution dated September 10, 2015. *PIPPA* filed a Petition for Certiorari with the *CA*. The *CA* denied the Petition for Certiorari in its Decision dated June 9, 2017. *PIPPA* filed a *MR* dated July 19, 2017. In a Resolution dated August 16, 2017, the parties were directed to file their comments to the *PIPPA*'s *MR*. *MERALCO* has filed its comment on the *MR*. On April 4, 2018, the *CA* rendered a resolution denying the *MR* filed by *PIPPA*.

On September 29, 2015, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee issued a Joint Resolution further extending the interim offer price cap of ₱32,000 per *MWh* until December 31, 2015. In its Joint Resolution No. 3, Series of 2015, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee resolved to set the *WESM* offer price cap at ₱32,000 per *MWh* and the *WESM* offer price floor of negative ₱10,000 per *MWh* effective January 2016, provided that an annual review shall be undertaken considering the relevant costs assumptions at the time of review.

On December 7, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* rendered a Decision dismissing the Petition for Declaratory Relief. The *MR* filed by *PIPPA* was denied in a Resolution dated June 16, 2016. *PIPPA* appealed the *RTC-Pasig* Decision with the *SC*. *MERALCO* has filed its comment thereto. *PIPPA* filed a Consolidated Reply on July 17, 2017. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending before the *SC*.

On May 9, 2017, the *ERC* issued Resolution No. 4, Series of 2017, entitled, "A Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Pre-emptive Mitigating Measure in the *WESM*". They adopted a recalculated cumulative price threshold level of ₱1,080,000 and a shorter five (5)-day (120-hour) rolling average period. This is equivalent to ₱9,000 per *MWh* over said period.

5. Philippine Economic Zone Authority ("PEZA") – *ERC* Jurisdiction

On September 13, 2007, *PEZA* issued "Guidelines in the Registration of Electric Power Generation Facilities/Utilities/Entities Operating Inside the Ecozones" and "Guidelines for the Supply of Electric Power in Ecozones" ("*Guidelines*"). Under these Guidelines, *PEZA* effectively bestowed upon itself franchising and regulatory powers in Ecozones operating within the legislative franchise areas of *DUs* which are under the legislatively-authorized regulatory jurisdiction of the *ERC*. The *Guidelines* are the subject of an injunction case filed by the *DUs* in *RTC-Pasig*.

On February 4, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* issued an Order setting a clarificatory hearing on April 15, 2015. During the said hearing, *MERALCO* manifested that it previously filed a Motion to Withdraw as plaintiff on the basis of letter agreements between *MERALCO* and *PEZA*, which is pending before the *RTC-Pasig*. *MERALCO* submitted the Tripartite Agreement among *PEZA*, *PEPOA* and *MERALCO* for approval of the *RTC-Pasig*. In a Decision dated July 3, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* approved the Compromise Agreement between *PEZA*, *PEPOA* and *MERALCO*. In the hearing on February 10, 2016, the *RTC-Pasig* dismissed the petition upon motion by *PEZA*. The *ERC* filed a *MR* which is pending resolution by the *RTC-Pasig*.

6. *SC* Decision on the ₱0.167 per *kWh* Refund

Following the *SC*'s final ruling that directed *MERALCO* to refund affected customers ₱0.167 per *kWh* for billings made from February 1994 to April 2003, the *ERC* approved the release of the refund in four (4) phases. On December 18, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Motion seeking the *ERC*'s approval for the continuation of the implementation of the refund to eligible accounts or customers under Phases I to IV, three (3) years from January 1, 2016 or until December 31, 2018. In said Motion, *MERALCO* likewise manifested to the *ERC* that, in order to give eligible customers the opportunity to claim their refund, and, so as not to disrupt the *SC* Refund process, *MERALCO* shall continue implementing the refund even after the December 2015 deadline, until and unless the *ERC* directs otherwise. In its Order dated February 4, 2019, the *ERC* granted *MERALCO*'s Motion and authorized *MERALCO* to continue with the implementation of the *SC* Refund to eligible accounts or customers under Phases I to IV until June 30, 2019 and submit a proposed scheme on how the unclaimed refund will be utilized for purposes of reducing the distribution rates of customers. On February 18, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Partial Compliance with Manifestation and Motion. On March 8, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Compliance with Manifestation and Motion. On July 12, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Manifestation informing the *ERC* that on July 1, 2019, *MERALCO* deposited all the unclaimed amounts of the *SC* Refund as of June 30, 2019 in a separate bank account. *MERALCO* further manifested in said Compliance that it shall

continue with the processing of the refund claims of eligible customers and should the refund claims of these customers be evaluated to be valid, *MERALCO* shall, for the benefit of the customers, withdraw the refund amount from the bank account, release the same to the concerned customers and accordingly inform the *ERC* of the refunds paid. On September 10, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Manifestation and Motion with respect to the Order dated December 19, 2018 of the *ERC*. The *ERC* has yet to rule on the Urgent Manifestation and Motion by *MERALCO*. In its letter dated July 23, 2020 *MERALCO* informed the *ERC* of the updated balance of the SC Refund. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* continues to process the refund claims of eligible customers.

7. Purchase of Subtransmission Assets (“STAs”)

On April 17, 2012, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* filed a joint application for the approval of the Batch 4 contract to sell with the *ERC*. On April 22, 2013, the *ERC* issued a Decision on *MERALCO*’s joint application for the acquisition of the Batch 4 contract to sell. On June 21, 2013 and July 3, 2013, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration and *MR*, respectively, regarding the exclusion of certain facilities for acquisition.

On May 22, 2014, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* received an *ERC* Order dated May 5, 2014 denying *MERALCO* and *TransCo*’s Motions. On June 5, 2014, *MERALCO* filed a clarificatory motion and a *MR* of the May 5, 2014 *ERC* Order, which was denied by the *ERC* through an Order dated June 16, 2014. On October 10, 2014, *MERALCO* filed a Motion to Reopen Proceedings for the reception of new evidence to support *MERALCO*’s position on the acquisition of excluded STAs. The Motion was heard by the *ERC* on October 17, 2014. After the parties have submitted their respective comments and pleadings, the *ERC* conducted another hearing on February 23, 2015.

In an Order dated March 4, 2015, the *ERC* considered but denied the new and substantive allegations in *MERALCO*’s Motion to Reopen Proceedings. *MERALCO* then filed a Petition for Review with the *CA* to question the Orders of the *ERC*. In a Decision dated August 12, 2016, the *CA* dismissed the Petition. On September 17, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a *MR*. In an Amended Decision dated September 15, 2017, the *CA* granted *MERALCO*’s *MR* and approved the sale of the Dasmarinas-Abubot-Rosario 115 kV line and Rosario substation equipment in favor of *MERALCO*. *NGCP* filed a *MR* (of the Amended Decision) dated October 4, 2017. In a Resolution dated May 31, 2018, the *CA* denied the *MR*. *NGCP* filed a Petition for Review with the *SC*.

On March 20, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a case for “Interpleader with Consignation and Specific Performance” against *TransCo* and the Municipality of Labrador, Pangasinan (“*Labrador*”) with the *RTC-Pasig*, praying for the *RTC-Pasig* to (i) accept and approved the consignation of the amount of ₱194.1 million; (ii) declare *MERALCO* to have paid in full the purchase price of the sale of *TransCo*’s assets; (iii) direct *TransCo* to execute the corresponding Deeds of Absolute Sale; and (iv) direct *Labrador* and *TransCo* to interplead their respective claims. On April 14 and 20, 2015, *Labrador* and *TransCo* filed their respective Motions to Dismiss on the ground of impropriety of the filing of the Interpleader and on the ground of *litis pendentia*. *MERALCO* received an Order from *RTC-Pasig* granting the Motions to Dismiss of both *TransCo* and *Labrador*. *MERALCO* filed a *MR* which was denied by the *RTC-Pasig*. *MERALCO* appealed the Decision with the *CA*, which granted the appeal, and remanded the interpleader case to the trial court for proper disposition. The *CA* decision already attained finality as of May 25, 2018. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* have finalized the contract to sell and the same is for signature of *TransCo*.

On December 15, 2016, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* filed a joint application for the approval of the Batch 3 contract to sell with the *ERC*. Hearings were conducted on August 10, 2018 and October 15, 2018. The *ERC* has yet to set the next scheduled hearing of the case.

8. Feed-in-Tariff (“FiT”)

Pursuant to RA No. 9513, or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 (“RE Act”), the ERC issued Resolution No. 16, Series of 2010, Adopting the *FiT* Rules, on July 23, 2010. As defined under the *FiT* Rules, the *FiT* system is a renewable energy policy that offers guaranteed payments on a fixed rate per *kWh* for electricity from wind, solar, ocean, hydropower and biomass energy sources, excluding any generation for own use. To fund the *FiT* payments to eligible *RE* developers, a *FiT-All* charge shall be imposed on all end-users. The *FiT-All* will be established by the ERC upon petition by *TransCo*, which had been designated as the *FiT* Fund Administrator.

On February 5, 2014, the ERC released the *FiT-All* disbursement and Collection Guidelines (“*FiT Guidelines*”) to supplement the *FiT* Rules. This set of guidelines will govern how the *FiT-All* will be calculated using the formulae provided. It will also outline the process of billing and collecting the *FiT-All* from the electricity consumers, the remittance to a specified fund, the disbursement from the *FiT-All* fund and the payment to eligible *RE* developers.

Starting 2014, *TransCo* applied for the following *FiT-All* rates with the ERC, and the ERC rendered a Decision approving the following *FiT-All* rates for the respective years:

Year	Applied Rate per <i>kWh</i>	Approved Rate per <i>kWh</i>	Date Approved
2014-2015	₱0.0406	₱0.0406	December 10, 2015
2016	0.1025	0.1830	May 9, 2017
2017	0.2291	0.2563	February 27, 2018
2018	0.2932	0.2226	March 12, 2019
2019	0.2780	0.0495	October 28, 2019
2020	0.2278	–	Pending ERC Decision

On December 23, 2014, *MERALCO* received a copy of a Petition for Prohibition and Certiorari filed with the SC against the ERC, DOE, *TransCo*, NREB and *MERALCO*. The Petition seeks (i) the issuance of a *TRO* and/or *WPI*, and after giving due course to the Petition, a Writ of Prohibition to enjoin the respondents from implementing the *FiT-All*, the *FiT* Rules and *FiT Guidelines*; and (ii) the annulment of the *FiT* Rules and *FiT Guidelines*. The parties have been directed to submit their respective memoranda.

In a Decision dated October 6, 2015, the ERC set the Wind *FiT* at ₱7.40 per *kWh*. *MERALCO* filed a *MR* on the Decision. As at October 26, 2020, the *MR* is pending further action of the ERC.

On September 29, 2016, Alternergy Wind One Corporation, Petrowind Energy, Inc. and Trans-Asia Renewable Energy Corporation filed a Petition to Initiate Rule-Making to adjust the Wind *FIT* rate of ₱7.40 per *kWh* to ₱7.93 per *kWh*. *MERALCO* filed an intervention in the case. The hearing on the Petition was set on January 6, 2017. *MERALCO*’s motion on the propriety of the petition has been submitted for the resolution of the ERC. As at October 26, 2020, the said petition is ongoing and remains pending with the ERC.

9. Net Metering Program

The *RE Act* mandates the *DUs* to provide the mechanism for the “physical connection and commercial arrangements necessary to ensure the success of the *RE* programs”, specifically the Net Metering Program. The *RE Act* defines Net Metering as “a system, appropriate for distributed generation, in which a distribution grid user has a two-way connection to the grid and is only charged for his net electricity consumption and is credited for any overall contribution to the electricity grid”. By their nature, net metering installations will be small (less than 100 *kW*) and will likely be adopted by households and small business end-users of *DUs*.

After consultations with stakeholders, the ERC issued on July 3, 2013 its Resolution No. 09, Series of 2013, entitled, “A Resolution Adopting the Rules enabling the Net Metering Program for Renewable Energy”. The Rules will govern the *DUs*’ implementation of the Net Metering Program. Included in the Rules are the interconnection standards that shall provide technical guidance to address engineering, electric system

reliability, and safety concerns for net metering interconnections. However, the final pricing methodology to determine the rate at which energy exported back to the distribution system by Net Metering Program participants will be addressed in another set of rules by the *ERC* in due course. In the meantime, the *DUs'* blended generation cost equivalent to the generation charge shall be used as the preliminary reference price in the net metering agreement. The Rules took effect on July 24, 2013. Under *ERC* Resolution No. 6, Series of 2019, entitled, "A Resolution Adopting the Amendments to the Rules enabling the Net Metering Program for Renewable Energy", the *ERC* adopted amendments to the Net Metering Rules. As at September 30, 2020, *MERALCO* has already installed 3,113 meters and energized 2,957 743 net metering customers.

10. Recovery of National Power Corporation's ("NPC") Stranded Contract Costs

In an Order dated May 22, 2018, the *ERC* approved *PSALM's* petition for the recovery of *NPC's* stranded contract costs portion of the universal charge ("UC-SCC"). Accordingly, *PSALM* is hereby authorized to recover the stranded contract costs for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao grids totaling ₱8,547 million with a monthly rate of ₱0.1938 per *kWh* starting May 2018 billing period until the full amount has been recovered.

On January 14, 2019, *MERALCO* received a letter dated December 28, 2018 from *PSALM* advising *MERALCO* to cease the implementation of the collection of the ₱0.1938 per *kWh* for the recovery of the additional SCC effective January 2019 as it already recovered the full amount of the stranded contract costs. This was after *MERALCO* had already completed the billing program for January 2019. Accordingly, on February 6, 2019, *MERALCO* wrote the *ERC* proposing to reverse the said collections of the additional UC-SCC. On February 7, 2019, *MERALCO* received a letter from the *ERC* which allowed the full reversal of the subject UC-SCC in its February billing equivalent to ₱0.3876 per *kWh*, without prejudice to further validation by the *ERC* as to the final amounts due.

In its letter dated January 15, 2020, *MERALCO* informed the *ERC* that it accumulated additional total excess UC-SCC collections in the amount of ₱545 million and proposed to implement another reversal to its customers in the amount of ₱0.1453 per *kWh* for the month of February 2020. In its letter dated February 6, 2020, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to implement the refund, subject to post-validation. *MERALCO* was then directed to provide additional information as well as status report to the *ERC* with respect to the implementation of refund. In a letter dated April 15, 2020, *MERALCO* informed the *ERC* that it implemented the refund starting its March 2020 billing but requested for additional time to provide the additional information requested in the light of the *ECQ*.

On March 4, 2020, *MERALCO* received a letter dated March 3, 2020, directing it to comment on a petition filed by a consumer group which sought to stop the collection of UC-SCC and stranded debts portion of the universal charge ("UC-SD") from consumers because of the Murang Kuryente Act. *MERALCO* filed its comment on March 16, 2020.

In a Decision dated April 10, 2019, the *ERC* approved with modification *PSALM's* petition for the availment of the *NPC's* stranded contract costs portion of the universal charge for calendar year 2014. *PSALM* is hereby authorized to recover the UC-SCC for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao grids totaling ₱5,117 million with a monthly rate of ₱0.0543 per *kWh* within a period of 12 months.

11. Interruptible Load Program ("ILP")

In an *ERC* Order dated April 11, 2014, the *ERC* approved with modification *MERALCO's* request that it be allowed to adopt and implement the *ILP*. *ILP* protocols, compensation and recovery mechanism are governed by *ERC* Resolution No. 5, Series of 2015 "A Resolution Adopting the Amended Rules to Govern the Interruptible Load Program", *DOE* Circular No. DC2015-06-0003 "Providing the Interim Manner for Declaring Bilateral Contract Quantities in the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market and Directing the Philippine Electricity Market Corporation to Establish Necessary Protocols to Complement the Interruptible Load Program" and *ERC* Resolution No. 3, Series of 2019 "A Resolution Clarifying Section 3, Article III of the Amended Interruptible Load Program Rules".

As at September 30, 2020, there are 129 companies with a total committed de-loading capacity of 425 MW that have signed up with *MERALCO*, *MPower* and with other retail electricity suppliers as *ILP* participants.

12. Long-term Indebtedness Application

On June 25, 2015, *MERALCO* filed an application, with prayer for provisional authority, for continuing authority to (a) issue bonds or other evidence of indebtedness for as long as it maintains 50:50 long-term debt to equity ratio; and (b) whenever necessary, to mortgage, pledge or encumber any of its property to any creditor in connection with its authority to issue bonds or any other evidence of long-term indebtedness. The hearing on the application was conducted on October 6, 2015. In an Order dated October 12, 2015, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to submit additional documents in support of its application which *MERALCO* complied with. However, due to changes in the financial climate which may affect the terms and conditions of any financial borrowings, *MERALCO* has filed a Motion to withdraw the application without prejudice to its refiling at a later date. In an Order dated March 22, 2016, the *ERC* granted *MERALCO*'s Motion to Withdraw but still required *MERALCO* to submit certain documents. *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration questioning the requirement which is pending before the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to resolve *MERALCO*'s Motion for Partial Reconsideration.

On October 29, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an application, with prayer for provisional authority, for continuing authority to (a) issue bonds or other evidence of indebtedness; and (b) whenever necessary, to mortgage, pledge or encumber any of its property to any creditor in connection with its authority to issue bonds or any other evidence of long-term indebtedness. As at October 26, 2020, hearings on the case are ongoing.

13. Prepaid Retail Electricity Service ("*PRES*")

On December 12, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an application for authority to offer and provide *PRES* to its customers as well as the applicable rules to govern *PRES*. In a Decision dated April 27, 2015, the *ERC* approved the application with modification. As at September 30, 2020, there are 102,136 customers availing of *PRES*.

14. CSP for PSAs

As early as February 2013, the *ERC* posted the first draft of rules on *PSA* approval, solicited comments from stakeholders thereon and conducted various focused group discussions. Said draft required *DUs* to undergo *CSP* in their supply procurement, required a specific procedure for such and prescribed a *PSA* template.

Meanwhile, in October 2014, the *DOE* issued for comments its draft Circular on Demand Aggregation and Supply Auctioning Policy ("*DASAP*"). This was likewise subjected to public consultations.

In June 2015, *DOE* promulgated *DOE* Circular No. 2015-06-0008, "Providing Policies for Further Enhancement of the *WESM* Design and Operations" ("*2015 DOE Circular*"), prescribing *DUs* to procure all its uncontracted demand through *CSP*, through the participation of a third party and which may be done by *DUs* on an aggregated basis. The *2015 DOE Circular* gave the *DOE* and *ERC* 120 days to issue the necessary Implementing Guidelines ("*IG*"). Instead of issuing an *IG*, in a Joint Resolution dated October 20, 2015, it was agreed by *DOE* and the *ERC* that the latter shall be the one to issue the relevant *CSP* regulations. On the same date, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015.

ERC Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015 included the following provisions:

- All *DUs* are required to undergo *CSP*. Pending the *ERC*'s issuance of a prescribed process, *DUs* may adopt any accepted form of *CSP*, provided that the terms of reference shall include, among others, the following – (a) contract capacity or energy volume, (b) generation source, (c) method of fuel procurement, (d) contract period, (e) tariff structure, (f) Philippine peso or foreign currency denominated payment, (g) penalties, (h) applicable transmission projects, and (i) other key parameters.
- A *CSP* is successful if there are at least two (2) qualified bids. Should there be at least two (2) failed bids, then a *DU* can proceed with direct negotiation.
- The *CSP* requirement shall apply to *PSAs* that although executed, have not yet been filed for approval before the *ERC*.

On March 15, 2016, the *ERC* released Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016 entitled, "A Resolution Clarifying the Effectivity of *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015". In this new Resolution, the *ERC* clarified that after judicious study and due consideration of views raised by different industry stakeholders, it has resolved that:

- The effectivity of *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015 is hereby restated to be April 30, 2016.
- On the other forms of *CSP* referred to in Section 2 of the *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015, these should likewise comply with the minimum terms of reference and the requirement of at least two (2) qualified bids for the *CSP* to be considered successful.

In reference to *PSAs* with provisions allowing the automatic renewal or extension of their term, *PSAs* that were previously approved by the *ERC* or filed with the *ERC* before the effectivity of this Resolution may have one (1) automatic renewal or extension for a period not exceeding one (1) year from the end of their respective terms. Upon effectivity of this Resolution, automatic renewal clauses or extension of *PSAs* shall no longer be permitted.

On November 18, 2016, *MERALCO* received a copy of the Petition dated April 28, 2016 filed by a consumer group in the *SC* against the *ERC*, *DOE*, *MERALCO*, *Central Luzon Power*, *St. Raphael*, *PEDC*, *Mariveles Power*, *A1E*, *RP Energy* and the *PCC* which sought to declare as void Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016 and to mandate the *ERC* to disapprove all *PSA* applications for failing to comply with the *CSP* requirement.

In the meantime, on February 9, 2018, the *DOE* published a *DOE* Circular entitled, "Adopting and Prescribing the Policy for the Competitive Selection Process in the Procurement by Distribution Utilities of Power Supply Agreements for the Captive Market" ("*2018 DOE Circular*"). Upon effectivity of the Circular, all prospective *PSAs* in grid and off-grid areas shall be procured through *CSP*. The *CSP* under the *2018 DOE Circular* involves publication of invitation to bid, pre-bid conference, bid evaluation, and pre-/post-qualification of winning bidder. Exemption from *CSP* may be granted by the *DOE* in the following instances:

- a. Generation project owned by the *DU* funded by grant or donations
- b. Negotiated procurement of emergency supply
- c. Provision of supply in off-grid areas prior to the entry of New Power Providers
- d. Provision of supply by *PSALM* through bilateral contracts for power produced from undisposed generating assets and *IPP* contracts sanctioned by *EPIRA*

PSAs that were granted exemption from *CSP* shall be implemented by the *DU* immediately without prejudice to the evaluation and final decision of the *ERC*.

The *DU*'s *CSP* may be managed by a Third Party Bids and Awards Committee ("*TPBAC*") or a Third Party Administrator ("*TPA*"). The *DU*'s *TPBAC* shall be composed of the following (a) one (1) *DU* officer or employee knowledgeable in the technical operations of the *DU*; (b) One (1) *DU* officer or employee with knowledge and/or experience with any local or international competitive bidding procedures; (c) one (1) lawyer; (d) one (1) finance officer or accountant that has knowledge on electricity pricing; and (e) one (1) technical person, or a person with knowledge and/or experience with any local or international competitive bidding procedures. Any two of the last three (3) members shall be captive customer representatives. The selection process of the representatives of the captive customers to the *DU*'s *TPBAC* shall be submitted to the *DOE* for approval. The *DOE* has already approved the selection process of *MERALCO*'s *TPBAC* captive customer representatives.

Each *CSP* shall be completed within five (5) months from the time of the publication of the Invitation to Bid until submission of the *PSA* to the *ERC*.

Direct negotiations may be made by the *DUs* after at least two (2) failed *CSPs* and there is no outstanding dispute on the conducted *CSP*. A *CSP* is considered failed when during its conduct:

- i. No proposal was received by the *DU*
- ii. Only one (1) generator submitted an offer
- iii. Competitive offers of prospective generators failed to meet the requirements prescribed in the bid document.

Within 60 days upon effectivity of the *2018 DOE Circular*, the *ERC* shall develop rules and procedures to: (i) support the Circular, including guidelines for *TPA* accreditation and a *PSA* template, and (ii) address disputes arising from the conduct of the *CSP*. On April 26, 2018, the *ERC* posted in its website the draft "Rules Governing the Execution, Review and Evaluation of *PSA* Entered into by Distribution Utilities for the Supply of their Captive Market". *ERC* has conducted a public consultation and received comments thereon. On September 28, 2018, the *ERC* posted on its website the second draft of the said Rules. *ERC* has conducted another round of public consultations and received comments thereon. On March 14, 2019, the *ERC* posted on its website the third draft of the said Rules. The *ERC* received comments thereon. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting the rules and procedures to be promulgated by the *ERC*.

On May 17, 2019, *MERALCO* received a copy of the *SC*'s Decision dated May 3, 2019 in the *SC* case. The Decision declared the first paragraph of Section 4 of *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015 (*CSP* Guidelines), and *ERC* Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016 (*ERC* Clarificatory Resolution), as void. As such, all *PSA* applications submitted by *DUs* to the *ERC* on or after June 30, 2015 shall comply with the Competitive Selection Process and the purchased power cost resulting from such compliance shall retroact to the date of effectivity of the complying *PSA*, but in no case earlier than June 30, 2015, for purposes of passing on the purchased power cost to consumers. The Decision highlighted that the *ERC* does not have statutory authority to postpone effectivity date of *CSP*, and thereby cannot amend the 2015 *DOE* Circular. Consequently, the 90 *PSAs* submitted to the *ERC* after effectivity of *CSP* on or after June 30, 2015 cannot serve as basis to pass on purchased power cost to consumers; and the *ERC* must require *CSP* for all *PSA* applications submitted on or after June 30, 2015. Moreover, the Decision pronounced that, by virtue of *DOE*'s issuance of the *2018 DOE Circular* in February 2018, which contained the *DOE*'s guidelines on the implementation of *CSP*, the *DOE* revoked the authority it delegated to the *ERC* to issue supplemental guidelines to implement *CSP*. *MERALCO* did not file a motion for reconsideration of the Decision.

In compliance with the *SC* Decision of the *ABP Case*, *MERALCO* constituted its *TPBAC* to conduct *CSP* in accordance with the *2018 DOE Circular* and its submitted Power Supply Procurement Plan for 2019. Three (3) Invitations to Bid inviting interested and qualified parties to participate in *MERALCO*'s *CSP* for 3 sets of *PSAs* involving (i) 1,200 *MW* baseload capacity by December 26, 2019, (ii) 500 *MW* mid-merit capacity by December 26, 2019, and (iii) 1,200 *MW* baseload capacity from greenfield power plant by 2024, were published on July 12, 15, and 16, 2019, respectively. On September 13, 2019, *MERALCO* signed 3 *PSAs* for baseload capacity with *AC Energy* for 200 *MW*, *SMEC* for 330 *MW*, and *SPPC* for 670 *MW*. On September 16, 2019, *MERALCO* signed 3 *PSAs* for mid-merit capacity with First Gen Hydro Power Corporation ("*First Gen Hydro*") for 100 *MW*, *AC Energy* for 110 *MW*, and *SPPC* for 290 *MW*. On October 22, 2019, the joint applications for approval of these 6 *PSAs* were filed before the *ERC*. Certain consumer groups intervened in the joint applications. In its letters to *MERALCO*, all dated December 23, 2019, the *ERC* granted provisional authority to implement *MERALCO*'s 3 *PSAs* for baseload capacity with *AC Energy*, *SPPC* and *SMEC*. On January 16, 2020, *SPPC* and *SMEC* filed Urgent Ex-Parte Motions for Clarification with the *ERC*. On January 30, 2020, *MERALCO* received the orders of the *ERC* granting provisional authority to implement *MERALCO*'s 2 *PSAs* for baseload and mid-merit capacity with *AC Energy*. On February 3, 2020, *AC Energy* wrote letters to the *ERC* requesting for the urgent re-evaluation and reconsideration of the provisional authority rate for its *PSAs* with baseload and mid-merit capacity with *MERALCO*. On March 16, 2020, *MERALCO* received the orders of the *ERC* granting provisional authority to implement *MERALCO*'s other four (4) *PSAs* for baseload capacity, with *SPPC* and *SMEC*, and mid-merit capacity, with *FGHPC* and *SPPC*. On March 31, 2020, *MERALCO* received the Motions for Reconsideration filed by *SPPC* and *SMEC* with the *ERC*. On June 1, 2020, *MERALCO* received the Orders of the *ERC* granting the Motions for Reconsideration filed by *AC Energy*, *SPPC* and *SMEC*. As at October 26, 2020, the six (6) *PSA* applications are submitted for resolution by the *ERC*.

With regard to the 1,200 *MW* baseload capacity from greenfield power plant by 2024, the *CSP* resulted in a failed bidding. After a series of consultations with the *DOE* for approval of the terms of reference, *MERALCO* updated its Distribution Development Plan ("*DDP*") and Power Supply Procurement Plan ("*PSPP*"), terminated the said *CSP*, and consolidated its baseload capacity requirements from greenfield power plants for 2024 and 2025. Thus, after approval of the *DOE*, on October 1, 2020, *MERALCO* instead published an Invitation to Bid for interested and qualified parties to participate in *MERALCO*'s *CSP* for 1,800 *MW* baseload capacity from greenfield power plant by December 2024 and May 2025. As at October 26, 2020, the said *CSP* is on-going.

Meanwhile, after *MERALCO* announced or published its *CSPs* or Invitations to Bid for a total of 2,900 MW supply requirement last July 2019, representatives of the Bayan Muna partylist filed a petition with the *SC* on September 5, 2019 claiming that the 2018 *DOE Circular*, which repealed portions of the 2015 *CSP Circular*, is void for violating policies/provisions intended to protect consumers under *EPIRA* and the Constitution (the “*Bayan Muna Petition*”). The *Bayan Muna Petition* also sought for the issuance of *TRO* and/or writ of preliminary injunction to prevent continuation of the on-going *CSPs* of *MERALCO* and some electric cooperatives. On December 17, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Comment to the *Bayan Muna Petition*.

15. True-up Adjustments of Fuel and Purchased Power Costs (“*TAFPPC*”) and Foreign Exchange-Related Costs (“*TAFxA*”)

On June 20, 2017, the *ERC* issued a Decision, a copy of which was received by *MERALCO* on December 29, 2017, authorizing *PSALM* to recover, within a 60-month period, the amount of ₱3,592 million in the Luzon grid, among others, as part of the *TAFPPC* and *TAFxA*; and directed all *DUs* to comply with the directive.

On January 1, 2018, *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration praying for the suspension of the Order and requesting that *MERALCO* be allowed to charge the recovery to all types of customers, regardless of whether they were covered or not during the relevant test periods. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to act on the Motion.

16. *ECQ* due to *Covid-19* Pandemic

On March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020, which declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to *Covid-19*. All citizens, residents, tourists and establishment owners were urged to act within the bounds of law and to comply with the lawful directives and advisories to be issued by appropriate government agencies to prevent further transmission of *Covid-19* and to ensure the safety and well-being of all.

On March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Proclamation No. 929, series of 2020, which: (a) declared a state of emergency throughout the Philippines for a period of six (6) months; and (b) imposed an *ECQ* on the entire Luzon island, which includes *MERALCO*’s franchise area, beginning March 16, 2020 until April 12, 2020.

In response thereto, the *ERC* issued an Advisory dated March 17, 2020 directing Generation Companies (*GenCos*) with *PSAs* with Luzon *DUs* and contracts with the *NGCP*; the Market Operator and the *NGCP* for the Transmission Charges to extend the period of payments of the Luzon *DUs* for thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020, without interest and penalties.

Similarly, the *ERC* directed *DUs* within Luzon to provide a one (1) month extension of payments for customer bills falling due on March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020. On March 16, 2020, *MERALCO* announced that it would provide a 30-day payment extension for bills due from March 1 to April 14, 2020.

On March 18, 2020, the *DOE* issued its own advisory, which provided:

- a. The *DOE* enjoined the fuel/resource suppliers of generating facilities throughout the country to extend the deadline of payment for a period of thirty (30) days.
- b. Extending the payments due to *PSALM*, *NPC*, *TransCo* and the *IEMOP* for a period of thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020, for the following:
 - i. *IPPA* Payments to *PSALM*, for both capacity and energy payments in the entire country;
 - ii. Universal Charges such as Stranded Contract Costs, Stranded Debt, Missionary Electrification (*NPC-SPUG* and Cash Incentive for RE Developers) and Environmental Charge for Watershed Rehabilitation and Management as administered by *PSALM* for the entire country;
 - iii. Payment of *DUs* to *NPC/PSALM* for deferred *GRAM* and *ICERA* in the entire country;

- iv. *FIT* Allowance remittance to the *TransCo* of *DUs*, *RES* and Generators in the entire country;
- v. Payments to the *IEMOP* from the generators, *RES* and *DUs* of their total trading amount and other charges.
- c. The immediate remittance of the *DOE* and the *GenCos* of their respective financial assistance to host beneficiaries (shares from electricity sales or the ER 1-94 Funds).
- d. Enjoined lessors of land of energy facilities in the entire country to extend payment of rentals for a period of thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020.
- e. Encouraged *LGUs* where energy facilities are located to extend the deadline for payment of the applicable local taxes, fees or charges; and
- f. Enjoined *DUs* throughout the country to give their electricity consumers a period of thirty (30) days extension of payment for bills falling due for the period of March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020.

In an Advisory dated March 26, 2020, the *ERC* issued the following directives in line with the *DOE*'s Memorandum dated March 18, 2020:

1. All *DUs* and *RES* are directed to provide a 30-day extension of payments for customer electricity bills falling due on March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020, however, payments received during the said period are still required to be immediately remitted proportionately to the concerned entities;
2. Payment of all fees due to the generation companies, *PSALM*, *NPC*, *TransCo*, *NGCP* and the Market Operator ("*MO*") from March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020 are extended for thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020, without interest and penalties;
3. For the safety of the meter readers and to comply with the physical distancing directive for the containment of *Covid-19*, Section 3.5.4 of the *DSOAR* on the utilization of estimated billing may be applied, provided that the word *ESTIMATE* be clearly written on the consumer bill and that corresponding adjustments be made as soon as practicable;
4. All *DUs* are reminded of their obligation to procure their power requirements in the least cost manner, taking into consideration all attendant circumstances, including the approved contract's minimum contracted capacity and fixed costs, and to ensure efficient and equitable utilization of their approved power supply contracts; and
5. All *DUs* are required to submit their power supply contract utilization report covering the period March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020 not later than April 30, 2020.

On April 7, 2020, the Office of the President of the Republic of the Philippines through the Office of Executive Secretary issued a Memorandum extending the *ECQ* until April 30, 2020. The Memorandum directed "all concerned agencies" "to continue implementing existing guidelines relative to the *ECQ* during the period of extension, without prejudice to the President's discretion "on the relaxation of the implementation of the *ECQ* in certain areas" and to "grant exemptions in favor of certain sectors, as public health and food security considerations may warrant."

On April 15, 2020, the *ERC* issued additional guidelines to electric power industry stakeholders, which include the following:

1. All applications, pleadings, compliances falling due on or before May 31, 2020 may be submitted sixty (60) days from April 30, 2020.
2. The provisions of the *DSOAR* and the *Magna Carta* for the adjustment of bill deposits are suspended until further notice.

3. For the safety of the meter readers and to comply with the physical distancing directive for the containment of *Covid-19*, Section 3.5.4 of the *DSOAR* on the utilization of estimated billing may be applied, provided that the word “*ESTIMATE*” be clearly written on the consumer bill and that corresponding adjustments be made as soon as practicable.
4. Implementation of the *ERC* Orders dated December 5, 2019 relating to the confirmation of pass-through charges may be deferred until July 31, 2020.
5. All *DUs* and *RES* are directed to provide a grace period to all captive and contestable customers through the deferment of their electricity bill falling due within the period of the *ECQ* or from March 16, 2020 to April 30, 2020 without interest, penalties, fees and other charges.

The cumulative amount of electricity bills that was supposed to have fallen due within the *ECQ* shall be amortized in four (4) equal monthly installments, payable in four (4) succeeding billing months following the end of the *ECQ*. Actual payments received by the *DU* during the *ECQ* period are still required to be immediately remitted proportionately to the concerned entities.

6. Generators, *PSALM*, *NPC*, *PSALM*, *TransCo*, *NGCP*, *IPPs*, *IPPAs* and the *MO* shall extend the same payment scheme to the *RES*, *DU* and other customers. Availment of Prompt Payment Discount will be in accordance with the parties’ approved *PSA*.
7. The collection of the *FIT-All* from electricity customers is suspended for another billing period to be implemented on the next electricity bill to be issued by the collection agents.
8. All *DUs* are reminded of their obligation to procure their power requirements in the least cost manner, taking into consideration all attendant circumstances.
9. All *DUs* are required to submit power supply contract utilization report, record of payments received from customers, and record of payments made to suppliers covering the period March 16, 2020 to April 30, 2020 by May 31, 2020.

Under Executive Order No. 112, Series of 2020, President Duterte extended the *ECQ* in high risk areas, including National Capital Region (“*NCR*”) from May 1, 2020 to May 15, 2020. Thereafter, *MECQ* was declared in high risk areas, including *NCR*, from May 15, 2020 until May 30, 2020.

On May 5, 2020, the *ERC* issued additional guidelines to electric power industry stakeholders, which include the following:

1. *DUs* and *RES* operating in areas that continue to be under the *ECQ* are directed to further extend the grace period for the payment of their consumers’ electricity bills falling due within the *ECQ* period of March 16 to May 15, 2020, without interest, penalties, fees and other charges. The directive on the amortization of payments in four (4) equal monthly installments, payable in the four (4) succeeding billing months following the end of the *ECQ* shall continue to be observed, but payments thereof by customers in areas covered by *ECQ* extension until May 15, 2020 shall commence no earlier than May 30, 2020;
2. *DUs* and *RES* that are operating in areas under the General Community Quarantine (“*GCQ*”) shall retain the grace period on the due date of their consumers’ electricity bills not earlier than May 15, 2020, without interest, penalties, fees and other charges. Similarly, the directive on the amortization of payments in four (4) equal monthly installments, payable in the four (4) succeeding billing months is hereby reiterated;
3. Actual payments received by the *DU* during the said period are still required to be immediately remitted proportionately to the concerned entities. Consequently, *DUs* are authorized to adopt incentive schemes to encourage early payment of the deferred amount by customers who are able to settle ahead of the four (4) months;

4. The use of estimated billing pursuant to Section 3.5.4 of the Distribution Services and Open Access Rules ("DSOAR") to ensure the safety of meter readers and to comply with the physical distancing directive for the containment of *COVID-19* is being reiterated, provided that the word "*ESTIMATE*" be clearly written on the consumer bill and that corresponding adjustments be made as soon as practicable. The bill estimate should be based on the average of the consumers' billing of three months immediately preceding the *ECQ*;
5. Government entities that are contestable customers shall observe the regular payment schedule of their electricity bills starting May 16, 2020;
6. The Generators/Suppliers, *PSALM*, *NPC*, *TransCo*, *NGCP*, *IPPs* and *IPPAs* and the *MO* shall extend the same payment scheme as provided in the preceding paragraph, to the *RES*, *DU* and other customers, depending on whether such customer is operating under an *ECQ* or *GCQ*. Availment of Prompt Payment Discount ("*PPD*") will still be in accordance with the parties' approved supply contract; and
7. The suspension of the *FIT-ALL* collection from electricity customers is applicable for March and April billing periods to be implemented on the next electricity bill to be issued by the Collection Agents.

On May 22, 2020, the *ERC* issued additional guidelines to electric power industry stakeholders, which include the following:

1. The collection of the Universal Charge-Environmental Charge ("*UC-EC*") equivalent to ₱0.0025 per *kWh* is hereby suspended until further notice;
2. *DUs* are directed to conduct actual meter readings and thereafter issue a new billing reflecting the actual consumption and the corresponding amount due, not later than June 8, 2020, except when actual reading is not possible due to the implementation of community quarantine;
3. *DUs* are directed to allow their electricity customers with monthly consumption of 200 *kWh* and below in February 2020, a staggered payment of up to six (6) equal monthly installments for their electricity bills falling due within the *ECQ* and *MECQ* periods, the first monthly amortization to be made not earlier than June 15, 2020, without penalties, interests and other fees;
4. For electricity customers with monthly consumption of 201 *kWh* and above in February 2020, *DUs* shall allow a staggered payment of up to four (4) equal monthly installments for their electricity bills falling due within the *ECQ* and *MECQ* periods, the first monthly amortization to be made not earlier than June 15, 2020, without penalties, interest and other fees;
5. Subsequent installments for bills referred to in No. 3 and 4 will be due every 15th of the month starting July 2020 until fully settled. For this purpose, the *DUs* shall notify their consumers of the monthly installment falling due; and

Electricity bills falling due in June 2020 shall be paid not earlier than June 30, 2020, without penalties, interest and other fees.

Meanwhile, on various dates beginning as early as March 16, 2020, *MERALCO* sent out notices of event of force majeure to power suppliers for its *ERC*-approved *PSAs* currently being implemented. These notices explained that based on the respective *PSAs* entered into by *MERALCO* and its power suppliers, *MERALCO* is entitled to claim relief by reason of an event of force majeure given the prevailing circumstances.

In the said letters, *MERALCO* pointed out to its power suppliers that the continued effect of the aforementioned Presidential Proclamations was a drastic and sudden drop in commercial and industrial demand, shaving typical captive peak demand, and as such, *MERALCO*'s captive customers cannot possibly absorb all available supply from its current *PSAs*. In various agreements, *MERALCO*'s power suppliers recognized that it would not be able to accept and/or purchase [a portion] of energy deliveries (and to make corresponding payments) on account of the continued effects of the event of force majeure.

On June 2, 2020, *MERALCO* received a copy of the Show Cause Order issued by the *ERC* directing it to submit its explanation on why it should not be held liable for alleged violations of the *ERC*'s directives under some of its advisories. *MERALCO* filed its Compliance and Explanation last June 29, 2020. In a Decision dated August 20, 2020, the *ERC* ordered *MERALCO* to pay a fine of ₱19 million and directed that the Distribution, Supply and Metering ("*DSM*") charges be set to zero for lifeline customers. On September 11, 2020, *MERALCO* paid the ₱19 million fine and filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration with respect to the directive to set the *DSM* charges to zero for lifeline customers. As at October 26, 2020, the Motion for Partial Reconsideration is pending with the *ERC*. *MERALCO* implemented the directive to set the *DSM* charges to zero for lifeline customers in its October 2020 billing to customers subject to the resolution of its Motion for Partial Reconsideration.

On September 11, 2020, President Duterte signed into law Republic Act No. 11494, the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act ("*Bayanihan 2*") which serves as the government's second coronavirus pandemic relief measure. In an Advisory dated September 23, 2020, the *DOE* directed power sector entities to observe the grace period and staggered payment for unpaid bills provided under the *Bayanihan 2*. The *DOE* also requested the *ERC* to issue necessary procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the Advisory in line with the policies and purpose of the *Bayanihan 2*. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting the guidelines of the *ERC* on the implementation of *Bayanihan 2* for the electric power industry sector.

17. Violation of the *ERC*'s Advisories during the *ECQ* and Modified *ECQ*

In a Decision dated August 20, 2020, the *ERC* imposed a ₱19 million fine on *MERALCO* for alleged violation of the following *ERC*'s directives: (1) failure to clearly indicate that the bills were estimated; and (2) failure to comply with the mandated installment payment arrangement.

In addition, the *ERC* also directed *MERALCO* to set to zero the Distribution, Supply, and Metering ("*DSM*") charges of lifeline consumers whose monthly energy consumption does not exceed 100 *kWh* for one (1) month billing cycle effective in the next billing cycle immediately upon receipt of the *ERC* Decision. The cost of the discount shall not be charged to the non-lifeline consumers.

Corollary thereto, *MERALCO* was also directed to submit a Compliance Report within 15 days after its implementation of the *ERC*'s directives. The Compliance Report must contain the following information: (1) total number of customers benefitted; and (2) total amount of discount extended.

On September 11, 2020, *MERALCO* filed its Motion for Partial Reconsideration with respect to the directive to set to zero the *DSM* charges of lifeline consumers. On the same date, *MERALCO* also paid the ₱19 million fine imposed by the *ERC*.

As at October 26, 2020, the Motion for Partial Reconsideration remains pending with the *ERC*. However, *MERALCO* implemented the directive to set to zero the *DSM* charges of lifeline consumers in its October 2020 billings subject to the resolution of its Motion for Partial Reconsideration.

OTHER QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES

- (i) **Any known trends or any known demands, commitments, events or uncertainties that will result in or that are reasonably likely to result in *MERALCO*'s liquidity increasing or decreasing in any material way.**

Not applicable

(ii) Any events that will trigger direct or indirect contingent financial obligation that is material to MERALCO, including any default or acceleration of an obligation.

1. Mediation with NPC

The NPC embarked on a Power Development Program (“PDP”), which consisted of contracting generating capacities and the construction of its own, as well as private sector, generating plants, following a crippling power supply crisis. To address the concerns of the creditors of NPC, namely, Asian Development Bank and the World Bank, the Department of Energy (“DOE”) required that MERALCO enter into a long-term supply contract with the NPC.

Accordingly, on November 21, 1994, MERALCO entered into a 10-year Contract for Sale of Electricity (“CSE”) with NPC which commenced on January 1, 1995. The CSE, the rates and amounts charged to MERALCO therein, were approved by the BOD of NPC and the then Energy Regulatory Board, respectively.

Separately, the DOE further asked MERALCO to provide a market for half of the output of the Camago-Malampaya gas field to enable its development and production of natural gas, which was to generate significant revenues for the Philippine Government and equally significant foreign exchange savings for the country to the extent of the fuel imports, which the domestic volume of natural gas will displace.

MERALCO’s actual purchases from NPC exceeded the contract level in the first seven (7) years of the CSE. However, the 1997 Asian crisis resulted in a significant curtailment of energy demand.

While the events were beyond the control of MERALCO, NPC did not honor MERALCO’s good faith notification of its off-take volumes. A dispute ensued and both parties agreed to enter into mediation.

The mediation resulted in the signing of a Settlement Agreement (“SA”) between the parties on July 15, 2003. The SA was approved by the respective BODs of NPC and MERALCO. The net settlement amount of ₱14,320 million was agreed upon by NPC and MERALCO and manifested before the ERC through a Joint Compliance dated January 19, 2006. The implementation of the SA is subject to the approval of the ERC.

Subsequently, the OSG filed a “Motion for Leave to Intervene with Motion to Admit Attached Opposition to the Joint Application and Settlement Agreement between NPC and MERALCO”. As a result, MERALCO sought judicial clarification with the Regional Trial Court (“RTC-Pasig”). Pre-trials were set, which MERALCO complied with and attended. However, the OSG refused to participate in the pre-trial and opted to seek a Temporary Restraining Order (“TRO”) from the CA.

In a Resolution dated December 1, 2010, the CA issued a TRO against the RTC-Pasig, MERALCO and NPC restraining the respondents from further proceeding with the case. Subsequently, in a Resolution dated February 3, 2011, the CA issued a writ of preliminary injunction enjoining the RTC-Pasig from conducting further proceedings pending resolution of the Petition. In a Decision dated October 14, 2011, the CA resolved to deny the Petition filed by the OSG and lifted the injunction previously issued. The said Decision likewise held that the RTC-Pasig committed no error in finding the OSG in default due to its failure to participate in the proceedings. The RTC-Pasig was thus ordered to proceed to hear the case *ex-parte*, as against the OSG, and with dispatch. The OSG filed a MR which was denied by the CA in its Resolution dated April 25, 2012. The OSG filed a Petition for Review on Certiorari with the SC. MERALCO’s Comment was filed on October 29, 2012. Subsequently, a Decision dated December 11, 2013 was rendered by the First Division of the SC denying the Petition for Review on Certiorari by the OSG and affirming the Decision promulgated by the CA on October 14, 2011.

With the dismissal of the petition filed by the Office of the Solicitor General (“OSG”) with the CA, MERALCO filed a motion for the reception of its evidence *ex-parte* with the RTC-Pasig pursuant to the ruling of the CA. In a Decision dated May 29, 2012, the RTC-Pasig declared the SA valid and binding, independent of the pass-through for the settlement amount which is reserved for the ERC. The OSG has filed a Notice of Appeal with the RTC-Pasig on June 19, 2012. After both parties filed their respective appeal briefs, the CA rendered a Decision dated April 15, 2014 denying the appeal and affirming the RTC Decision, which declared the SA as valid and binding. The OSG filed a Petition for Review with the SC. On November 10, 2014,

MERALCO filed its comment to the Petition. *PSALM* likewise filed its comment to the Petition. In a Resolution dated July 8, 2015, the *SC* resolved to serve anew its Resolutions requiring *NPC* to comment on the Petition. In compliance, *NPC* submitted its Comment dated September 8, 2015. *MERALCO* submitted its Motion for Leave to File and to Admit Attached Reply on October 12, 2015. Pursuant to the *SC* Resolution dated November 11, 2015, the *OSG* filed a Consolidated Reply to the comments filed by *NPC*, *MERALCO* and *PSALM*. *MERALCO* then filed a Motion for Leave to File and to Admit the Attached Rejoinder. The parties have filed their respective memoranda. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the *SC* on the matter.

2. Sucat-Araneta-Balintawak Transmission Line

The Sucat-Araneta-Balintawak transmission line is a two (2)-part transmission line, which completed the 230 kV line loop within Metro Manila. The two (2) main parts are the Araneta to Balintawak leg and the Sucat to Araneta leg, which cuts through Dasmariñas Village, Makati City.

On March 10, 2000, certain residents along Tamarind Road, Dasmariñas Village, Makati City “the *Plaintiffs*”, filed a case against *NPC* with the *RTC-Makati*, enjoining *NPC* from further installing high voltage cables near the *Plaintiffs*’ homes and from energizing and transmitting high voltage electric current through said cables because of the alleged health risks and danger posed by the same through the electromagnetic field emitted by said lines. Following its initial status quo Order issued on March 13, 2000, *RTC-Makati* granted on April 3, 2000 the preliminary injunction sought by the *Plaintiffs*. The decision was affirmed by the *SC* on March 23, 2006, which effectively reversed the decision of the *CA* to the contrary. The *RTC-Makati* subsequently issued a writ of execution based on the Order of the *SC*. *MERALCO*, in its capacity as an intervenor, was constrained to file an Omnibus Motion to maintain status quo because of the significant effect of a de-energization of the Sucat-Araneta line to the public and economy. Shutdown of the 230 kV line will result in widespread and rotating brownouts within *MERALCO*’s franchise area with certain power plants unable to run at their full capacities.

On September 8, 2009, the *RTC-Makati* granted the motions for intervention filed by intervenors, *MERALCO* and *NGCP* and dissolved the Writ of Preliminary Injunction issued, upon the posting of the respective counter bonds by defendant *NPC*, intervenors *MERALCO* and *NGCP*, subject to the condition that *NPC* and intervenors will pay for all damages, which the *Plaintiffs* may incur as a result of the Writ of Preliminary Injunction.

In its Order dated February 5, 2013, the *RTC-Makati* granted the *Plaintiffs*’ motion and directed the re-raffle of the case to another branch after the judicial dispute resolution failed.

This case remains pending and is still at the pre-trial stage. During the pre-trial stage, *Plaintiffs* filed a Manifestation stating that they are pursuing the deposition of a supposed expert in electromagnetic field through oral examination without leave of court in late January or early February 2016 or on such date as all the parties may agree amongst themselves at the Consulate Office of the Philippines in Vancouver, Canada. *NPC* and intervenors filed their Opposition and Counter-Manifestation. Intervenor *NGCP* filed a Motion to Prohibit the Taking of the Deposition of the said expert. Intervenor *MERALCO* intends to file its Comment/Opposition in due course. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the *SC* on the matter.

3. RPT Assessment

Several Local Government Units (“*LGUs*”) assessed *MERALCO* for deficiency *RPT* on certain assets. The assets include electric transformers, distribution wires, insulators, and poles, collectively referred to as *TWIP*. Of these *LGUs*, one (1) has secured a favorable decision from the *CA*. Such decision was appealed by *MERALCO* to the *SC* for the benefit of *MERALCO* customers. On October 22, 2015, *MERALCO* received a copy of the *SC* Decision promulgated on August 5, 2015 declaring, among others, that the transformers, electric posts, transmission lines, insulators, and electric meters of *MERALCO* are not exempted from *RPT* under the *LGC*. *MERALCO* did not appeal the *SC* Decision. The cases of the other *LGUs* are pending with their respective administrative bodies or government offices.

In 2016, *MERALCO* began the process of settlement with the affected *LGUs*. *MERALCO* has filed for the recovery of the resulting *RPT* payments to certain *LGUs* from customers in the relevant areas with the *ERC* and will file for similar recovery for succeeding payments.

On January 30, 2017, *PEPOA* filed a Petition for rule-making proposing that *RPT* be allowed as a pass through cost in the light of the *SC* Decision. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its intervention and submitted its comments. As at April 27, 2020, the Petition is pending before the *ERC*. A similar Petition was likewise filed by the Philippine Rural Electric Cooperative Association (“*PHILRECA*”) on April 17, 2019. As at October 26, 2020, hearings are on going.

4. *LFT* Assessments of Municipalities

Certain municipalities have served assessment notices on *MERALCO* for *LFT*. As provided in the Local Government Code (“*LGC*”), only cities and provincial governments may impose taxes on establishments doing business in their localities. On the basis of the foregoing, *MERALCO* and its legal counsel believe that *MERALCO* is not subject or liable for such assessments.

5. *SC* Decision on Unbundling Rate Case

On May 30, 2003, the *ERC* issued an Order approving *MERALCO*’s unbundled tariffs that resulted in a total increase of ₱0.17 per *kWh* over the May 2003 tariff levels. However, on August 4, 2003, *MERALCO* received a Petition for Review of the *ERC*’s ruling filed by certain consumer and civil society groups before the Court of Appeals (“*CA*”). On July 22, 2004, the *CA* set aside the *ERC*’s ruling on *MERALCO*’s rate unbundling and remanded the case to the *ERC*. Further, the *CA* opined that the *ERC* should have asked the Commission on Audit (“*COA*”) to audit the books of *MERALCO*. The *ERC* and *MERALCO* subsequently filed separate motions asking the *CA* to reconsider its decision. As a result of the denial by the *CA* of the motions on January 24, 2005, the *ERC* and *MERALCO* elevated the case to the *SC*.

In an En Banc decision promulgated on December 6, 2006, the *SC* set aside and reversed the *CA* ruling saying that a *COA* audit was not a prerequisite in the determination of a utility’s rates. However, while the *SC* affirmed *ERC*’s authority in rate-fixing, the *SC* directed the *ERC* to request *COA*’s assistance to undertake a complete audit of the books, records and accounts of *MERALCO*. In compliance with the directive of the *SC*, the *ERC* requested *COA* to conduct an audit of the books, records and accounts of *MERALCO* using calendar years 2004 and 2007 as test years.

The *COA* audit, which began in September 2008, was completed with the submission to the *ERC* of its report on November 12, 2009.

On February 15, 2010, the *ERC* issued its Order directing *MERALCO* and all intervenors in the case to submit, within 15 days from receipt of the Order, their respective comments on the *COA* report.

On June 21, 2011, the *ERC* maintained and affirmed its findings and conclusions in its Decision dated March 20, 2003 and Order dated May 30, 2003. The *ERC* stated that the *COA* recommendation to apply disallowances under *PBR* to rate unbundling violates the principle against retroactive rate-making. An intervenor group filed a *MR* of the said Order. On September 5, 2011, *MERALCO* filed its comment on the intervenor’s *MR*. On February 4, 2013, the *ERC* denied the intervenor’s *MR*. The intervenor filed a Petition for Review before the *CA* and *MERALCO* filed its comment thereon on May 29, 2014. In compliance with the *CA*’s directive, *MERALCO* filed its Memorandum in August 2015. In a Resolution dated September 29, 2015, the *CA* acknowledged receipt of the respective Memoranda from parties and declared the case submitted for decision. In a Decision dated February 29, 2016, the *CA* dismissed the Petition for Review and affirmed the orders dated June 21, 2011 and February 4, 2013 of the *ERC*.

On March 22, 2016, the intervenors filed a *MR* on the *CA* Decision dated February 29, 2016. The same was denied by the *CA* through a Resolution dated August 8, 2016.

On October 11, 2016, *MERALCO* received a Petition for Review on Certiorari filed by the intervenors before the *SC* appealing the dismissal of its Petition. *MERALCO*, *COA* and the *ERC* have filed their respective comments to the Petition. On June 22, 2017, *MERALCO* received the Motion for Leave to Intervene and

Admit Comment-in-Intervention filed by other *DUs* that sought to intervene in the case. In a Resolution dated October 3, 2017, the *SC* granted the Motion for Leave to Intervene and Comment-in-Intervention. On November 13, 2019, *MERALCO* received a Decision dated October 8, 2019 partially granting the Petition filed by the National Association of Electric Consumers for Reforms Inc. (“*NASECORE*”), which among other things, (i) voided the adoption by the *ERC* of the current or replacement cost in the valuation of *MERALCO*’s *RAB*; and (ii) remanded the case to *ERC* to determine, within 90 days, finality of the Decision.

MERALCO, *PEPOA* and the *ERC* filed their respective motions for reconsideration which are pending before the *SC*.

(iii) All material off-balance sheet transactions, arrangements, obligations (including contingent obligations), and other relationships of *MERALCO* with unconsolidated entities or other persons created during the reporting period.

2020 Capital Expenditure Requirements (in millions)

Electric capital projects	₱37,968
Non-electric projects and other capitalized items	7,114
Total capital expenditures	₱45,082

MERALCO has a management-approved capital expenditure budget of ₱45,082 million for the year ending December 31, 2020, of which about 84% represents planned expenditures for the electric capital projects of the power distribution business. The capital expenditure budget shall address requirements in areas with large concentration of core customers, correct normal deficiencies in the system, stretch loading limits of *MERALCO* facilities and initiate practical and cost-effective projects to correct system deficiencies.

Absent the release by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern the filing of its 4th *RP* Reset Application, and in anticipation of the network system requirements and possible effect of severe weather conditions after June 30, 2015, *MERALCO* filed applications for approval of authority to implement its *CAPEX* programs for *RY* 2016 (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016), *RY* 2017 (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017) and *RY* 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) on February 9, 2015, March 8, 2016 and April 3, 2017, respectively.

(iv) Any known trends, events or uncertainties that have had or that are reasonably expected to have a material favorable or unfavorable impact on net sales or revenues or income from continuing operations should be described.

1. Retail Competition

See related preceding discussions under *RCOA*.

2. Petition for Dispute Resolution against *PEMC*, *TransCo*, *NPC* and *PSALM*

On September 9, 2008, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Dispute Resolution, against *PEMC*, *TransCo*, *NPC* and *PSALM* with the *ERC* as a result of the congestion in the transmission system of *TransCo* arising from the outages of the San Jose-Tayabas 500 kV Line 2 on June 22, 2008, and the 500 kV 600 Mega Volt-Ampere Transformer Bank No. 2 of *TransCo*’s San Jose, Bulacan substation on July 11, 2008. The Petition seeks to, among others, direct *PEMC* to adopt the *NPC*- Time-of-Use (“*TOU*”) rate or the new price determined through the price substitution methodology of *PEMC* as approved by the *ERC*, as basis for its billing during the period of the congestion and direct *NPC* and *PSALM* to refund the transmission line loss components of the line rentals associated with *NPC/PSALM* bilateral transactions from the start of *WESM* operation on June 26, 2006.

In a Decision dated March 10, 2010, the *ERC* granted *MERALCO*’s petition and ruled that there is double charging of the transmission line costs billed to *MERALCO* by *NPC* for the Transition Supply Contract (“*TSC*”) quantities to the extent of 2.98% loss factor, since the effectivity of the *TSC* in November 2006. Thus, *NPC* was directed to refund line rental adjustment to *MERALCO*. In the meantime, the *ERC* issued an Order on May 4, 2011 allowing *PEMC* to submit an alternative methodology for the segregation of line rental

into congestion cost and line losses from the start of the *WESM*. *PEMC* has filed its compliance submitting its alternative methodology.

On September 8, 2011, *MERALCO* received a copy of *PEMC*'s compliance to the *ERC*'s directive and on November 11, 2011, *MERALCO* filed a counter-proposal which effectively simplifies *PEMC*'s proposal. In an Order of the *ERC* dated June 21, 2012, *MERALCO* was directed to submit its computation of the amount of the double charging of line loss on a per month basis from June 26, 2006 up to June 2012. On July 4, 2012, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance to the said Order. Thereafter, the *ERC* issued an Order directing the parties to comment on *MERALCO*'s submissions. Hearings were conducted on October 2, 2012 and October 16, 2012 to discuss the parties' proposal and comments.

In an Order dated March 4, 2013, the *ERC* approved the methodology proposed by *MERALCO* and *PEMC* in computing the double charged amount on line losses by deducting 2.98% from the *NPC-TOU* amount. Accordingly, the *ERC* determined that the computed double charge amount to be collected from *NPC* is ₱5.2 billion, covering the period November 2006 to August 2012 until actual cessation of the collection of the 2.98% line loss charge in the *NPC-TOU* rates imposed on *MERALCO*. In this regard, *NPC* was directed by the *ERC* to refund said amount by remitting to *MERALCO* the equivalent amount of ₱73.9 million per month until the over-recoveries are fully refunded. In the said Order, the *ERC* likewise determined that the amount to be collected from the successor generating companies ("SGCs") is ₱4.7 billion. Additionally, *MERALCO* was directed to file a petition against the following SGCs: *MPPCL*, Aboitiz Power Renewables, Inc. ("*APRI*"), *TLI*, *SMEC* and *Sem-Calaca*, within 30 days from receipt thereof, to recover the line loss collected by them. On April 19, 2013, *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Clarification with the *ERC* regarding the directives contained in the March 4, 2013 Order. On April 30, 2013 and May 8, 2013, *PSALM* and *NPC*, respectively, filed motions seeking reconsideration of the March 4, 2013 Order. *MERALCO* filed a motion seeking for an additional 15 days from its receipt of the *ERC*'s Order resolving its Motion for Clarification, within which to file its Petition against the SGCs.

In an Order dated July 1, 2013, the *ERC* issued the following clarifications/resolutions: (i) *SPPC* should be included as one of the SGCs against whom a petition for dispute resolution should be filed by *MERALCO*; (ii) amount to be refunded by *NPC* is not only ₱5.2 billion but also the subsequent payments it received from *MERALCO* beyond August 2012 until the actual cessation of the collection of the 2.98% line loss charge in its *TOU* rates; (iii) petition to be filed by *MERALCO* against the SGCs should not only be for the recovery of the amount of ₱4.7 billion but also the subsequent payments beyond August 2012 until the actual cessation of the collection of the 2.98% line loss charge in its *TOU* rates; (iv) "*SCPC Ilijan*" pertains to *SPPC* instead. Thus, the refundable amount of ₱706 million pertaining to "*SCPC Ilijan*" should be added to *SPPC*'s refundable amount of ₱1.1 billion; (v) grant the Motion for Extension filed by *MERALCO* within which to file a petition against the following SGCs: *MPPCL*, *APRI*, *TLI*, *SMEC*, *Sem-Calaca* and *SPPC*; and (vi) deny the respective *MRs* filed by *NPC* and *PSALM*.

On September 12, 2013, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* seeking approval of its proposal to offset the amount of ₱73.9 million per month against its monthly remittances to *PSALM*. *PSALM* and *NPC* filed their comments *Ad Cautelam* and Comment and Opposition *Ad Cautelam*, respectively, on *MERALCO*'s Manifestation with Motion. On November 4, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its reply. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO*'s Manifestation with Motion is pending resolution by the *ERC*.

On October 24, 2013, *MERALCO* received *PSALM*'s Petition for Review on Certiorari with the *CA* (With Urgent *TRO* and/or Writ of Preliminary Mandatory Injunction Applications) questioning the March 4, 2013 and July 1, 2013 Orders of the *ERC*.

On February 3, 2014, *MERALCO* filed a Comment with Opposition to the Application for *TRO* or Writ of Preliminary Injunction dated January 30, 2014. *PEMC* filed a Comment and Opposition Re: Petition for Certiorari with Urgent *TRO* and/or Writ of Preliminary Mandatory Injunction dated January 6, 2014. On June 4, 2014, the *CA* issued a Resolution declaring that *PSALM* is deemed to have waived the filing of a Reply to the comment and opposition of *MERALCO* and *PEMC* and directing the parties to submit their simultaneous memoranda within 15 days from notice. On December 1, 2014, the *CA* issued a decision dismissing the Petition for Certiorari filed by *PSALM* against the *ERC*, *MERALCO* and *PEMC* and affirming the *ERC*'s ruling on the refund of the ₱5.2 billion of transmission line losses double charged by *PSALM* and *NPC*. On January 30, 2015, *PSALM* filed its *MR* on the December 1, 2014 Decision of the *CA*. *MERALCO*

has filed its Opposition to the *MR*. In a Resolution dated August 11, 2015, the *CA* denied *PSALM*'s *MR*. On October 27, 2015, *MERALCO* received *PSALM*'s Petition for Review with the *SC*. The Petition has been given due course and the parties have filed their respective memoranda. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is still awaiting further action of the *SC* on the Petition.

3. *Petition for Dispute Resolution Against SPPC, MPPCL, APRI, TLI, SMEC and Sem-Calaca*

On August 29, 2013, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Dispute Resolution against *SPPC*, *MPPCL*, *APRI*, *TLI*, *SMEC* and *Sem-Calaca*. Said Petition seeks the following: 1) refund of the 2.98% transmission line losses in the amount of ₱5.4 billion, inclusive of the ₱758 million line loss for the period September 2012 to June 25, 2013, from said *SGCs*; and 2) approval of *MERALCO*'s proposal to correspondingly refund to its customers the aforementioned line loss amounts, as and when the same are received from the *SGCs*, until such time that the said over-recoveries are fully refunded, by way of automatic deduction of the amount of refund from the computed monthly generation rate. On September 20, 2013, *MERALCO* received the *SGCs*' Joint Motion to Dismiss. On October 7, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its Comment on the said Joint Motion.

On October 8, 2013, *MERALCO* received the *SGCs* Manifestation and Motion, which sought, among other things, the cancellation of the scheduled initial hearing of the case, including the submission of the parties respective Pre-trial Briefs, until the final resolution of the *SGC*'s Joint Motion to Dismiss. On October 11, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its pre-trial brief. On October 14, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its Opposition to the *SGC*'s Manifestation and Motion. On October 24, 2013, *MERALCO* received the *SGC*'s Reply to its Comment on the Joint Motion to Dismiss. On October 29, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its Rejoinder. Thereafter, the *SGC*'s filed their Sur-Rejoinder dated November 4, 2013. As at October 26, 2020, the Joint Motion to Dismiss is pending resolution by the *ERC*.

4. *PSALM versus PEMC and MERALCO*

Due to the significant increases in *WESM* prices during the 3rd and 4th months of the *WESM* operations, *MERALCO* raised its concerns with the *PEMC* with request for the latter to investigate whether *WESM* rules were breached or if anti-competitive behavior had occurred.

While resolutions were initially issued by the *PEMC* directing adjustments of *WESM* settlement amounts, a series of exchanges and appeals with the *ERC* ensued. *ERC* released an order directing that the *WESM* settlement price for the 3rd and 4th billing months be set at *NPC-TOU* rates, prompting *PSALM* to file a Motion for Partial Reconsideration, which was denied by the *ERC* in an Order dated October 20, 2008. *PSALM* filed a Petition for Review before the *CA*, which was dismissed on August 28, 2009, prompting *PSALM* to file an *MR*, which was likewise denied by the *CA* on November 6, 2009. *MERALCO* has filed its comments on the Petition and its Memorandum. As at October 26, 2020, *PSALM*'s Petition for Review is pending resolution by the *SC*.

5. *Petition for Dispute Resolution with NPC on Premium Charges*

On June 2, 2009, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Dispute Resolution against *NPC* and *PSALM* with respect to *NPC*'s imposition of premium charges for the alleged excess energy it supplied to *MERALCO* covering the billing periods May 2005 to June 2006. The premium charges amounting to ₱315 million during the May-June 2005 billing periods have been paid but are the subject of a protest by *MERALCO*, and premium charges of ₱318 million during the November 2005, February 2006 and April to June 2006 billing periods are being disputed and withheld by *MERALCO*. *MERALCO* believes that there is no basis for the imposition of the premium charges. The hearings on this case have been completed. As at October 26, 2020, the Petition is pending resolution by the *ERC*.

6. *SC TRO on MERALCO's December 2013 Billing Rate Increase*

On December 9, 2013, the *ERC* gave clearance to the request of *MERALCO* to implement a staggered collection over three (3) months covering the December 2013 billing month for the increase in generation charge and other bill components such as *VAT*, *LFT*, transmission charge, and *SL* charge. The generation costs for the November 2013 supply month increased significantly because of the aberrant spike in the *WESM* charges on account of the non-compliance with *WESM* Rules by certain plants resulting in significant power generation capacities not being offered and dispatched, and the scheduled and extended shutdowns, and the

forced outages, of several base load power plants, and the use of the more expensive liquid fuel or bio-diesel by the natural gas-fired power plants that were affected by the Malampaya Gas Field shutdown from November 11 to December 10, 2013.

On December 19, 2013, several party-list representatives of the House of Representatives filed a Petition against *MERALCO*, *ERC* and *DOE* before the *SC*, questioning the *ERC* clearance granted to *MERALCO* to charge the resulting price increase, alleging the lack of hearing and due process. It also sought for the declaration of the unconstitutionality of the *EPIRA*, which essentially declared the generation and supply sectors competitive and open, and not considered public utilities. A similar petition was filed by a consumer group and several private homeowners' associations challenging also the legality of the *AGRA* that the *ERC* had promulgated. Both petitions prayed for the issuance of *TRO*, and a Writ of Preliminary Injunction.

On December 23, 2013, the *SC* consolidated the two (2) Petitions and granted the application for *TRO* effective immediately and for a period of 60 days, which effectively enjoined the *ERC* and *MERALCO* from implementing the price increase. The *SC* also ordered *MERALCO*, *ERC* and *DOE* to file their respective comments to the Petitions. Oral Arguments were conducted on January 21, 2014, February 4, 2014 and February 11, 2014. Thereafter, the *SC* ordered all the Parties to the consolidated Petitions to file their respective Memorandum on or before February 26, 2014 after which the Petitions will be deemed submitted for resolution of the *SC*. *MERALCO* complied with said directive and filed its Memorandum on said date.

On February 18, 2014, acting on the motion filed by the Petitioners, the *SC* extended for another 60 days or until April 22, 2014, the *TRO* that it originally issued against *MERALCO* and *ERC* on December 23, 2013. The *TRO* was also similarly applied to the generating companies, specifically *MPPCL*, *SMEC*, *SPPC*, *FGPC*, and the *NGCP*, and the *PEMC* (the administrator of *WESM* and market operator) who were all enjoined from collecting from *MERALCO* the deferred amounts representing the ₱4.15 per *kWh* price increase for the November 2013 supply month.

In the meantime, on January 30, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an Omnibus Motion with Manifestation with the *ERC* for the latter to direct *PEMC* to conduct a re-run or re-calculation of the *WESM* prices for the supply months of November to December 2013. Subsequently, on February 17, 2014, *MERALCO* filed with the *ERC* an Application for the recovery of deferred generation costs for the December 2013 supply month praying that it be allowed to recover the same over a six (6)-month period.

On March 3, 2014, the *ERC* issued an Order voiding the Luzon *WESM* prices during the November and December 2013 supply months on the basis of the preliminary findings of its Investigating Unit ("*IU*") that these are not reasonable, rational and competitive, and imposing the use of regulated rates for the said period. *PEMC* was given seven (7) days upon receipt of the Order to calculate these regulated prices and implement the same in the revised *WESM* bills of the concerned *DUs* in Luzon. *PEMC*'s recalculated power bills for the supply month of December 2013 resulted in a net reduction of the December 2013 supply month bill of the *WESM* by ₱9.3 billion. Due to the pendency of the *TRO*, no adjustment was made to the *WESM* bill of *MERALCO* for the November 2013 supply month. The timing of amounts to be credited to *MERALCO* is dependent on the reimbursement of *PEMC* from associated generator companies. However, several generating companies, including *MPPCL*, *SN Aboitiz Power, Inc.*, *Team (Philippines) Energy Corporation*, *PanAsia Energy, Inc.* ("*PanAsia*"), and *SMEC*, have filed *MRs* questioning the Order dated March 3, 2014. *MERALCO* has filed a consolidated comment to these *MRs*. In an Order dated October 15, 2014, the *ERC* denied the *MRs*. The generating companies have appealed the Orders with the *CA*. *MERALCO* has filed a motion to intervene and a comment in intervention. The *CA* consolidated the cases filed by the generation companies. In a Decision dated November 7, 2017, the *CA* set aside *ERC* Orders dated March 3, 2014, March 27, 2014, May 9, 2014 and October 15, 2014 and declared the orders null and void. The Decision then reinstated and declared valid *WESM* prices for the November and December 2013 supply months. *MERALCO* and the *ERC* have filed their respective motions for reconsideration. Several consumers also intervened in the case and filed their respective motions for reconsideration. In a Resolution dated March 29, 2019, the *CA* denied the motions for reconsideration and upheld its Decision dated November 7, 2017.

MERALCO and several consumers have elevated the *CA* Decision and Order to the *SC* where the case is pending.

In view of the pendency of the various submissions before the *ERC* and mindful of the complexities in the implementation of the *ERC*'s Order dated March 3, 2014, the *ERC* directed *PEMC* to provide the market participants additional 45 days to comply with the settlement of their respective adjusted *WESM* bills. In an Order dated May 9, 2014, the parties were then given an additional non-extendible period of 30 days from receipt of the Order within which to settle their *WESM* bills. However, in an Order dated June 6, 2014 and acting on an intervention filed by Angeles Electric Corporation, the *ERC* deemed it appropriate to hold in abeyance the settlement of *PEMC*'s adjusted *WESM* bills by the market participants.

On April 22, 2014, the *SC* extended indefinitely the *TRO* issued on December 23, 2013 and February 18, 2014 and directed generating companies, *NGCP* and *PEMC* not to collect from *MERALCO*. As at October 26, 2020, the *SC* has yet to resolve the various petitions filed against *MERALCO*, *ERC*, and *DOE*.

7. *ERC* Investigating Unit (“*IU*”) Complaint

On December 26, 2013, the *ERC* constituted the *IU* under its Competition Rules to investigate possible anti-competitive behavior by the industry players and possible collusion that transpired in the *WESM* during the supply months of November 2013 and December 2013. *MERALCO* participated in the proceedings and submitted a Memorandum.

An investigating officer of the *IU* filed a Complaint dated May 9, 2015 against *MERALCO* and *TMO* for alleged anti-competitive behavior constituting economic withholding in violation of Section 45 of the *EPIRA* and Rule 11, Section 1 and 8(e) of the *EPIRA IRR*. In an Order dated June 15, 2015 the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to file its comment on the Complaint. *MERALCO* and *TMO* have filed their respective answers to the Complaint.

In an Order dated September 1, 2015, the *ERC* directed the investigating officer to file his reply to *MERALCO*. In a Manifestation and Motion to Set the Case for Hearing dated November 9, 2015, the investigating officer manifested that he would no longer file a reply and that the case be set for hearing.

On May 24, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 14, Series of 2016, which resolved to divide the Commission into two (2) core groups for the conduct of hearings and to designate the commissioners to act as presiding officers in anti-competition cases. The raffle pursuant to said Resolution was conducted on June 15, 2016.

In a Notice of Pre-Trial Conference dated June 16, 2016, the *ERC* set the pre-trial conference on August 18, 2016 and required *MERALCO* and *TMO* to submit their respective pre-trial briefs. However, on July 27, 2016, the complainant filed two (2) omnibus motions for the consolidation and deferment of the pre-trial conferences. Hence, in an Order dated August 1, 2016, the respondents were given 10 days to submit their comments on the Motion for Consolidation, with the complainant given five (5) days to file his reply. As such, the pre-trial conferences as scheduled were deferred until further notice and all parties were granted 20 days to submit their respective pre-trial briefs.

In the meantime, *MERALCO* likewise filed an Urgent Motion to Dismiss with Motion to Suspend Proceedings which was adopted by *TMO* in its Manifestation and Motion filed on July 28, 2016. *MERALCO* maintained that the Complaint should be dismissed due to the absence of subject matter jurisdiction as it is now the Philippine Competition Commission (“*PCC*”) which has original and primary jurisdiction over competition-related cases in the energy sector. On August 23, 2016, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Motion Ad Cautelam for suspension of proceeding including period to file pre-trial brief and judicial affidavit.

In a Motion dated August 25, 2016, complainant filed a Motion to defer the submission of the complainant's pre-trial brief and judicial affidavit. In an Order dated June 13, 2017, the *ERC* denied the motion to consolidate but upheld the authority of private counsel to represent the complainants. *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration to question such authority.

In an Order dated February 2, 2017, the *ERC* denied the motion to dismiss and asserted jurisdiction over the Complaint. *MERALCO* filed its *MR* to the Order on February 23, 2017. In an Order dated June 20, 2017, the *ERC* denied the *MR*. On September 19, 2017, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Certiorari with the *CA*. In a Resolution dated October 2, 2017, the *CA* required respondents to file their Comment on the Petition within 10 days and held in abeyance its resolution on the prayer for injunctive relief until the comments have been

filed. *MERALCO* was likewise given five (5) days to file its reply. In a Manifestation dated October 23, 2017, the *ERC* stated that it is a nominal party in the case as the quasi-judicial tribunal that issued the assailed ordinances. The *IU* filed its own Comment dated December 19, 2017. In a Manifestation and Motion dated December 22, 2017, the *OSG* informed the *CA* that it will no longer represent the *IU* and will instead participate as “tribune of the people”. In the meantime, *TMO* also filed a separate Petition for Review on Certiorari with the *CA*. In a Resolution dated January 10, 2018, the *CA* ordered the consolidation of the petitions of *TMO* and *MERALCO*. In a Decision dated May 23, 2018, the *CA* denied the consolidated Petitions filed by *MERALCO*, *TMO*, and *APRI*, and ruled that the jurisdiction to resolve the *IU* cases remains with the *ERC* because the Philippine Competition Act (“*PCA*”) does not apply retroactively.

On June 20, 2018, *MERALCO* filed an *MR* with the *CA*. The *ERC* likewise filed its Motion for Partial Reconsideration on the ground that it retained concurrent jurisdiction together with the *PCC* over cases involving alleged anti-competitive conduct supposedly because the *PCA* did not repeal Section 45 of the *EPIRA*.

In Resolution dated January 28, 2019, the *CA* denied the motions for reconsideration filed by all of the parties. While it sustained its finding that the *PCC* now holds original, exclusive, and primary jurisdiction over all competition-related cases, the *CA* reiterated its view that the *PCA* has no retroactive effect.

The *ERC* has elevated the matter to the *SC*. *MERALCO*, *TMO* and *APRI* have all filed their respective manifestations before the *SC*. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action by the *SC* on the matter.

8. *SPPC* vs. *PSALM*

SPPC and *PSALM* are parties to an Independent Power Producer Administration (“*IPPA*”) Agreement covering the Ilijan Power Plant. On the other hand, *MERALCO* and *SPPC* have a *PSA* covering the sale of electricity from the Ilijan Power Plant to *MERALCO*. In a letter dated September 8, 2015, *SPPC* informed *MERALCO* that due to an on going dispute with *PSALM* arising from difference in interpretation of the provisions of the *IPPA* Agreement, the latter terminated the said Agreement. *SPPC* filed a complaint at the *RTC-Mandaluyong* to nullify the termination notice for lack of factual and legal basis. On said date, the executive judge of *RTC-Mandaluyong* issued a 72-hour *TRO*. In an Order dated September 11, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* extended the *TRO* by an additional 17 days. In an Order dated September 28, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* granted the prayer for preliminary injunction. *PSALM* has filed *MRs* to question the Orders.

MERALCO filed a Motion for Leave to Intervene with Motion to Admit Attached Complaint-in-Intervention. In an Order dated October 19, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* allowed *MERALCO*’s intervention in the proceedings and admitted its Complaint-in-Intervention. *PSALM* filed a *MR* dated November 6, 2015 of the Order admitting *MERALCO*’s intervention. *RTC-Mandaluyong* issued an Order dated June 27, 2016 denying the *MRs*. *PSALM* elevated these orders to the *CA* through a Petition for Certiorari. In a Resolution dated May 25, 2017, the *CA* denied *PSALM*’s prayer for the issuance of a *TRO* and/or writ of preliminary injunction. In a Decision dated December 19, 2017, the *CA* dismissed the Petition and affirmed the Orders of the *RTC-Mandaluyong*.

On July 26, 2019, *PSALM* filed a Petition for Certiorari to assail the September 24, 2018 Order and April 29, 2019 Order of the *RTC* which directed *PSALM* to respond to *SPPC*’s interrogatories and submit certain documents. *PSALM* subsequently filed an Amended Petition on March 14, 2020. In a Resolution dated June 17, 2020, the *CA* directed the respondents to file their comment to the Amended Petition. *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Motion to Drop Party-Respondent on July 13, 2020.

In the meantime, on February 14, 2020, *MERALCO* filed its Motion to Withdraw as *MERALCO* no longer possessed any legal interest in the subject matter of the case as its *PSA* with *SPPC* subject of the dispute already expired. While *PSALM* has no objection to *MERALCO*’s withdrawal from the case, *SPPC* requested for time to file its comment. In an Order dated July 20, 2020, the *RTC* granted *MERALCO*’s Motion to Withdraw.

9. Ombudsman Case Against Directors

SPPC and *PSALM* are parties to an Independent Power Producer Administration (“*IPPA*”) Agreement covering the Ilijan Power Plant. On the other hand, *MERALCO* and *SPPC* had a *PSA* covering the sale of electricity from the Ilijan Power Plant to *MERALCO*. In a letter dated September 8, 2015, *SPPC* informed *MERALCO* that due to an ongoing dispute with *PSALM* arising from difference in interpretation of the provisions of the *IPPA* Agreement, *PSALM* terminated the said Agreement. *SPPC* filed a complaint at the *RTC-Mandaluyong* to nullify the termination notice for lack of factual and legal basis. On said date, the executive judge of *RTC-Mandaluyong* issued a 72-hour *TRO*. In an Order dated September 11, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* extended the *TRO* by an additional 17 days. In an Order dated September 28, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* granted the prayer for preliminary injunction. *PSALM* has filed *MRs* to question the Orders.

MERALCO filed a Motion for Leave to Intervene with Motion to Admit Attached Complaint-in-Intervention. In an Order dated October 19, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* allowed *MERALCO*’s intervention in the proceedings and admitted its Complaint-in-Intervention. *PSALM* filed a *MR* dated November 6, 2015 of the Order admitting *MERALCO*’s intervention. *RTC-Mandaluyong* issued an Order dated June 27, 2016 denying the *MRs*. *PSALM* elevated these orders to the *CA* through a Petition for Certiorari. In a Resolution dated May 25, 2017, the *CA* denied *PSALM*’s prayer for the issuance of a *TRO* and/or writ of preliminary injunction. In a Decision dated December 19, 2017, the *CA* dismissed the Petition and affirmed the Orders of the *RTC-Mandaluyong*.

(v) Any significant elements of income or loss that did not arise from the registrant’s continuing operations.

None

(vi) Any seasonal aspects that had a material effect on the financial condition or results of operations.

Seasonality of Operations and Growth Drivers

Approximately 97% of *MERALCO Group*’s operating revenues pertain to sale of electricity distributed by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric*.

The electricity sales of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* exhibit a degree of quarterly seasonality. The *kWh* sales in the first quarter is lower than the average of the year as this period is characterized by cooler temperature and softer consumer demand following heightened consumer spending in the last quarter of the year. The second quarter is marked by higher than average *kWh* sales. This is due to a number of factors, including: increased consumption of households and commercial establishments due the summer season; increased production of industries to replenish stocks and in preparation for the opening of classes; and, heightened construction activity to take advantage of the sunny weather. In the third quarter of the year, manufacturing industries that cater to the export market have their peak production schedule at this time as they rush to meet shipping deadlines to foreign markets. Industries catering to the domestic market are also now starting production in preparation for the Christmas season. Lastly, the fourth quarter performance is about the average of the year. Industrial production winds down while households and commercial establishments also cut down on their cooling loads. Given this perspective on the seasonality of *kWh* sales, a higher proportion of the *MERALCO*’s and *Clark Electric*’s revenues are earned on the second half of the year. Aside from the quarterly seasonal pattern, *kWh* sales on a year-on-year basis adjust as a result of a number of factors. Sales of electricity normally increase in periods of economic growth, low inflation and electricity rates, and in periods of high temperatures over extended period of time, e.g. the “*El Niño*” episodes.

The following table sets forth *MERALCO Group* quarterly sales in *GWh* for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019.

Period	2020	2019
First Quarter	10,879	10,381
Second Quarter	10,260	12,442
Third Quarter	11,400	12,182
Fourth Quarter	—	—
Total	32,539	35,005

The businesses of all other subsidiaries are not highly seasonal.

- **Any known trends, demands, commitments, events or uncertainties that will have a material impact of the issuer's liquidity.**

The Management is not aware of any known trends, demands, commitments, events or uncertainties that may deem potentially have a material impact on *MERALCO Group's* liquidity as at September 30, 2020.

- **Discussion of *MERALCO's* and its majority-owned subsidiaries top five (5) key performance indicators. It shall include a discussion of the manner by which *MERALCO* calculates or identifies the indicators presented on a comparable basis.**

Listed hereunder are *MERALCO's* five (5) major subsidiaries subsidiaries namely *Clark Electric*, *MGen*, *MIESCOR*, *e-MVI* and *CIS*. The following table summarizes their key financial performance and indicators as at and for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019.

Financial Highlights and Ratio¹² of Major Subsidiaries
As at and for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019
(Amounts in million pesos except for financial ratios and % change)

	<i>Clark Electric</i>			<i>MGen</i>			<i>MIESCOR</i>			<i>e-MVI</i>			<i>CIS</i>		
	2020	2019	% change	2020	2019	% change	2020	2019	% change	2020	2019	% change	2020	2019	% change
Percentage of ownership	65%	65%		100%	100%		99%	99%		100%	100%		100%	100%	
<u>Condensed Statements of Financial Position</u>															
Total assets	₱3,060	₱2,853	7	₱21,621	₱24,147	(10)	₱5,566	₱4,595	21	₱3,275	₱2,831	16	₱3,174	₱2,538	25
Current assets	1,209	1,131	7	1,130	6,938	(84)	4,990	3,830	30	1,810	1,797	1	3,036	2,392	27
Cash and cash equivalents	872	774	13	473	597	(21)	449	205	119	1,381	1,476	(6)	1,185	920	29
Equity	1,840	1,678	10	20,872	24,016	(13)	1,157	1,095	6	2,573	2,347	10	971	1,118	(13)
Total debt ¹³	–	–	–	81	–	–	741	785	(6)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Current liabilities	622	500	24	595	74	704	4,136	3,250	27	551	416	32	2,186	1,408	55
<u>Financial Ratios</u>															
Debt-to-equity ratio	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.64	0.72	(11)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Current ratio	1.94	2.26	(14)	1.90	93.76	(98)	1.21	1.18	2	3.28	4.32	(24)	1.39	1.70	(18)
<u>Condensed Statements of Income</u>															
Revenues	1,802	2,308	(22)	–	–	–	3,003	2,623	14	1,065	1,014	5	1,237	1,390	(11)
Costs and expenses	1,624	2,106	(23)	3,150	566	457	2,729	2,810	(3)	594	526	13	1,138	1,060	7
Net income (loss)	185	212	(13)	(2,532)	(995)	154	143	(400)	(136)	329	290	13	11	223	(95)
<u>Financial Ratios</u>															
Profit margin	10.3%	9.2%	12	–	–	–	4.8%	(15.2%)	(131)	30.9%	28.6%	8	0.9%	16.0%	(94)
Return on equity	10.1%	12.6%	(20)	(12.1%)	(4.1%)	193	12.4%	(36.5%)	(134)	12.8%	12.4%	3	1.1%	19.9%	(97)
Asset turnover	0.61	0.90	(35)	–	–	–	0.59	0.61	(4)	0.35	0.39	(22)	0.43	0.55	(37)

¹² The manner of computing the financial ratios for subsidiaries is the same with that of MERALCO's as presented in *Financial Highlights and Key Performance Indicators*.

¹³ Total Debt is composed of notes payable and interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities, current and non-current portions.

ANNEX – Aging of Trade and Other Receivables

As at September 30, 2020

(Amounts in millions)

	T o t a l	1 - 30 days	31 - 60 days	61 - 90 days	Over 90 days
Trade receivables	₱58,515	₱46,322	₱3,761	₱2,915	₱5,517
Other trade receivables	5,604	2,398	366	277	2,563
Gross trade receivables	64,119	48,720	4,127	3,192	8,080
Non-trade receivables	3,564	2,461	31	84	988
Total receivables	67,683	51,181	4,158	3,276	9,068
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(3,849)	(124)	(156)	(361)	(3,208)
Net receivables	₱63,834	₱51,057	₱4,002	₱2,915	₱5,860

Manila Electric Company and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Financial Statements

as at September 30, 2020 (Unaudited) and December 31, 2019 (Audited)

And

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019 (Unaudited)

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	Note		
(Amounts in millions)			
ASSETS			
Noncurrent Assets			
Utility plant and others	7 and 10	₱156,217	₱151,441
Investments in associates and interests in joint ventures	8 and 22	16,297	14,965
Investment properties	9	1,499	1,502
Deferred tax assets - net	27	29,172	23,440
Financial and other noncurrent assets	2, 10, 14, 25, 26 and 29	56,386	47,982
Total Noncurrent Assets		259,571	239,330
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	11, 24 and 26	31,697	38,262
Trade and other receivables	12, 23 and 26	63,834	32,608
Inventories	13	5,740	4,558
Financial and other current assets	10, 14, 22 and 26	13,538	42,261
Total Current Assets		114,809	117,689
Total Assets		₱374,380	₱357,019

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

Equity Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent

Common stock	15	₱11,273	₱11,273
Additional paid-in capital		4,111	4,111
Equity reserve		(116)	(116)
Employee stock purchase plan	15	1,049	1,049
Unrealized fair value gains on fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI") financial assets	10	278	227
Remeasurement adjustments on retirement and other post-employment liabilities	25	(239)	(193)
Share in remeasurement adjustments on associates' retirement liabilities	8	(12)	(12)
Cumulative translation adjustments of associates	8	6	762
Cumulative translation adjustments of subsidiaries		24	32
Treasury shares	15	(11)	(11)
Retained earnings	15	61,350	67,108
Equity Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent		77,713	84,230
Non-controlling Interests		1,076	1,011
Total Equity		₱78,789	₱85,241

(Forward)

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	Note		
(Amounts in millions)			
Noncurrent Liabilities			
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities - net of current portion	16, 24 and 26	₱12,392	₱12,745
Customers' deposits - net of current portion	17, 21 and 26	29,544	28,247
Long-term employee benefits	25	10,891	8,882
Provisions	18, 21 and 28	17,865	17,356
Refundable service extension costs - net of current portion	21 and 26	7,672	6,932
Deferred tax liabilities - net	27	104	84
Other noncurrent liabilities	2, 5, 7, 23 and 28	85,699	69,971
Total Noncurrent Liabilities		164,167	144,217
Current Liabilities			
Notes payable	20, 24 and 26	23,373	23,393
Trade payables and other current liabilities	15, 21, 22, 26 and 28	95,647	93,680
Customers' refund	2, 19 and 26	2,963	3,032
Income tax payable		4,428	2,341
Current portion of interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	16, 24 and 26	5,013	5,115
Total Current Liabilities		131,424	127,561
Total Liabilities		295,591	271,778
Total Liabilities and Equity		₱374,380	₱357,019

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

		Unaudited			
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	Note	2020	2019	2020	2019
(Amounts in millions, except per share data)					
REVENUES					
	6, 22, 23, 29 and 31				
Sale of electricity		₱208,434	₱235,376	₱69,803	₱74,109
Sale of other services	22	5,774	5,750	2,151	2,064
		214,208	241,126	71,954	76,173
COSTS AND EXPENSES					
Purchased power	23 and 29	156,122	183,355	51,975	56,690
Provision for probable losses and expenses from claims	2, 18 and 28	18,348	9,092	5,077	3,147
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	24 and 25	10,024	9,939	3,096	3,455
Depreciation and amortization	7, 9, 10 and 24	6,094	6,400	2,049	2,043
Contracted services		5,034	4,688	2,062	1,626
Taxes, fees and permits		848	878	230	172
Other expenses	22 and 24	4,366	3,841	1,101	1,447
		200,836	218,193	65,590	68,580
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES)					
Interest and other financial income	11 and 24	1,875	2,441	487	715
Interest and other financial charges	20 and 24	(1,223)	(1,141)	(402)	(340)
Equity in net earnings (losses) of associates and joint ventures	8	717	(310)	15	(74)
Foreign exchange gains (losses)		(561)	(81)	(384)	311
Others	2, 22, 29 and 31	232	429	(110)	247
		1,040	1,338	(394)	859
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX		14,412	24,271	5,970	8,452
PROVISION FOR (BENEFIT FROM) INCOME TAX					
	27				
Current		8,878	8,990	3,212	3,121
Deferred		(5,808)	(3,142)	(1,683)	(1,016)
		3,070	5,848	1,529	2,105
NET INCOME		₱11,342	₱18,423	₱4,441	₱6,347
Attributable To					
Equity holders of the Parent	30	₱11,252	₱18,321	₱4,408	₱6,314
Non-controlling interests		90	102	33	33
		₱11,342	₱18,423	₱4,441	₱6,347
Earnings Per Share Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent					
	30				
Basic		₱9.98	₱16.26	₱3.91	₱5.60
Diluted		9.98	16.26	3.91	5.60

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	<i>Note</i>	Unaudited			
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30	For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30
		2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
NET INCOME		₱11,342	₱18,423	₱4,441	₱6,347
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
Items that will be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:					
Cumulative translation adjustments of associates		(756)	(20)	–	13
Unrealized fair value gains on fair value through other comprehensive (“FVOCI”) financial assets	10	54	460	34	64
Cumulative translation adjustments of subsidiaries		(8)	2	(5)	4
Net other comprehensive income (loss) that will be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods		(710)	442	29	81
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:					
Remeasurement adjustments on retirement and other post-employment liabilities	25	(65)	486	(14)	74
Income tax effect		19	(145)	4	(22)
		(46)	341	(10)	52
Unrealized fair value gains (losses) on equity securities at FVOCI		(4)	19	(3)	10
Income tax effect		1	(2)	1	(1)
		(3)	17	(2)	9
Net other comprehensive income (loss) that will not be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods		(49)	358	(12)	61
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS), NET OF INCOME TAX		(759)	800	17	142
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME, NET OF INCOME TAX		₱10,583	₱19,223	₱4,458	₱6,489
Total Comprehensive Income Attributable To					
Equity holders of the Parent		₱10,493	₱19,119	₱4,425	₱6,456
Non-controlling interests		90	104	33	33
		₱10,583	₱19,223	₱4,458	₱6,489

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 AND 2019

	Equity Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent													
	Common Stock (Note 15)	Additional Paid-in Capital	Equity Reserve	Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Note 15)	Unrealized Fair Value Gains (Losses) on FVOCI Financial Assets (Note 10)	Remeas- ure- ment Adjustments on Retirement and Other Post- Employment Liabilities (Note 25)	Share in Remeas- ure- ment Adjustments on Associates' Retirement Liabilities (Note 8)	Cumulative Translation Adjustments of Associates (Note 8)	Cumulative Translation Adjustments of Subsidiaries	Treasury Shares (Note 15)	Retained Earnings (Note 15)	Equity Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent	Non- controlling Interests (Note 6)	Total Equity
	(Amounts in millions)													
At January 1, 2020	₱11,273	₱4,111	(₱116)	₱1,049	₱227	(₱193)	(₱12)	₱762	₱32	(₱11)	₱67,108	₱84,230	₱1,011	₱85,241
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11,252	11,252	90	11,342
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	51	(46)	—	(756)	(8)	—	—	(759)	—	(759)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	51	(46)	—	(756)	(8)	—	11,252	10,493	90	10,583
Dividends	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(17,010)	(17,010)	(30)	(17,040)
Appropriation of unrestricted retained earnings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
At September 30, 2020	₱11,273	₱4,111	(₱116)	₱1,049	₱278	(₱239)	(₱12)	₱6	₱24	(₱11)	₱61,350	₱77,713	₱1,076	₱78,789
At January 1, 2019	₱11,273	₱4,111	(₱116)	₱1,049	(₱295)	₱3,535	(₱10)	₱551	₱33	(₱11)	₱61,922	₱82,042	₱845	₱82,887
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18,321	18,321	102	18,423
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	477	339	—	(20)	2	—	—	798	2	800
Total comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	477	339	—	(20)	2	—	18,321	19,119	104	19,223
Dividends	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(18,099)	(18,099)	(23)	(18,122)
At September 30, 2019	₱11,273	₱4,111	(₱116)	₱1,049	₱182	₱3,874	(₱10)	₱531	₱35	(₱11)	₱62,144	₱83,062	₱926	₱83,988

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

		Unaudited	
		For the Nine Months Ended	
		September 30	
	Note	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Income before income tax		₱14,412	₱24,271
Adjustments for:			
Provision for probable losses and expenses			
from claims - net	2, 23 and 28	17,465	8,830
Depreciation and amortization	7, 9 and 10	6,094	6,400
Interest and other financial income	24	(1,875)	(2,441)
Provision for doubtful accounts		1,440	26
Interest and other financial charges	24	1,223	1,141
Equity in net losses (gains) of associates and joint ventures	8	(717)	310
Others		(138)	(226)
Operating income before working capital changes		37,904	38,311
Decrease (increase) in:			
Trade and other receivables		(35,130)	3,695
Inventories		(1,182)	(467)
Other current assets		(89)	(2,559)
Increase (decrease) in:			
Trade payables and other current liabilities		3,833	(7,601)
Customers' deposits		998	1,423
Customers' refund		(69)	(1,320)
Long-term employee benefits		2,060	1,580
Cash generated from operations		8,325	33,062
Income tax paid		(5,453)	(5,889)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities		2,872	27,173
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Additions to:			
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	10	(78,221)	(38,547)
Debt securities at amortized cost	10	(15,629)	(10,598)
Utility plant and others	7	(10,496)	(15,262)
Short-term investments		(5,472)	(20,680)
Investments in associates and interests in joint ventures	8	(722)	(5,245)
Intangible assets	10	(215)	(260)
Proceeds from maturity of:			
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>		70,630	36,077
Short-term investments		23,680	35,337
Debt securities at amortized cost		21,824	5,149
Interest and other financial income received		2,299	2,715
Proceeds from disposal of:			
Utility plant and others		211	361
Dividends received from associates		107	82
Decrease in minority interest		(30)	(24)
Decrease (increase) in other noncurrent assets		429	(1,955)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		8,395	(12,850)

(Forward)

Unaudited			
For the Nine Months Ended			
September 30			
	Note	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments of:			
Dividends	15	(P16,745)	(P18,021)
Interest and other financial charges		(1,289)	(1,151)
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	16	(476)	(8,698)
Notes payable		(98)	(283)
Proceeds from availment of notes payable	20	78	179
Decrease in other noncurrent liabilities		473	1,937
Net cash used in financing activities		(18,057)	(26,037)
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(6,790)	(11,714)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD		38,262	36,471
NET UNREALIZED FOREIGN EXCHANGE GAINS (LOSSES)		225	(21)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD	11	P31,697	P24,736

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Corporate Information

Manila Electric Company (“*MERALCO*”) holds a 25-year congressional franchise under Republic Act (“*RA*”) No. 9209 valid through June 28, 2028 to construct, operate, and maintain the electric distribution system in the cities and municipalities of Bulacan, Cavite, Metro Manila, and Rizal and certain cities, municipalities and barangays in the provinces of Batangas, Laguna, Pampanga, and Quezon. On October 20, 2008, the Energy Regulatory Commission (“*ERC*”) granted *MERALCO* a consolidated Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the operation of electric service within its franchise coverage, effective until the expiration of *MERALCO*’s congressional franchise. *MERALCO*’s participation in retail electricity supply (“*RES*”) is directly through its local *RES* unit, *MPower* and indirectly through its affiliate *RES* entities. The *ERC* granted the following subsidiaries of *MERALCO* distinct *RES* licenses to operate as affiliate retail electricity suppliers in Luzon and Visayas, namely; Vantage Energy Solutions and Management, Inc. (“*Vantage*”), a wholly owned subsidiary of *MERALCO*; Solve, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of *MERALCO* PowerGen Corporation (“*MGen*”); and MeridianX Inc. (“*MeridianX*”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Comstech Integration Alliance, Inc. (“*Comstech*”, 60% owned by *MERALCO*).

The power segment, primarily power distribution, consists of operations of *MERALCO* and its subsidiary, Clark Electric Distribution Corporation (“*Clark Electric*”). *Clark Electric* is a registered private distribution utility with a franchise granted by Clark Development Corporation (“*CDC*”) to own, operate and maintain a power distribution system and to distribute power exclusively within its franchise area, which includes the Clark Freeport Zone and the sub-zones.

MERALCO is developing power generation facilities of various fuel sources through its wholly owned subsidiary, *MGen*, and is also engaged in rooftop solar energy projects through its wholly owned subsidiary, MSpectrum, Inc. (“*Spectrum*”). Through several subsidiaries in the services segment, *MERALCO* provides engineering, design, construction and consulting services, bill collection services, distribution and energy management services, and communication, information system and technology services.

MERALCO manages the electric distribution facilities of Pampanga Electric Cooperative II (“*PELCO II*”) through *Comstech* under an Investment Management Contract (“*IMC*”). *MERALCO* also manages the electric distribution facilities in the Cavite Economic Zone (“*CEZ*”) under a 25-year concession agreement with Philippine Economic Zone Authority (“*PEZA*”).

Beginning September 2019, *MERALCO*, through its 60% equity ownership in Shin Clark Power Holdings, Inc. (“*Shin Clark*”) provides electricity services in New Clark City (“*NCC*”). The 9,450-hectare *NCC* span through Angeles City in Pampanga and the towns of Capas and Bamban in Tarlac.

MERALCO is owned directly by two (2) major stockholder groups, Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (“*Metro Pacific*”) and JG Summit Holdings, Inc. (“*JG Summit*”). *Metro Pacific* has combined direct equity interests in *MERALCO* and indirect ownership through its wholly owned subsidiary, Beacon Electric Asset Holdings, Inc. *Metro Pacific*’s combined direct and indirect ownership interests in *MERALCO* totaled 45.46% while *JG Summit* has 29.56% direct ownership interest in *MERALCO*. First Philippine Holdings Corporation (“*First Holdings*”) and First Philippine Utilities Corporation have a combined direct equity ownership of 3.95% in *MERALCO*. The balance of *MERALCO*’s common shares is held by institutional investors and the public.

The common shares of *MERALCO* are listed and traded in the Philippine Stock Exchange (“PSE”) with ticker symbol, *MER*.

The registered office address of *MERALCO* is Lopez Building, Ortigas Avenue, Barangay Ugong, Pasig City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

2. Rate Regulations

As distribution utilities (“DUs”), *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* are subject to the rate-making regulations and regulatory policies of the *ERC*. Billings of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* to customers are itemized or “unbundled” into a number of bill components that reflect the various activities and costs incurred in providing electricity distribution services. The adjustment to each bill component is governed by mechanisms promulgated and enforced by the *ERC*, mainly: [i] the “Rules Governing the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanisms and Corresponding Confirmation Process for Distribution Utilities”, which govern the recovery of pass-through costs, including over- or under-recoveries of the bill components, namely, (a) generation charge, (b) transmission charge, (c) system loss (“SL”) charge, (d) lifeline and inter-class rate subsidies, and (e) local franchise and business taxes; and [ii] the “Rules for the Setting of Distribution Wheeling Rates” (“RDWR”), as modified, which govern the determination of *MERALCO*’s distribution, supply, and metering charges.

The rate-setting mechanism of *Clark Electric* is likewise in accordance with the *ERC* regulations. The following is a discussion of matters related to rate-setting of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric*:

Performance-Based Regulations (“PBR”)

MERALCO

MERALCO is among the Group A entrants to the *PBR*, together with two (2) other private *DUs*.

Rate-setting under *PBR* is governed by the *RDWR*. The *PBR* scheme sets tariffs once every Regulatory Period (“RP”) based on the regulated asset base (“RAB”) of each *DU*, and the required operating and capital expenditures (“OPEX” and “CAPEX”, respectively) to meet operational performance and service level requirements responsive to the need for adequate, reliable and quality power, efficient service, and growth of all customer classes in the franchise area as approved by the *ERC*. *PBR* also employs a mechanism that penalizes or rewards a *DU* depending on its network and service performance.

Rate filings and settings are done on a *RP* basis. One (1) *RP* consists of four (4) Regulatory Years (“RYs”). A *RY* for *MERALCO* begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year. The 5th *RP* for Group A *DUs* began on July 1, 2019 and shall end on June 30, 2023.

Maximum Average Price ("MAP") for the 3rd RP

After rate setting process for a *RP*, *MERALCO* goes through a rate verification process for each *RY* within the *RP*. In each of *RYs* 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, *MERALCO* filed for the respective *MAP* with the *ERC* provisionally approved the foregoing distribution *MAPs* for each of the *RY*. However, as at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting the final approval of the *ERC*.the *ERC*

Interim Average Rate beginning RY 2016

On July 10, 2015, the *ERC* provisionally approved an interim average rate of ₱1.3810 per *kWh* (excluding efficiency adjustment) and the rate translation per customer class, which was reflected in the customer bills starting July 2015. *MERALCO* has completed the presentation of its evidence and is set to file its Formal Offer of Evidence ("*FOE*") after the *ERC* has resolved pending motions. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC*'s ruling on these motions remains pending.

Pending a reset, *MERALCO*, as authorized by the *ERC* continues to bill customers using the last *ERC* approved interim rate.

While *MERALCO* complied with the directive to refund the total amount of ₱263.9 million representing regulatory reset costs, equivalent to ₱0.0731 per *kWh* in its July 2019 billing, it wrote a letter seeking clarification or reconsideration on the basis for such refund, including the imposition of and basis for the interest computed therein. The refund was included as a separate line item in *MERALCO*'s July 2019 billing to its customers. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to reply to *MERALCO*'s letter.

MERALCO recognized provisions for any resulting over-recoveries. The movements in and the balance of the "Other noncurrent liabilities" account in the consolidated statements of financial position include these provisions, consistent with the limited disclosure as allowed in Philippine Financial Reporting Standards ("*PFRSs*") as it may prejudice the position of *MERALCO*.

CAPEX for 4th RP and RY 2020

Absent the release by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern the filing of the missed period, *MERALCO* filed its applications for approval of authority to implement its *CAPEX* program pursuant to Section 20(b) of Commonwealth Act No. 146, as amended, otherwise known as the Public Service Act, for each of the *RPs* beginning July 1, 2015.

Absence the approval, *MERALCO* manifested several applications as Emergency *CAPEX* and proceeded with the implementation of the *CAPEX* to avoid compromising the network reliability.

Clark Electric

Clark Electric is among the four (4) Group D entrants to the *PBR*. Similar to *MERALCO*, it is subject to operational performance and service level requirements approved by the *ERC*. A *RY* for *Clark Electric* begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the following year. The 3rd *RP* for *Clark Electric* began on October 1, 2015 and ended on September 30, 2019. *Clark Electric* is to undergo the reset process and is awaiting the release by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern the filing of its 3rd *RP* reset application.

3rd and 4th RP PBR Reset for Clark Electric

Pending the issuance by the *ERC* of the final rules to govern missed period and subsequent regulatory period, the approved *MAP* for *RY* 2015 was used beginning *RY* 2016.

On February 18, 2016, December 29, 2016, May 17, 2018 and July 5, 2019, *Clark Electric* filed with the *ERC* its proposed *CAPEX* program for *RYs* 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, respectively. *Clark Electric* applied for an approval to implement the *CAPEX* in order to continue meeting the electricity requirements of its current and future customers, improve the flexibility, reliability and stability of its distribution network as well as improve customer service. Manifestations as emergency projects were submitted to the *ERC* on October 9, 2019 covering most of the applied *CAPEX* Projects for *RYs* 2016, 2017 and 2018. As at October 26, 2020, the application is pending approval by the *ERC*.

Supreme Court ("SC") Decision on Unbundling Rate Case

On May 30, 2003, the *ERC* issued an Order approving *MERALCO's* unbundled tariffs that resulted in a total increase of ₱0.17 per *kWh* over the May 2003 tariff levels. However, on August 4, 2003, *MERALCO* received a Petition for Review of the *ERC's* ruling filed by certain consumer and civil society groups before the Court of Appeals ("*CA*"). On July 22, 2004, the *CA* set aside the *ERC's* ruling on *MERALCO's* rate unbundling and remanded the case to the *ERC*. Further, the *CA* opined that the *ERC* should have asked the Commission on Audit ("*COA*") to audit the books of *MERALCO*. The *ERC* and *MERALCO* subsequently filed separate motions asking the *CA* to reconsider its decision. As a result of the denial by the *CA* of the motions on January 24, 2005, the *ERC* and *MERALCO* elevated the case to the *SC*.

In an En Banc decision promulgated on December 6, 2006, the *SC* set aside and reversed the *CA* ruling saying that a *COA* audit was not a prerequisite in the determination of a utility's rates. However, while the *SC* affirmed *ERC's* authority in rate-fixing, the *SC* directed the *ERC* to request *COA's* assistance to undertake a complete audit of the books, records and accounts of *MERALCO*. In compliance with the directive of the *SC*, the *ERC* requested *COA* to conduct an audit of the books, records and accounts of *MERALCO* using calendar years 2004 and 2007 as test years.

The *COA* audit, which began in September 2008, was completed with the submission to the *ERC* of its report on November 12, 2009.

On February 15, 2010, the *ERC* issued its Order directing *MERALCO* and all intervenors in the case to submit, within 15 days from receipt of the Order, their respective comments on the *COA* report.

On June 21, 2011, the *ERC* maintained and affirmed its findings and conclusions in its Decision dated March 20, 2003 and Order dated May 30, 2003. The *ERC* stated that the *COA* recommendation to apply disallowances under *PBR* to rate unbundling violates the principle against retroactive rate-making. An intervenor group filed a *MR* of the said Order. On September 5, 2011, *MERALCO* filed its comment on the intervenor's *MR*. On February 4, 2013, the *ERC* denied the intervenor's *MR*. The intervenor filed a Petition for Review before the *CA* and *MERALCO* filed its comment thereon on May 29, 2014. In compliance with the *CA's* directive, *MERALCO* filed its Memorandum in August 2015. In a Resolution dated September 29, 2015, the *CA* declared the case submitted for decision. In a Decision dated February 29, 2016, the *CA* dismissed the Petition for Review and affirmed the orders dated June 21, 2011 and February 4, 2013 of the *ERC*.

On March 22, 2016, the intervenors filed a *MR* on the *CA* Decision dated February 29, 2016. The same was denied by the *CA* through a Resolution dated August 8, 2016.

On October 11, 2016, *MERALCO* received a Petition for Review on Certiorari filed by the intervenors before the *SC* appealing the dismissal of its Petition. *MERALCO*, *COA* and the *ERC* have filed their respective comments to the Petition. On June 22, 2017, *MERALCO* received the Motion for Leave to Intervene and Admit Comment-in-Intervention filed by other *DUs* that sought to intervene in the case. In a Resolution dated October 3, 2017, the *SC* granted the Motion for Leave to Intervene and Comment-in-Intervention. On November 13, 2019, *MERALCO* received a Decision dated October 8, 2019 partially granting the Petition filed by the National Association of Electric Consumers for Reforms Inc. (“*NASECORE*”), which among other things, (i) voided the adoption by the *ERC* of the current or replacement cost in the valuation of *MERALCO*’s *RAB*; and (ii) remanded the case to *ERC* to determine, within 90 days from finality of the Decision, (1) the valuation of the *RAB* of *MERALCO*; and (2) the parameters whether expenses that are not directly and entirely related to the operation of a distribution utility shall be passed on wholly or partially to consumers.

MERALCO, *PEPOA* and the *ERC* filed their respective motions for reconsideration which are pending before the *SC*.

*Applications for the Confirmation of Under- or Over-recoveries of
Pass-through Charges*

MERALCO

On July 13, 2009, the *ERC* issued Resolution No. 16, Series of 2009, adopting the “Rules Governing the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanisms and Corresponding Confirmation Process for Distribution Utilities”. These rules govern the recovery of pass-through costs, including under- or over-recoveries with respect to the following bill components: generation charge, transmission charge, *SL* charge, lifeline and inter-class rate subsidies, local franchise and business taxes. On October 18, 2010, the *ERC* promulgated *ERC* Resolution No. 21, Series of 2010, amending the *SL* true-up formula contained in Resolution No. 16, Series of 2009, and setting March 31, 2011 (covering adjustments implemented until the billing month of December 2010) and March 31, 2014 (covering adjustments from January 2011 to December 2013) as the new deadlines for *DUs* in Luzon to file their respective applications. Subsequent filings shall be made every three (3) years thereafter. On December 15, 2010, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 23, Series of 2010 to govern the recovery of senior citizens discounts and specified that post-verification shall coincide with the timeframes in Resolution No. 16, Series of 2009, as amended by Resolution No. 21, Series of 2010.

On June 1, 2015, the *ERC* approved with modification *MERALCO*’s applications for the confirmation of its under- or over-recoveries of its pass-through costs for the periods June 2003 to December 2010 and January to December 2011, directing *MERALCO* to collect net under-recoveries of ₱909 million and ₱1,535 million, respectively, without carrying charges until such time that the full amount has been collected. As at October 26, 2020, the recovery of the net under-recoveries is on going.

On March 31, 2014, *MERALCO* filed its application with the *ERC* to confirm its recoveries of net generation charge under-recoveries of ₱559 million, transmission charge over-recoveries of ₱639 million, net lifeline subsidy over-recoveries of ₱75 million, *SL* over-recoveries of ₱502 million from January 2012 to October 2013, and net senior citizens discount over-recoveries of ₱0.4 million from February 2011 to October 2013, excluding proposed carrying charges. Under- or over-recoveries from November and December 2013 supply months were excluded in the meantime, in view of the pending *SC* and *ERC* cases involving pass-through costs for these months. As at October 26, 2020, hearings are ongoing.

On January 29, 2016, *MERALCO* filed its application to confirm its under-recoveries of generation charge for special programs of ₱250.7 million, excluding carrying charges, covering the period March 2007 to December 2011. As at October 26, 2020, the application is pending before the *ERC*.

On March 31, 2017, *MERALCO* filed its application with the *ERC* to confirm its net generation charge over-recoveries of ₱4,919 million, net transmission charge over-recoveries of ₱632 million, net lifeline subsidy over-recoveries of ₱131 million, net *SL* over-recoveries of ₱1,243 million, net senior citizen discount over-recoveries of ₱2 million from January 2014 to December 2016 and real property tax (“*RPT*”) payments under-recoveries of ₱1,090 million from June 2014 to December 2016. On May 11, 2017, the *ERC* provisionally approved *MERALCO*’s application to refund the over-recoveries of pass-through charges (generation costs, transmission costs, system loss, life line subsidies and senior citizen discount) for the period January 2014 to December 2016 amounting to ₱6,927 million. The Order deferred action on *MERALCO*’s application for the recovery of *RPT* payments, citing the absence of any rule or guideline providing for the process of confirmation, approval and recovery of *RPT*. The ₱6,927 million was substantially in the refund was included in the June 2017 until August 2017 billings to customers except with respect to an amount to which a manifestation was filed for refund in order to zero out the remaining balance. *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on April 27, 2018. As at October 26, 2020, the application is pending final approval by the *ERC*.

On September 1, 2020, *MERALCO* filed its application with the *ERC* to confirm its net generation charge under-recoveries of ₱2,382 million, net transmission charge over-recoveries of ₱440 million, net lifeline subsidy over-recoveries of ₱31 million, net *SL* over-recoveries of ₱971 million, and net senior citizen discount over-recoveries of ₱3 million from January 2017 to December 2019. The case is set for initial hearing on January 21, 2021.

Clark Electric

Clark Electric filed its application for the approval of the calculations for the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanism for generation, transmission and system loss rates on April 1, 2014 in conformity with the said resolutions. A public hearing was held on June 17, 2014 and the *ERC* decision was received by *Clark Electric* on January 13, 2017. On January 30, 2017, *Clark Electric* filed a *MR* on the decision of the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the *MR* is pending decision by the *ERC*.

On March 31, 2017, *Clark Electric* filed with the *ERC* its second application for the approval of the calculations for the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanism for generation, transmission and system loss rates which covered years 2014, 2015 and 2016. A public hearing was held on October 25, 2017. On March 5, 2020, *Clark Electric* received an *ERC* Order dated December 9, 2019 directing *Clark Electric* to refund over-recoveries of transmission costs amounting to ₱22 million and to collect under-recoveries of generation and system loss costs amounting to ₱6 million and ₱4 million, respectively. Refund and collection of under- or over-recoveries of these pass-through charges is for a period of six (6) months starting the next billing period from the receipt of the *ERC* Order or such time that the full amount shall have been refunded.

Application for Approval of the Staggered Recovery and Payment of the Differential Generation Charge for February 2017 Supply

On January 31, 2017, *MERALCO* filed an Application seeking the *ERC*'s approval of the staggered recovery and payment scheme for the generation charge for the February 2017 supply month to mitigate the impact of scheduled outages and maintenance of certain generation power plants. On March 6, 2017, the *ERC* provisionally approved the recovery of the incremental fuel cost through a staggered scheme. The incremental fuel cost was included in the March 2017 until May 2017 billings to customers. As at October 26, 2020, hearings are ongoing.

Application for the Recovery of Differential Generation Costs

On February 17, 2014, *MERALCO* filed for the recovery of the unbilled generation costs for December 2013 supply month amounting to ₱11,075 million. An amended application was filed on March 25, 2014 to adjust the unbilled generation costs for recovery to ₱1,310 million, following the receipt of the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market ("WESM") billing adjustments based on regulated Luzon WESM prices. The first hearing was conducted on May 26, 2014. The *ERC* suspended the proceedings, pending resolution of issues of related cases at the SC involving generation costs for the November and December 2013 supply months and the regulated WESM prices for the said period. As at October 26, 2020, the proceedings remain suspended.

Deferred Purchase Price Adjustment

On October 12, 2009, the *ERC* released its findings on *MERALCO*'s implementation of the collection of the approved pass-through cost under-recoveries for the period June 2003 to January 2007. The *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to refund to its customers ₱268 million of deferred purchase power adjustment ("PPA") transmission line costs related to Quezon Power (Philippines) Limited Company ("QPPL") and deferred accounting adjustments incurred along with ₱184 million in carrying charges, or an equivalent ₱0.0169 per kWh. *MERALCO* implemented the refund beginning November 2009 until September 2010. However, the *ERC* has yet to rule on *MERALCO*'s deferred purchase price adjustment under-recoveries of ₱106 million, which is not a transmission line fee. On November 4, 2009, *MERALCO* filed an *MR* with the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the *MR* is still pending resolution by the *ERC*.

Applications for Recovery of Local Franchise Tax ("LFT")

MERALCO has filed distinct applications or provisional authority to implement new *LFT* rates based on Ordinances from the cities of Manila, Quezon City, Binan, Makati, Valenzuela, Taguig and Pasig. Some hearings have been completed and are waiting final approval. Application for recovery of taxes paid have been filed and pending Decision by the *ERC*.

SC Decision on the ₱0.167 per kWh Refund

Following the SC's final ruling that directed *MERALCO* to refund affected customers ₱0.167 per kWh for billings made from February 1994 to April 2003, the *ERC* approved the release of the refund in four (4) phases. On December 18, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Motion seeking the *ERC*'s approval for the continuation of the implementation of the refund to eligible accounts or customers under Phases I to IV, three (3) years from January 1, 2016 or until December 31, 2018. In said Motion, *MERALCO* likewise manifested to the *ERC* that, in order to give eligible customers the opportunity to claim their refund, and, so as not to disrupt the SC Refund process, *MERALCO* shall continue implementing the refund even after the December 2015 deadline, until and unless the *ERC* directs otherwise. In its Order dated February 4, 2019, the *ERC* granted *MERALCO*'s Motion and authorized *MERALCO* to continue with the implementation of the SC Refund to eligible accounts or customers under Phases I to IV until June 30, 2019 and submit a proposed scheme on how the unclaimed refund will be utilized for purposes of reducing the distribution rates of customers. On February 18, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Partial Compliance with Manifestation and Motion. On March 8, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Compliance with Manifestation and Motion. On July 12, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Manifestation informing the *ERC* that on July 1, 2019, *MERALCO* deposited all the unclaimed amounts of the SC Refund as of June 30, 2019 in a separate bank account. *MERALCO* further manifested in said Compliance that it shall continue with the processing of the refund claims of eligible customers and should the refund claims of these customers be evaluated to be valid, *MERALCO* shall, for the benefit of the customers, withdraw the refund amount from the bank account, release the same to the concerned customers and accordingly inform the *ERC* of the refunds paid. On September 10, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Manifestation and Motion with respect to the Order dated December 19, 2018 of the *ERC*. The *ERC* has yet to rule on the Urgent Manifestation and Motion by *MERALCO*. In its letter dated July 23, 2020 *MERALCO* informed the *ERC* of the updated balance of the SC Refund. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* continues to process the refund claims of eligible customers.

See Note 19 – Customers' Refund.

Violation of the ERC's Advisories during the Enhanced Community Quarantine ("ECQ") and Modified ECQ

In a Decision dated August 20, 2020, the *ERC* imposed a ₱19 million fine on *MERALCO* for alleged violation of the following *ERC*'s directives: (1) failure to clearly indicate that the bills were estimated; and (2) failure to comply with the mandated installment payment arrangement.

In addition, the *ERC* also directed *MERALCO* to set to zero the Distribution, Supply, and Metering ("DSM") charges of lifeline consumers whose monthly energy consumption does not exceed

100 kWh for one (1) month billing cycle effective in the next billing cycle immediately upon receipt of the *ERC* Decision. The cost of the discount shall not be charged to the non-lifeline consumers.

Corollary thereto, *MERALCO* was also directed to submit a Compliance Report within 15 days after its implementation of the *ERC*'s directives. The Compliance Report must contain the following information: (1) total number of customers benefitted; and (2) total amount of discount extended.

On September 11, 2020, *MERALCO* filed its Motion for Partial Reconsideration with respect to the directive to set to zero the *DSM* charges of lifeline consumers. On the same date, *MERALCO* also paid the ₱19 million fine imposed by the *ERC*.

As at October 26, 2020, the Motion for Partial Reconsideration remains pending with the *ERC*. However, *MERALCO* implemented the directive to set to zero the *DSM* charges of lifeline consumers in its October 2020 billings subject to the resolution of its Motion for Partial Reconsideration.

3. Basis of Preparation and Statement of Compliance

Basis of Preparation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for *MERALCO*'s utility plant and others and investment properties acquired before January 1, 2004, which are carried at deemed cost, and fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI") financial assets, which are measured at fair value.

All values are rounded to the nearest million peso, except when otherwise indicated.

Statement of Compliance

The consolidated financial statements of *MERALCO* and its subsidiaries have been prepared in compliance with *PFRSs*.

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the financial statements of *MERALCO* and its directly and indirectly owned subsidiaries, collectively referred to as the *MERALCO Group*. The following table presents such subsidiaries and the respective percentage of ownership:

Subsidiaries	Place of Incorporation	Principal Business Activity	2020		2019	
			Percentage of Ownership			
			Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect
Corporate Information Solutions, Inc. ("CIS")	Philippines	e-Transactions	100	—	100	—
Customer Frontline Solutions, Inc. ("CFSP")	Philippines	Teller services	—	95	—	95
CIS Bayad Center, Inc. ("Bayad Center")	Philippines	Bills payment collection	—	95	—	95
Fieldtech Specialist, Inc. ("Fieldtech")	Philippines	Bills payment collection	—	48	—	48
Meralco Energy, Inc. ("MServ")	Philippines	Energy systems management	100	—	100	—
Aurora Managed Power Services, Inc. ("AMPSP") ¹	Philippines	Energy systems management	—	60	—	60
(Forward)						

Subsidiaries	Place of Incorporation	Principal Business Activity	2020		2019	
			Percentage of Ownership			
			Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect
eMeralco Ventures, Inc. (“e-MVT”)	Philippines	e-Business development	100	–	100	–
Paragon Vertical Corporation (“Paragon”)	Philippines	Information technology (“IT”) and multi-media services	–	100	–	100
Radius Telecoms, Inc. (“Radius”)	Philippines	Telecommunication services	–	100	–	100
MGen	Philippines	Development of power generation plants	100	–	100	–
Calamba Aero Power Corporation ²	Philippines	Power generation	–	100	–	100
Atimonan Land Ventures Development Corporation	Philippines	Real estate	–	100	–	100
Atimonan One Energy, Inc. (“A1E”) ³	Philippines	Power generation	–	100	–	100
MPG Holdings Phils., Inc.	Philippines	Holding company	–	100	–	100
MPG Asia Limited (“MPG Asia”)	British Virgin Islands	Holding company	–	100	–	100
Solvre, Inc. ²	Philippines	Retail electricity supplier	–	100	–	100
MGen Renewable Energy, Inc. (“MGreen”)	Philippines	Renewable energy	–	100	–	100
Nortesol III Inc. (“NorteSol”)	Philippines	Renewable energy	–	70	–	70
LagunaSol Corporation (“LagunaSol”) ²	Philippines	Renewable energy	–	100	–	–
Spectrum	Philippines	Renewable energy	100	–	100	–
Vantage	Philippines	Retail electricity supplier	100	–	100	–
Meralco Financial Services Corporation (“Finserve”)	Philippines	Financial services provider	100	–	100	–
Lighthouse Overseas Insurance Limited (“LOIL”)	Bermuda	Insurance	100	–	100	–
MRAIL, Inc. (“MRail”)	Philippines	Engineering, construction and maintenance of mass transit system	100	–	100	–
eSakay, Inc. (“eSakay”)	Philippines	Maintenance and operation of transport service networks	100	–	100	–
MIESCOR	Philippines	Engineering, construction and consulting services	99	–	99	–
Miescor Builders Inc. (“MBI”)	Philippines	Electric transmission and distribution operation and maintenance services	–	99	–	99
Miescor Logistics Inc. (“MLI”)	Philippines	General services, manpower/maintenance	–	99	–	99
Clark Electric	Philippines	Power distribution	65	–	65	–
Clarion Energy Management Inc. (“Clarion”) ²	Philippines	Retail electricity supplier	–	65	–	65
Comstech	Philippines	Management of power distribution	60	–	60	–
MeridianX Inc.	Philippines	Retail electricity supplier	–	60	–	60
Meridian Power Ventures Limited (“MPV Limited”) ²	Hongkong	Investment holdings	100	–	100	–
Shin Clark ²	Philippines	Holding company	60	–	60	–

¹ The BOD of AMPSI approved the dissolution and shortening of corporate life until March 31, 2021.

² Has not started commercial operations.

³ In development stage as at September 30, 2020.

Control is achieved when the *MERALCO Group* is exposed, or has the right, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee. Specifically, the *MERALCO Group* controls an investee if and only if the *MERALCO Group* has (a) power over the investee; (b) exposure, or rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and (c) the ability to use its power over the investee to affect its returns.

When the *MERALCO Group* has less than majority of the voting or similar rights of an investee, it considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether it has power over an investee, including (a) the contractual arrangement with the other vote holders of the investee; (b) rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and (c) the *MERALCO Group*'s voting rights and potential voting rights.

The *MERALCO Group* re-assesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one (1) or more of the three (3) elements of control. Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the *MERALCO Group* obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when it loses control of the subsidiary. Assets, liabilities, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the period are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date it gains control until the date it ceases to control the subsidiary.

The consolidated financial statements are prepared using uniform accounting policies for like transactions and other events with similar circumstances. All intra-group balances, income and expenses, unrealized gains and losses and dividends resulting from intra-group transactions are eliminated in full.

Non-controlling interests represent the portion of profit or loss and net assets in *MIESCOR* and subsidiaries, *Clark Electric* and subsidiary, *Comstech* and subsidiary, *AMPSI*, *Fieldtech*, *Bayad Center*, *CFSI* and *Shin Clark* not held by *MERALCO* and are presented separately in the consolidated statement of income, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and within equity in the consolidated statement of financial position, separately from equity attributable to equity holders of the parent.

Total comprehensive income within a subsidiary is attributed to the non-controlling interest even if such results in a deficit.

A change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without a change of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction. In transactions where the non-controlling interest is acquired or sold without loss of control, any excess or deficit of consideration paid over the carrying amount of the non-controlling interest is recognized as part of "Equity reserve" account in the equity attributable to the equity holders of the parent.

If the *MERALCO Group* loses control over a subsidiary, it: (a) derecognizes the assets (including goodwill) and liabilities of the subsidiary; (b) derecognizes the carrying amount of any non-controlling interest; (c) derecognizes the cumulative translation adjustments deferred in equity; (d) recognizes the fair value of the consideration received; (e) recognizes the fair value of any investment retained; (f) recognizes any surplus or deficit in profit or loss; and (g) reclassifies *MERALCO*'s share of components previously recognized in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income to the consolidated statement of income.

4. Significant Accounting Policies, Changes and Improvements

Changes in Accounting Policies and Disclosures

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are consistent with those of previous period except with respect to the adoption of the following new standards and amendments and improvements to existing standards, which were effective beginning January 1, 2020.

Amendments to PFRS 3, Definition of a Business

The amendments to *PFRS 3* clarify the minimum requirements to be a business, remove the assessment of a market participant's ability to replace missing elements, and narrow the definition of outputs. The amendments also add guidance to assess whether an acquired process is substantive and add illustrative examples. An optional fair value concentration test is introduced which permits a simplified assessment of whether an acquired set of activities and assets is not a business.

The amendments will be applied by the *MERALCO Group* to future business combinations.

Amendments to PAS 1, Presentation of Financial Statements, and PAS 8, Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, Definition of Material

The amendments refine the definition of material in *PAS 1* and align the definitions used across *PFRSs* and other pronouncements. They are intended to improve the understanding of the existing requirements rather than to significantly impact an entity's materiality judgements.

The amendments do not have effect on the consolidated financial statements of the *MERALCO Group* to future business combinations.

Effective beginning on or after January 1, 2021

PFRS 17, Insurance Contracts

PFRS 17 is a comprehensive new accounting standard for insurance contracts covering recognition and measurement, presentation and disclosure. Once effective, *PFRS 17* shall replace *PFRS 4, Insurance Contracts*. This new standard on insurance contracts applies to all types of insurance contracts (i.e., life, non-life, direct insurance and re-insurance), regardless of the type of entities that issue them, as well as to certain guarantees and financial instruments with discretionary participation features. A few scope exceptions shall apply.

The overall objective of *PFRS 17* is to provide an accounting model for insurance contracts that is more useful and consistent for insurers. In contrast to the requirements in *PFRS 4*, which are largely based on grandfathering previous local accounting policies, *PFRS 17* provides a comprehensive model for insurance contracts, covering all relevant accounting aspects. The core of *PFRS 17* is the general model, supplemented by:

- A specific adaptation for contracts with direct participation features (the variable fee approach)
- A simplified approach (the premium allocation approach) mainly for short-duration contracts

PFRS 17 is effective for reporting period beginning on or after January 1, 2021, with comparative figures required. Early application is permitted. The *MERALCO Group* is currently assessing the impact of adopting *PFRS 17*.

Deferred Effectivity

Amendments to PFRS 10, Consolidated Financial Statements, and PAS 28, Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture

The amendments address the conflict between *PFRS 10* and *PAS 28* in dealing with the loss of control of a subsidiary that is sold or contributed to an associate or joint venture. The amendments clarify that a full gain or loss is recognized when a transfer to an associate or joint venture involves a business as defined in *PFRS 3*. Any gain or loss resulting from the sale or contribution of assets that does not constitute a business, however, is recognized only to the extent of unrelated investors' interests in the associate or joint venture.

On January 13, 2016, the Financial Reporting Standards Council deferred the original effective date of January 1, 2016 of the said amendments until the International Accounting Standards Board ("*IASB*") completes its broader review of the research project on equity accounting that may result in the simplification of accounting for such transactions and of other aspects of accounting for associates and joint ventures.

The *MERALCO Group* is currently assessing the impact of adopting the amendments.

Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are as follows:

Utility Plant and Others

Utility plant and others, except land, are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation, amortization and impairment losses, if any. Costs include the cost of replacing part of such utility plant and other properties when such cost is incurred, if the recognition criteria are met. All other repair and maintenance costs are recognized as incurred in the consolidated statement of income. The present value of the expected cost for the decommissioning of the asset after use is included in the cost of the respective asset if the recognition criteria for a provision are met.

Land is stated at cost less any impairment in value.

The *MERALCO Group's* utility plant and others acquired before January 1, 2004 are stated at deemed cost. The revalued amount recorded as at January 1, 2004 was adopted as deemed cost as allowed by the transition provisions of *PFRS 1*. The balance of revaluation increment was closed to the retained earnings account.

See *Note 15 – Equity* for the related discussion.

Depreciation and amortization of utility plant and others are computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Asset Type	Estimated Useful Lives
Subtransmission and distribution	10-40 years, depending on the life of the significant parts
Buildings and improvements	15-40 years
Communication equipment	5-10 years
Office furniture, fixtures and other equipment	5-20 years
Transportation equipment	5-10 years
Others	5-20 years

An item of utility plant and others is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising as a result of the derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the consolidated statement of income in the period the asset is derecognized.

The asset's residual values, useful lives and methods of depreciation and amortization are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate, at each reporting period to ensure that the residual values, periods and methods of depreciation and amortization are consistent with the expected pattern of economic benefits from items of utility plant and others.

Construction in Progress

Construction in progress is stated at cost, which includes cost of construction, plant and equipment, capitalized borrowing costs and other direct costs. Construction in progress is not depreciated until such time that the relevant assets are substantially completed and available for their intended use.

Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs are capitalized if they are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset. A qualifying asset is an asset that necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale. Capitalization of borrowing costs commences when the activities necessary to prepare the qualifying asset for its intended use or sale have been undertaken and expenditures and borrowing costs have been incurred. Borrowing costs are capitalized until the asset is substantially completed and available for its intended use.

Borrowing costs include interest charges and other costs incurred in connection with the borrowing of funds, as well as any exchange differences arising from any foreign currency denominated borrowings used to finance the projects, to the extent that they are regarded as an adjustment to interest costs.

All other borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures

An associate is an entity where *MERALCO Group* has significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee, but has no control or joint control over those policies.

A joint venture is a type of joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the joint venture. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.

The considerations made in determining significant influence or joint control are similar to those necessary to determine control over subsidiaries.

Investments in associates and interests in joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method of accounting and are initially recognized at cost.

Under the equity method, the investment in an associate or interest in a joint venture is initially recognized at cost. The carrying amount of the investment is adjusted to recognize changes in the share of net assets of the associate or joint venture since the acquisition date. Goodwill relating to the associate or joint venture is included in the carrying amount of the investment and is neither amortized nor individually tested for impairment.

The consolidated statement of income reflects the *MERALCO Group*'s share in the results of operations of the associate or joint venture. Any change in the other comprehensive income ("OCI") of those investees is presented as part of the *MERALCO Group*'s OCI. In addition, when there has been a change recognized directly in the equity of the associate or joint venture, the *MERALCO Group* recognizes its share of any changes, when applicable, in the consolidated statement of changes in equity. Unrealized gains and losses resulting from transactions between the *MERALCO Group* and the associate or joint venture are eliminated to the extent of the interest in the associate or joint venture.

The aggregate of the *MERALCO Group*'s share in the profit or loss of its associates and joint ventures is shown on the face of the consolidated statement of income and represents profit or loss after tax.

The financial statements of the associate or joint venture are prepared for the same reporting period as the *MERALCO Group*. When necessary, adjustments are made to bring the accounting policies in line with those of the *MERALCO Group*.

After application of the equity method, the *MERALCO Group* determines whether it is necessary to recognize an impairment loss on its investment in associate or interest in joint venture. At each reporting date, the *MERALCO Group* determines whether there is objective evidence that the investment in the associate or joint venture is impaired. If there is such evidence, the *MERALCO Group* calculates the amount of impairment as the difference between the recoverable amount of the investment in associate or interest in joint venture and its carrying value, then recognizes the loss as part of equity in net earnings of an associate or a joint venture in the consolidated statement of income.

Upon loss of significant influence over the associate or joint control over the joint venture, the *MERALCO Group* measures and recognizes any remaining investment at its fair value. Any difference between the carrying amount of the investment in associate or interest in joint venture upon loss of significant influence or joint control and the fair value of the remaining investment and proceeds from disposal is recognized in profit or loss.

Business Combinations and Goodwill

Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the aggregate of the consideration transferred, measured at acquisition-date fair value and the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. For each business combination, the *MERALCO Group* elects whether to measure the non-controlling interest in the acquiree at fair value or at the proportionate share of the acquiree's identifiable net assets. Acquisition-related costs in a business combination are expensed.

When a business is acquired, an assessment is made of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed for appropriate classification and designation in accordance with the contractual terms, economic and other pertinent conditions as at the acquisition date. This includes the separation of embedded derivatives in host contracts by the acquiree.

If the business combination is achieved in stages, the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree is remeasured at fair value as at acquisition date and any resulting gain or loss is recognized in profit or loss.

Any contingent consideration to be transferred by the acquirer will be recognized at fair value at the acquisition date. Subsequent changes to the fair value of the contingent consideration, which is deemed to be an asset or liability will be recognized in accordance with *PFRS 9* in profit or loss. If the contingent consideration is classified as equity, it shall not be remeasured until it is finally settled within equity.

Goodwill is initially measured at cost being the excess of the aggregate of the consideration transferred, any non-controlling interest in the acquiree and, in a business combination achieved in stages, the acquisition-date fair value of the previously held equity interest in the acquiree, over the fair value of net identifiable assets acquired. If the difference is negative, such difference is recognized as gain in the consolidated statement of income.

If the initial accounting for a business combination is incomplete by the end of the reporting date in which the business combination occurs, the provisional amounts of the items for which the accounting is incomplete are reported in the consolidated financial statements. During the measurement period, which shall be no longer than one (1) year from the acquisition date, the provisional amounts recognized at acquisition date are retrospectively adjusted to reflect new facts and circumstances obtained that existed as at the acquisition date and, if known, would have affected the measurement of the amounts recognized as of that date. During the measurement period, additional assets or liabilities are also recognized if new information is obtained about facts and circumstances that existed as at the acquisition date and, if known, would have resulted in the recognition of those assets and liabilities as at that date.

After initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash generating units that are expected to benefit from the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the acquiree are assigned to those units, beginning on the acquisition date.

Where goodwill forms part of a cash-generating unit and part of the operation within that unit is disposed of, the goodwill associated with the operation disposed of, is included in the carrying amount of the operation when determining the gain or loss on disposal of the operation. Goodwill disposed of in such circumstance is measured based on relative values of the operation disposed and the portion of the cash-generating unit retained.

Business combinations involving entities under common control are accounted for similar to the pooling-of-interests method. The assets and liabilities of the combining entities are reflected at their carrying amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements of the controlling company. Any difference between the consideration paid and the share capital of the "acquired" entity is reflected within equity as additional paid-in capital. The consolidated statement of income reflects the results of the combining entities for the full period, irrespective of when the combination takes place. Comparatives are presented as if the entities had always been combined since the date the entities were under common control.

Investment Properties

Investment properties, except land, are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss, if any. The carrying amount includes transaction costs and costs of replacing part of an existing investment property at the time such costs are incurred if the recognition criteria are met and excludes the costs of day-to-day servicing of an investment property.

Investment properties include properties that are being constructed or developed for future use.

Land classified as investment property is carried at cost less any impairment in value.

The *MERALCO Group*'s investment properties acquired before January 1, 2004 are stated at deemed cost.

See *Note 15 – Equity* for the related discussions.

Investment properties, except land, are being depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful life of 40 years.

Investment properties are derecognized either when they have been disposed of or when these are permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefit is expected from its disposal. Any gain or loss from the derecognition of the investment properties is recognized in the consolidated statement of income in the period these are disposed or retired.

Transfers are made to investment property when, and only when, there is a change in use, evidenced by the end of owner-occupation or the commencement of an operating lease to another party. If owner-occupied property becomes an investment property, the *MERALCO Group* accounts for such property in accordance with the policy stated under utility plant and others up to the date of the change in use. Transfers are made from investment property when, and only when, there is a change in use, evidenced by the commencement of owner-occupation or the commencement of development with a view to sale. Transfers from investment property are recorded using the carrying amount of the investment property as at the date of change in use.

Intangible Assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are initially measured at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortization and any accumulated impairment loss. The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed at the individual asset level as having either finite or indefinite useful lives.

Intangible assets with finite lives are amortized over the useful economic lives of five (5) to 10 years using the straight-line method and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible assets may be impaired. At a minimum, the amortization period and the amortization method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at each reporting date. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected consumption pattern of future economic benefit embodied in the asset are accounted for by changing the amortization period or method, as appropriate, and treated as change in accounting estimates. The amortization expense of intangible assets with finite lives is recognized in the consolidated statement of income.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortized, but are assessed for impairment annually either individually or at the cash-generating unit level. The assessment of intangible assets with indefinite useful life is done annually at every reporting date to determine whether such

indefinite useful life continues to exist. Otherwise, the change in the useful life assessment from indefinite to finite is made on a prospective basis.

Gains or losses arising from derecognition of an intangible asset are measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset, and are recognized in the consolidated statement of income.

Intangible assets generated within the business are not capitalized and expenditures are charged to profit or loss in the period these are incurred.

Fair Value Measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either (a) in the principal market for the asset or liability, or (b) in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability. The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible to the *MERALCO Group*.

The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. A fair value measurement of a nonfinancial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The *MERALCO Group* uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, maximizing the use of relevant observable inputs and minimizing the use of unobservable inputs.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the consolidated financial statements are categorized within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

- i. Level 1 - Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- ii. Level 2 - Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
- iii. Level 3 - Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For assets and liabilities that are recognized in the consolidated financial statements on a recurring basis, the *MERALCO Group* determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorization (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, the *MERALCO Group* has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy.

Impairment of Nonfinancial Assets

The *MERALCO Group* assesses at each reporting period whether there is an indication that a nonfinancial asset [utility plant and others, intangible assets, investment properties, investments in associates and interests in joint ventures and receivable from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (“BIR”)] other than goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful life, may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the *MERALCO Group* makes an estimate of the asset’s recoverable amount. An asset’s recoverable amount is the higher of an individual asset’s or a cash generating unit’s fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Where the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. The fair value is the amount obtainable from the sale of the asset in an arm’s-length transaction. In determining fair value less costs to sell, an appropriate valuation model is used. These calculations are corroborated by valuation factors/parameters, quoted share prices for publicly traded securities or other available fair value indicators. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Impairment losses are recognized in the consolidated statement of income.

An assessment is also made at each reporting date as to whether there is any indication that previously recognized impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the *MERALCO Group* estimates the individual asset’s or cash generating unit’s recoverable amount. A previously recognized impairment loss is reversed only if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset’s recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognized. If a reversal of impairment loss is to be recognized, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to its recoverable amount. The increased amount cannot exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss has been recognized for the asset in prior period. Such reversal is recognized in the consolidated statement of income. After such reversal, the depreciation and amortization expense are adjusted in future periods to allocate the asset’s revised carrying amount, less any residual value, on a systematic basis over its remaining useful life.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually at every reporting date or more frequently, if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired, either individually or at the cash generating unit level, as appropriate. The amount of impairment is calculated as the difference between the recoverable amount of the intangible asset and its carrying amount. The impairment loss is recognized in the consolidated statement of income. Impairment losses relating to intangible assets may be reversed in future periods.

Goodwill is reviewed for impairment annually at every reporting period or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired. Impairment is determined for goodwill by assessing the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit or group of cash generating units, to which the goodwill relates. Where the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit or group of cash generating units is less than the carrying amount of the cash generating unit or group of cash generating units to which goodwill has been allocated, an impairment loss is recognized. Impairment losses relating to goodwill shall not be reversed in future periods.

If the allocation of goodwill acquired in a business combination to cash generating units or group of cash generating units is incomplete, an impairment testing of goodwill is only carried out when impairment indicators exist. Where impairment indicators exist, impairment testing of goodwill is performed at a level at which the acquirer can reliably test for impairment.

Financial Instruments - Initial Recognition and Subsequent Measurement

Financial Assets

Initial Recognition and Measurement

At initial recognition, financial assets are classified and measured at amortized cost, *FVOCI*, and fair value through profit or loss ("*FVPL*").

The classification of financial assets at initial recognition depends on the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics and the *MERALCO Group*'s business model for managing them. With the exception of trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component, the *MERALCO Group* initially measures a financial asset at its fair value, and in the case of a financial asset not at *FVPL*, plus transaction costs.

In order for a financial asset to be classified and measured at amortized cost or *FVOCI*, it needs to give rise to cash flows that are *SPPI* on the principal amount outstanding. This assessment is referred to as the *SPPI* test and is performed at an instrument level.

The *MERALCO Group*'s business model for managing financial assets refers to how it manages its financial assets in order to generate cash flows. The business model determines whether cash flows will result from collecting contractual cash flows, selling the financial assets, or both.

Purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within a time frame established by regulation or convention in the market place (regular way trades) are recognised on the trade date, i.e., the date that the *MERALCO Group* commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Subsequent Measurement

For purposes of subsequent measurement, financial assets are classified in four (4) categories:

- Financial assets at amortized cost (debt instruments)
- Financial assets at *FVOCI* with recycling of cumulative gains and losses (debt instruments)
- Financial assets designated at *FVOCI* with no recycling of cumulative gains and losses upon derecognition (equity instruments)
- Financial assets at *FVPL*

Financial assets at amortized cost (debt instruments)

This category is the most relevant to the *MERALCO Group*. The *MERALCO Group* measures financial assets at amortized cost if both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets at amortized cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate ("*EIR*") method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised, modified or impaired. The *MERALCO Group*'s financial assets at amortized cost includes cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, short-term investments, debt securities at amortized cost, advances to an associate and advance payments to a supplier.

Financial assets at FVOCI (debt instruments)

The *MERALCO Group* measures debt instruments at *FVOCI* if both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective of both holding to collect contractual cash flows and selling, and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

For debt instruments at *FVOCI*, interest income, foreign exchange revaluation and impairment losses or reversals are recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and computed in the same manner as for financial assets measured at amortized cost. The remaining fair value changes are recognised in *OCI*. Upon derecognition, the cumulative fair value change recognised in *OCI* is recycled to profit or loss. The *MERALCO Group's* debt instruments at *FVOCI* include investments in government securities and investments in corporate bonds.

Financial assets designated at FVOCI (equity instruments)

Upon initial recognition, the *MERALCO Group* can elect to classify irrevocably its equity investments as equity instruments designated at *FVOCI* when they meet the definition of equity under *PAS 32, Financial Instruments: Presentation*, and are not held for trading. The classification is determined on an instrument by instrument basis. Gains and losses on these financial assets are never recycled to profit or loss. Dividends are recognized as other income in the consolidated statement of profit or loss when the right to receive payment has been established, except when the *MERALCO Group* benefits from such proceeds as a partial recovery of the cost of the financial asset, in which case, such gains are recorded in *OCI*. Equity instruments designated at *FVOCI* are not subject to impairment assessment.

The *MERALCO Group* elected to classify irrevocably its non-listed equity investments and investment in club shares under this category.

Derecognition

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is primarily derecognized (i.e., removed from the *MERALCO Group's* consolidated statement of financial position) when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired or
- The *MERALCO Group* has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement; and either (a) the *MERALCO Group* has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or (b) the *MERALCO Group* has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the *MERALCO Group* has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, it evaluates if, and to what extent, it has retained the risks and rewards of ownership.

When it has neither transferred nor retained substantially all of the risks and rewards of the asset, nor transferred control of the asset, the *MERALCO Group* continues to recognize the transferred asset to the extent of its continuing involvement. In that case, the *MERALCO Group* also recognizes an associated liability. The transferred asset and the associated liability are measured on a basis that reflects the rights and obligations that the *MERALCO Group* has retained. Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the *MERALCO Group* could be required to repay.

Impairment of Financial Assets

The *MERALCO Group* recognizes an allowance for expected credit losses (“ECLs”) for all debt instruments not held at *FVPL*. *ECLs* are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the *MERALCO Group* expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate. The expected cash flows will include cash flows from the sale of collateral held or other credit enhancements that are integral to the contractual terms.

ECLs are measured in a way that reflects the following:

- an unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined by evaluating a range of possible outcomes;
- the time value of money; and
- reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

ECLs are recognized in two stages. For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition and that are not credit-impaired upon origination, *ECLs* are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12-months (a 12-month *ECL*). For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition on an individual or collective basis but are not credit-impaired, a loss allowance is required for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default (a lifetime *ECL*).

Financial assets are credit-impaired when one (1) or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of those financial assets have occurred. For these credit exposures, lifetime *ECLs* are recognized and interest revenue is calculated by applying the credit-adjusted effective interest rate to the amortized cost of the financial assets.

For trade receivables and contract assets, the *MERALCO Group* applies a simplified approach in calculating *ECLs*. Therefore, the *MERALCO Group* does not track changes in credit risk, instead recognizes a loss allowance based on lifetime *ECLs* of each customer segment (e.g. residential, commercial, industrial, etc.) at each reporting date. The *MERALCO Group* has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

For debt instruments, the *MERALCO Group* applies the low credit risk simplification. At every reporting date, the *MERALCO Group* evaluates whether the debt instrument is considered to have low credit risk using all reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort. In making that evaluation, the *MERALCO Group* reassesses the internal credit rating of the

debt instrument. In addition, the *MERALCO Group* considers that there has been a significant increase in credit risk when contractual payments are more than 30 days past due.

The *MERALCO Group*'s debt instruments at *FVOCI* comprise solely of quoted bonds that are graded in the top investment category and, therefore, are considered to be low credit risk investments. It is the *MERALCO Group*'s policy to measure *ECLs* on such instruments on a 12-month basis. However, when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since origination, the allowance will be based on the lifetime.

Credit losses are recognized based on 12-month *ECL* for debt investment securities that are assessed to have low credit risk at the reporting date. A financial asset is considered to have low credit risk if:

- the financial instrument has a low risk of default
- the borrower has a strong capacity to meet its contractual cash flow obligations in the near term
- adverse changes in economic and business conditions in the longer term, may, but will not necessarily, reduce the ability of the borrower to fulfill its contractual cash flow obligations.

At each reporting date, the *MERALCO Group* assesses whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk for financial assets since initial recognition by comparing the risk of default occurring over the expected life between the reporting date and the date of initial recognition. The *MERALCO Group* considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort for this purpose. This includes quantitative and qualitative information and forward-looking analysis.

Exposures that have not deteriorated significantly since origination, or where the deterioration remains within the *MERALCO Group*'s investment grade criteria, are considered to have a low credit risk. The provision for credit losses for these financial assets is based on a 12-month *ECL*. The low credit risk exemption has been applied on debt investments that meet the investment grade criteria of the *MERALCO Group* from the time of origination.

An exposure will migrate through the *ECL* stages as asset quality deteriorates. If, in a subsequent period, asset quality improves and also reverses any previously assessed significant increase in credit risk since origination, then the loss allowance measurement reverts from lifetime *ECL* to 12-months *ECL*.

The *MERALCO Group* considers a financial asset in default when contractual payments are 300 days past due (average days to terminate customer contract). However, in certain cases, the *MERALCO Group* may also consider a financial asset to be in default when internal or external information indicates that the *MERALCO Group* is unlikely to receive the outstanding contractual amounts in full before taking into account any credit enhancements held by the *MERALCO Group*. A financial asset is written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows.

Financial Liabilities

Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial liabilities are classified, at initial recognition, as financial liabilities at *FVPL*, loans and borrowings, payables, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate.

All financial liabilities are recognized initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings and payables, net of directly attributable transaction costs.

The *MERALCO Group*'s financial liabilities include interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities, customer deposits and refunds, refundable service extension costs, notes payable and trade and other payables.

Subsequent Measurement

Financial liabilities at FVPL

Financial liabilities at *FVPL* include financial liabilities held for trading and financial liabilities designated upon initial recognition as at *FVPL*.

Financial liabilities are classified as held for trading if they are incurred for the purpose of repurchasing in the near term. This category also includes derivative financial instruments entered into by the *MERALCO Group* that are not designated as hedging instruments in hedge relationships as defined by *PFRS 9*. Separated embedded derivatives are also classified as held for trading unless they are designated as effective hedging instruments.

Gains or losses on liabilities held for trading are recognized in the consolidated statement of profit or loss. Financial liabilities designated upon initial recognition at *FVPL* are designated at the initial date of recognition, and only if the criteria in *PFRS 9* are satisfied. The *MERALCO Group* has not designated any financial liability as at *FVPL*.

Loans and borrowings

This is the category most relevant to the *MERALCO Group*. After initial recognition, interest-bearing loans and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the *EIR* method. Gains and losses are recognized in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognized as well as through the *EIR* amortization process.

Amortized cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the *EIR*. The *EIR* amortization is included as finance costs in the consolidated statement of profit or loss. This category generally applies to interest-bearing loans and borrowings.

Derecognition

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expires. When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as the derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability. The difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised in the consolidated statement of income.

Offsetting of Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the consolidated statement of financial position if there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognized amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, to realize the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

Redeemable Preferred Stock

MERALCO's peso-denominated redeemable preferred stock has characteristics of a liability and is thus recognized as a liability in the consolidated statement of financial position. The corresponding dividends on those shares are recognized as part of "Interest and other financial charges" account in the consolidated statement of income. Dividends no longer accrue when such shares have been called for redemption.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Costs of acquiring materials and supplies including costs incurred in bringing each item to their present location and condition are accounted using the moving average cost method. Net realizable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated cost to sell or the current replacement cost of the asset.

Prepayments

Prepayments are expenses paid in advance and recorded as asset before they are utilized. Prepayments that are expected to be realized within 12 months from the reporting date are classified as current assets. Otherwise, these are classified as noncurrent assets.

Value-Added Tax ("VAT")

Input VAT pertains to the 12% indirect tax paid in the course of trade or business on purchases of goods or services.

Output VAT pertains to the 12% tax due on the local sale of goods or services.

If at the end of any taxable month, the output VAT exceeds the input VAT, the outstanding balance is included under "Trade payables and other current liabilities" account. If the input VAT exceeds the output VAT, the excess shall be carried over to the succeeding months and included under "Financial and other current assets" account.

Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the *MERALCO Group* has a present obligation, legal or constructive, as a result of a past event, and when it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Where the *MERALCO Group* expects a provision, or a portion, to be reimbursed, for example under an insurance contract, the reimbursement is recognized as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain. The expense relating to any provision is presented in the consolidated statement of income, net of any reimbursement. If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted using a current pre-tax rate that reflects, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liabilities.

Retirement Benefits

MERALCO and certain subsidiaries have distinct, funded, noncontributory defined benefit retirement plans covering all permanent employees. *MERALCO's* retirement plan provides for post-retirement benefits in addition to a lump sum payment to employees hired as at December 31, 2003. Retirement benefits for employees of *MERALCO* hired beginning January 1, 2004 were amended to provide for a

defined lump sum payment only upon retirement of qualified employees. *MERALCO* also has a contributory provident plan introduced in January 2009 whereby employees hired beginning January 1, 2004 may elect to participate.

The net defined benefit liability or asset of the retirement plan is the aggregate of the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting date reduced by the fair value of plan assets (if any), adjusted for any effect of limiting a net defined benefit asset to the asset ceiling. The asset ceiling is the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions to the plan.

The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit plans is actuarially determined using the projected unit credit method.

Defined benefit costs comprise of (i) service costs; (ii) net interest on the net defined benefit liability or asset; and (iii) remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability or asset.

Service costs, which include current service costs, past service costs and gains or losses on non-routine settlements are recognized as expense in the consolidated statement of income. Past service costs are recognized when plan amendment or curtailment occurs. These amounts are calculated periodically by independent qualified actuaries.

Net interest on the net defined benefit liability or asset is the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability or asset that arises from the passage of time, which is determined by applying the discount rate based on government bonds to the net defined benefit liability or asset. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability or asset is recognized as expense or income in the consolidated statement of income.

Remeasurements comprising actuarial gains and losses, return on plan assets and any change in the effect of the asset ceiling (excluding net interest on defined benefit liability) are recognized immediately in *OCI* in the period in which they arise. Remeasurements are not reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent period.

Plan assets are assets that are held by a long-term employee benefit fund or qualifying insurance policies. Plan assets are not available to the creditors of the *MERALCO Group*, nor can they be paid directly to the *MERALCO Group*. Fair value of plan assets is based on market price information. When no market price is available, the fair value of plan assets is estimated by discounting expected future cash flows using a discount rate that reflects both the risk associated with the plan assets and the maturity or expected disposal date of those assets (or, if they have no maturity, the expected period until the settlement of the related obligations). If the fair value of the plan assets is higher than the present value of the defined benefit obligation, the measurement of the resulting defined benefit asset is limited to the present value of economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions to the plan.

The *MERALCO Group*'s right to be reimbursed for some or all of the expenditures required to settle a defined benefit obligation is recognized as a separate asset at fair value when, and only when, reimbursement is virtually certain.

The retirement costs under the defined contribution plan are recorded based on *MERALCO Group*'s contribution to the defined contribution plan as services are rendered by the employee.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are provided in exchange for its severance as a result of either an entity's decision to terminate an employee's employment before the normal retirement date or an employee's decision to accept an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment.

A liability and expense for a termination benefit is recognized at the earlier of when the entity can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits and when the entity recognizes related restructuring costs. Initial recognition and subsequent changes to termination benefits are measured in accordance with the nature of the employee benefit, as either post-employment benefits, short-term employee benefits, or other long-term employee benefits.

Employee Leave Entitlements

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognized as a liability when such accrues to the employees. The undiscounted liability for leave expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the reporting year is recognized for services rendered by employees up to the end of the reporting period.

Unused sick leaves are accumulated, up to a certain limit, and commuted to cash upon separation or retirement. An actuarial valuation of the obligations on the accumulated unused sick leaves is conducted periodically in accordance with the relevant accounting standards.

Long-term Incentive Plan

The liability relating to the long-term incentive plan comprises the present value of the obligation at the end of the reporting date.

Equity

Common stock is measured at par value for all shares issued. Incremental costs incurred directly attributable to the issuance of new shares are shown as a deduction from equity, net of any related tax. The amount of proceeds and/or fair value of consideration received, net of incremental costs incurred directly attributable to the issuance of new shares in excess of par value, is recognized as additional paid-in capital.

Employee stock purchase plan cost represents the cumulative compensation expense recognized based on the amount determined using an option pricing model.

Change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction and presented as "Equity Reserve" in the consolidated statement of financial position.

OCI comprises items of income and expense, which are not recognized in profit or loss as required or permitted by *PFRS*.

Cumulative translation adjustment represents the resulting exchange differences in the remeasurement of accounts due to change in functional currency.

Treasury shares are recognized at cost and deducted from equity. No gain or loss is recognized in profit or loss on the purchase, sale, issue or cancellation of the *MERALCO Group's* own equity instruments. Any difference between the carrying amount and the consideration, if reissued, is recognized in additional paid-in capital.

Retained earnings include net income attributable to the equity holders of the Parent, reduced by dividends declared on common stock. Dividends are recognized as liability and deducted from retained earnings when they are declared. Dividend declarations approved after the financial reporting period are disclosed as events after the financial reporting period.

Non-controlling interests represent the equity interests in *MIESCOR* and subsidiaries, *Clark Electric* and subsidiary, *AMPSI*, *Comstech* and subsidiary, *Fieldtech*, *Bayad Center* and *Shin Clark*, which are not held by *MERALCO*.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognized when control of the goods or services are transferred to the customer at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the *MERALCO Group* expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The *MERALCO Group* assesses its revenue arrangements against specific criteria to determine if it is acting as a principal or as an agent. *MERALCO Group* has concluded that it is acting as principal in majority of its revenue arrangements.

The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue from contracts with customers is recognized:

Sale of Electricity

Revenues are recognized upon supply of power to the customers and are stated at amounts invoiced to customers, inclusive of pass-through components, and net of discounts and/or rebates. The Uniform Filing Requirements (“*UFR*”) on the rate unbundling released by the *ERC* on October 30, 2001 specified the following bill components: (a) generation charge, (b) transmission charge, (c) *SL* charge, (d) distribution charge, (e) supply charge, (f) metering charge, (g) Currency Exchange Rate Adjustment (“*CERA*”) I and II, where applicable and (h) inter-class rate and lifeline subsidies. *VAT*, business taxes such as *LFT*, the Power Act Reduction (for residential customers) adjustment, universal charges, and Feed-in-Tariff - Allowance (“*FiT-All*”) are also separately presented in the customer’s billing statement. *VAT* billed and collected on behalf of the national governments, *LFT* billed and collected on behalf of the local government units, universal charges and *FiT-All* [billed and collected on behalf of Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (“*PSALM*”) and National Transmission Corporation (“*TransCo*”), respectively] do not form part of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric*’s revenues. Revenues are adjusted for the over and/or under-recoveries of pass-through charges.

Sale of Services

The *MERALCO Group* recognizes revenue from construction contracts over time on the basis of direct measurements of the value to customers of the goods or services transferred to date, relative to the remaining goods or services promised under the contract (output method). Progress is measured based on the monthly project accomplishment which integrates the performance to date of the construction activities.

Construction contracts are generally accounted for as a single performance obligation and are not segmented between types of services. For engineering and construction contracts, these two (2) are combined into one performance obligation since these are not distinct within the context of the contract. The combined performance obligation qualifies as a good or service (or a bundle of goods or services) that is distinct.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognized as interest accrues, using the effective interest rate (“*EIR*”) method. The *EIR* is the rate that discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument.

Lease Income

Income arising from lease of investment properties and pole positions is accounted for on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Lease income is included under “Revenues – Sale of other services” account in the consolidated statement of income.

Receivables

Receivables represent the *MERALCO Group*’s right to all amounts of consideration that are unconditional (i.e., only the passage of time is required before payment of the consideration is due).

Contract Assets

A contract asset is the right to consideration in exchange for goods and services transferred to the customer. If the *MERALCO Group* performs by transferring goods or services to a customer before the customer pays consideration or before payment is due, a contract asset is recognized for the earned consideration that is conditional.

The *MERALCO Group*’s contract assets include unbilled receivables and under-recoveries of pass-through charges.

Contract Liabilities

A contract liability is the obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the *MERALCO Group* has received consideration (or an amount of consideration is due) from the customer. If a customer pays consideration before the *MERALCO Group* transfers good or services to the customer, a contract liability is recognized when the payment is made or the payment is due (whichever is earlier). Contract liabilities are recognized as revenue when the *MERALCO Group* performs under the contract.

The following are considered as contract liabilities:

Assets Funded by Customers

In accordance with the Distribution Services and Open Access Rule (“*DSOAR*”), the costs of non-standard connection facilities to connect the customers to *MERALCO*’s distribution network and to provide the customers with ongoing access to the supply of electricity are funded by the customers. *MERALCO* assesses whether the constructed or acquired non-standard connection facilities meet the definition of an asset in accordance with *PAS 16*. If the definition of an asset is met, *MERALCO* recognizes such asset at its acquisition or construction cost with an equivalent credit to the liability account. Such liability to the customers is included under “Other noncurrent liabilities” account in the consolidated statement of financial position, and is recognized as income over the average duration of relationship with the customer. Assets funded by customers do not form part of *MERALCO*’s regulatory asset base until amounts are refunded.

Net Over-recoveries of Pass-through Charges

Transmission and *SL* over-recoveries which resulted from the difference in the power suppliers' billings and recovery of such pass-through costs from consumers are included in "Other noncurrent liabilities" account in the consolidated statement of financial position.

Cost and Expense Recognition

Expenses are decreases in economic benefits during the financial reporting period in the form of outflows or decrease of assets or incurrence of liabilities that result in decrease in equity, other than those relating to distributions to equity participants. These are recognized when incurred.

MERALCO Group recognizes contract costs relating to satisfied performance obligations as these are incurred. Contract costs principally include all direct materials, labor costs and indirect costs related to contract performance. Project mobilization costs and incremental costs of obtaining a contract with a customer are recognized as an asset if the *MERALCO Group* expects to recover them and the contract term is for more than one year. The project mobilization costs and costs of obtaining a contract is amortized over the expected construction period following the pattern of revenue recognition. Costs incurred prior to obtaining a contract with a customer are not capitalized but are expensed as incurred. Expected losses on contracts are recognized immediately when it is probable that the total contract cost will exceed total contract revenue. The amount of such loss is determined irrespective of whether or not work has commenced on the contract, the stage of completion of the contract activity, or the amount of profits expected to arise on other contracts which are not treated as a single construction contract.

Total contract costs incurred and estimated earnings recognized in excess of total billings are recognized as an asset.

Lease Liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the *MERALCO Group* recognizes lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments include fixed payments (including in substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, and amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees. The lease payments also include the exercise price of a purchase option reasonably certain to be exercised by the *MERALCO Group* and payments of penalties for terminating a lease, if the lease term reflects the *MERALCO Group* exercising the option to terminate. The variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate are recognized as expense in the period which the event or condition that triggers the payment occurs.

In calculating the present value of lease payments, the *MERALCO Group* uses the incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date if the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the in-substance fixed lease payments or a change in the assessment to purchase the underlying asset.

Short-term Leases and Leases of Low-value Assets

The *MERALCO Group* applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to its short-term leases of machinery and equipment (i.e., those leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the

commencement date and do not contain a purchase option). It also applies the leases of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases of office equipment that are considered of low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognized as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases

The *MERALCO Group* considers whether a contract is, or contains a lease at the inception of a contract. A lease is a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange of a consideration.

Company as Lessee

At commencement date of the lease, the *MERALCO Group* recognizes a right-of-use (“*ROU*”) asset and a corresponding lease liability on the statements of financial position, except for short-term leases (defined as leases with a lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets. For these leases, the *MERALCO Group* recognizes the lease payments as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

Lease liability is measured at the present value of the unpaid lease payments, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease (if readily available) or the *MERALCO Group*’s incremental borrowing rate. Incremental borrowing rate is the rate of interest that the *MERALCO Group* would have to pay to borrow over a similar term and with a similar security the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use-asset in a similar economic environment.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability consists of fixed payments, variable payments based on an index or rate, amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, and payments arising from options reasonably certain to be exercised.

Subsequent to initial measurement, lease liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification, or if there are changes in the fixed payments. When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the *ROU* asset, or profit and loss if the *ROU* asset is already reduced to zero.

ROU asset is measured at cost, which consist of the initial measurement of the lease liability, any initial direct costs incurred, an estimate of any costs to dismantle and remove the asset at the end of the lease, and any lease payments made in advance of the lease commencement date.

The *MERALCO Group* depreciates *ROU* assets on a straight-line basis using the expected useful life or lease term whichever is shorter. The *MERALCO Group* also assesses the *ROU* asset for impairment when such indicators exist.

Company as Lessor

Leases where the *MERALCO Group* does not transfer substantially all the risk and benefits of ownership of the asset are classified as operating leases. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognized over the lease term on the same basis as rental income. Contingent rents are recognized as revenue in the period in which these are earned.

Foreign Currency-Denominated Transactions and Translations

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Philippine peso, which is also *MERALCO*'s functional and presentation currency. The Philippine peso is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the *MERALCO Group* operates, except for *LOIL* and *MPG Asia*. This is also the currency that mainly influences the revenue from and cost of rendering services. Each entity in the *MERALCO Group* determines its own functional currency and items included in the financial statements of each entity are measured using that functional currency.

The functional currency of *LOIL* and *MPG Asia* is the United States ("U.S.") dollar.

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the functional currency rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are re-translated using functional currency closing rate of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting date. All differences are recognized in the consolidated statement of income except for foreign exchange differences that relate to capitalizable borrowing costs on qualifying assets. Nonmonetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate as at the date of the initial transactions.

As at the reporting date, the monetary assets and liabilities of subsidiaries, *LOIL* and *MPG Asia* whose functional currency is other than Philippine peso, are translated into Philippine peso at the rate of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting date, and income and expenses are translated monthly using the weighted average exchange rate for the month. The exchange differences arising on translation are recognized as a separate component of *OCI* as cumulative translation adjustments. On the disposal of a subsidiary, the amount of cumulative translation adjustments recognized in *OCI* is recognized in the consolidated statement of income.

Income Taxes

Current Income Tax

Current income tax assets and liabilities for the current and prior period are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authority. The tax rate and tax laws used to compute the amount are those that are enacted or substantively enacted as at the reporting date.

Deferred Income Tax

Deferred income tax is provided on all temporary differences at the reporting date between the income tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes.

Deferred income tax liabilities are recognized for all taxable temporary differences, except:

- where the deferred income tax liability arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss; and
- in respect of taxable temporary differences associated with investments in associates and interests in joint ventures, where the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences can be controlled and it is probable that the temporary differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred income tax assets are recognized for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary differences can be utilized except:

- when the deferred income tax asset relating to the deductible temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss; and
- in respect of deductible temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, deferred income tax assets are recognized only to the extent that it is probable that the temporary differences will reverse in the foreseeable future and taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilized.

The carrying amount of deferred income tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred income tax assets to be utilized. Unrecognized deferred income tax assets are reassessed at each reporting date and are recognized to the extent these have become probable that future taxable profit will allow the deferred income tax assets to be recovered.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the when the assets are realized or the liabilities are settled, based on tax rates and tax laws that are enacted or substantively enacted as at the reporting date.

Deferred income tax assets and deferred income tax liabilities are offset, if a legally enforceable right exists to set off current income tax assets against current income tax liabilities and the deferred taxes relate to the same taxable entity and the same taxation authority.

Deferred income tax items are recognized in correlation to the underlying transaction either in profit or loss or directly in equity.

Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net income for the period attributable to equity holders of the parent by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period.

Diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net income for the period attributable to equity holders of the parent by the weighted average number of shares outstanding, adjusted for the effects of any dilutive potential common shares.

Contingencies

Contingent liabilities are not recognized in the consolidated financial statements. These are disclosed in the notes to consolidated financial statements unless the possibility of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is remote. Contingent assets are not recognized unless the realization of the assets is virtually certain. These are disclosed in the notes to consolidated financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable.

Events After the Reporting Date

Post reporting date events that provide additional information about the *MERALCO Group's* financial position at the reporting date (adjusting events) are reflected in the consolidated financial statements. Post reporting date events that are non-adjusting events are disclosed in the notes to consolidated financial statements, when material.

5. Significant Judgments, Accounting Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of the *MERALCO Group's* consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities and the accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the end of the reporting date. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of the assets or liabilities affected in future periods.

Judgments

In the process of applying the *MERALCO Group's* accounting policies, management has made the following judgments, which have the most significant effect on the amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements.

Determination of Functional Currency

The functional currencies of the entities under the *MERALCO Group* are the currencies of the primary economic environment in which each entity operates. It is the currency that mainly influences the revenue and cost of rendering services.

Based on the economic substance of the underlying circumstances, the functional and presentation currency of *MERALCO* and its subsidiaries, except *LOIL* and *MPG Asia*, is the Philippine peso. The functional and presentation currency of *LOIL* and *MPG Asia* is the U.S. dollar.

Uncertain Tax Position

Upon adoption of the *IFRIC 23*, the *MERALCO Group* has assessed whether it has any uncertain tax position. The *MERALCO Group* applies significant judgement in identifying uncertainties over its income tax treatments. The *MERALCO Group* determined, based on its review and assessment of its income tax computations and filings, in consultation with external tax expert, that it is not probable that its uncertain tax treatments will be accepted by the taxation authorities. The *MERALCO Group* quantified the effect of each uncertain tax treatment using the most likely amount which the *MERALCO Group* expects to better predict the resolution of the uncertainty.

Operating Lease Commitments

As Lessor

The *MERALCO Group* has several lease arrangements as a lessor. Based on the terms and conditions of the arrangements, it has evaluated that the significant risks and rewards of ownership of such properties are retained by the *MERALCO Group*. The lease agreements do not transfer ownership of the assets to the lessees at the end of the lease term and do not give the lessees a bargain purchase option over the assets. Consequently, the lease agreements are accounted for as operating leases.

As Lessee

The *MERALCO Group* has entered into various operating lease agreements used for its operations.

For the *MERALCO Group's* lease under *PFRS 16*, the *MERALCO Group* recognizes *ROU* assets and lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term using the *MERALCO Group's* incremental borrowing rate.

The *MERALCO Group* availed exemption of *PFRS 16* for its short-term lease with the term of 12 months or less and low value assets. Accordingly, lease payments on these leases are recognized as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Arrangement that Contains a Lease

Based on *MERALCO's* assessment, the *PPAs* and *PSAs* no longer qualify to be accounted for as lease and are accounted for as ordinary service contracts. *PPAs* and *PSAs* do not qualify under *PFRS 16* since *MERALCO* does not have the right to direct the use, operate and was not involved in the design of the identified asset.

Principal vs. Agent

The *MERALCO Group's* revenue recognition requires the *MERALCO Group* to make certain judgments on its revenue arrangements such as on *PPAs* and *PSAs* with power generation companies. The *MERALCO Group* has concluded that it is acting as a principal in its revenue arrangements.

Revenue from sale of electricity requires *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* to bill customers based various billing cycle cut-off dates, while recording of related purchased power cost is based on calendar month as provided in the terms of the *PPAs*. The recognition of unbilled revenues for billing cycles with earlier than month-end cut-off dates requires the use of judgment. The difference between the amounts initially billed to customers and the settlement of the actual billings with power generation companies is adjusted to revenue at month end based on *ERC Resolution No. 16, A Resolution Adopting the Rules Governing the Automatic Cost Adjustment and True-up Mechanisms and Corresponding Confirmation Process for Distribution Utilities*.

Moreover, *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* assessed that revenues from electricity, re-connection and other non-standard connection services arise from a single performance obligation which will be satisfied over the period when the services are expected to be provided.

Entity in which the MERALCO Group Holds more than the Majority of the Voting Rights Accounted for as a Joint Venture

MERALCO, through *MGen*, has a 51% interest in San Buenaventura Power Ltd. Co. ("*SBPL*"). While *MERALCO* owns majority of the voting rights in *SBPL*, it does not have sole control of *SBPL*. *MERALCO's* investment in *SBPL* is accounted for as a joint venture since key operating and financial decisions of *SBPL* require the unanimous vote and consent of the parties sharing control.

Entity in which the MERALCO Group Holds less than 20% of the Voting Rights Accounted for as an Associate

MERALCO, through *MGen*, has a 14% interest in Global Business Power Corporation ("*GBPC*"). *GBPC* is considered an associate and, thus, *MERALCO's* interest in *GBPC* is accounted for using the equity method as *MERALCO* is deemed to have significant influence in *GBPC* as evidenced by its representation in the *BOD* and Executive Committee and the provision of essential technical information to *GBPC*. This representation guarantees *MGen's* participation in the decision-making acts and policy making process of *GBPC*.

MERALCO, through *Finserve*, has 10% interest in *AF Payments, Inc.* ("*AF Payments*"). *AF Payments* is considered an associate and, thus, *MERALCO/Finserve's* interest in *AF Payments* is accounted for using the equity method as *MERALCO/Finserve* is deemed to have significant influence as evidenced

by its representation in the *BOD* which guarantees *MERALCO*'s participation in the decision making and policy making process of *AF Payments*.

Contingencies

The *MERALCO Group* has possible claims from or obligation to other parties from past events and whose existence may only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one (1) or more uncertain future events not wholly within its control. Management has determined that the present obligations with respect to contingent liabilities and claims with respect to contingent assets do not meet the recognition criteria, and therefore has not recorded any such amounts.

See *Note 28 – Contingencies and Legal Proceedings*.

Estimates and Assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty as at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial reporting date are discussed as follows:

Estimating Useful Lives of Utility Plant and Others, Intangible Assets with Finite Lives and Investment Properties

The *MERALCO Group* estimates the useful lives of utility plant and others, intangible assets with finite lives and, investment properties based on the periods over which such assets are expected to be available for use. The estimate of the useful lives of the utility plant and others, intangible assets with finite lives and investment properties is based on management's collective assessment of industry practice, internal technical evaluation and experience with similar assets. The estimated useful lives are reviewed at least at each financial reporting date and are updated if expectations differ from previous estimates due to physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence and legal or other limitations on the use of such assets. It is possible, however, that future results of operations could be materially affected by changes in estimates brought about by changes in the factors mentioned in the foregoing. The amounts and timing of recorded expenses for any period would be affected by changes in these factors and circumstances. A reduction in the estimated useful lives of utility plant and others, intangible assets with finite lives and investment properties would increase recorded operating expenses and decrease noncurrent assets.

The total depreciation and amortization expense of utility plant and others amounted to ₱5,728 million and ₱5,857 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Total carrying values of utility plant and others, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization, amounted to ₱156,217 million and ₱151,441 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

Total depreciation of investment properties amounted to ₱3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019. Total carrying values of investment properties, net of accumulated depreciation, amounted to ₱1,499 million and ₱1,502 as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

Total amortization of intangible assets with finite lives amounted to ₱363 million and ₱540 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Total carrying values of intangible assets with finite lives, net of accumulated amortization, amounted to ₱1,660 million and ₱1,764 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

See Note 7 – Utility Plant and Others, Note 9 – Investment Properties and Note 10 – Financial and other Noncurrent Assets.

Impairment of Nonfinancial Assets

PFRS requires that an impairment review be performed when certain impairment indicators are present. These conditions include obsolescence, physical damage, significant changes in the manner by which an asset is used, worse than expected economic performance, drop in revenues or other external indicators, among others. In the case of goodwill, at a minimum, such asset is subject to an annual impairment test and more frequently whenever there is an indication that such asset may be impaired. This requires an estimation of the value in use of the cash generating unit to which the goodwill is allocated. Estimating the value in use requires preparation of an estimate of the expected future cash flows from the cash generating unit and choosing an appropriate discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows.

Determining the recoverable amount of utility plant and others, intangible assets, investment properties, investments in associates and interests in joint ventures, goodwill and financial and other noncurrent assets, requires (i) the determination of future cash flows expected to be generated from the continued use as well as ultimate disposition of such assets and (ii) making estimates and assumptions that can materially affect the consolidated financial statements. Future events may cause management to conclude that utility plant and others, intangible assets, investment properties, investments in associates and interests in joint ventures, goodwill and financial and other noncurrent assets are impaired. Any resulting impairment loss could have material adverse impact on the *MERALCO Group's* consolidated financial position and results of operations.

The preparation of estimated future cash flows involves significant estimations and assumptions. While management believes that the assumptions are appropriate and reasonable, significant changes in the assumptions may materially affect the assessment of recoverable values and may lead to future impairment charges under *PFRSs*.

The carrying values of nonfinancial assets subject to impairment review are as follows:

Account	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Utility plant and others	₱156,217	₱151,441
Investments in associates and interests in joint ventures	16,297	14,965
Intangible assets	1,660	1,764
Investment properties	1,499	1,502
Receivable from the <i>BIR</i>	181	181
Goodwill	35	35

See Note 7 – Utility Plant and Others, Note 8 – Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures, Note 9 – Investment Properties and Note 10 – Financial and other Noncurrent Assets.

Realizability of Deferred Income Tax Assets

The *MERALCO Group* reviews the carrying amounts of deferred income tax assets at the end of each reporting period and reduces these to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable income will be available to allow all or part of the deferred income tax assets to be utilized.

Assessment on the recognition of deferred income tax assets on deductible temporary differences is based on the level and timing of forecasted taxable income for the subsequent reporting period. This forecast is based on past results and future expectations on revenues and expenses as well as future tax planning strategies. Management believes that sufficient taxable profit will be generated to allow all or part of the recorded or recognized deferred tax assets to be utilized. The amounts of the deferred income tax assets considered realizable could be adjusted in the future if estimates of taxable income are revised.

Based on the foregoing assessment, following are the relevant consolidated information with respect to deferred income tax assets:

	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Recognized deferred income tax assets	₱37,349	₱31,874
Unrecognized deferred income tax assets	2,178	1,716

See Note 27 – *Income Taxes and Local Franchise Taxes*.

Provision for ECL of Receivables and Contract Assets

The *MERALCO Group* applies the *PFRS 9* simplified approach to measure expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all trade and other receivables and contract assets.

To measure the expected credit losses, trade and other receivables and contract assets have been grouped based on credit risk characteristics and the days past due. The contract assets relate to unbilled receivables and under-recoveries of pass-through charges and have substantially the same risk characteristics as the trade and other receivables. The *MERALCO Group* has concluded that the expected loss rates for trade receivables are a reasonable approximation of the loss rates for contract assets.

The expected loss rates are based on the collection profiles of receivables over the period of 36 months before December 31, 2019 and the corresponding historical credit losses experience within the period. The historical rates are adjusted to reflect current and forward-looking information on macroeconomic factors affecting the ability of the customers to settle the receivables.

The *MERALCO Group* incorporates forward-looking information in its assessments whether the credit risk has increased significantly since its initial recognition and its measurement of *ECL*. The *MERALCO Group* has considered a range of relevant forward-looking macroeconomic assumptions such as inflation rate, gross domestic product and unemployment rate for the determination of unbiased general industry adjustments and any related specific industry adjustments that support the calculation of *ECLs*.

ECLs for trade and other receivables amounted to ₱1,464 million and ₱210 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Trade and other receivables, net of allowance for expected credit losses, amounted to ₱63,834 million and ₱32,608 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

The *MERALCO Group* has also recognized provision for expected credit losses on its advances to an associate of ₱2,663 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020. The allowance for

expected losses as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 amounted to ₱4,995 million and ₱2,332 million, respectively.

See *Note 12 – Trade and Other Receivables*.

Estimating Net Realizable Value of Inventories

Inventories consist of materials and supplies used in the power distribution and services segments, and are valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value. The cost of inventories is written down whenever the net realizable value of inventories becomes lower than the cost due to damage, physical deterioration, obsolescence, and change in price levels or other causes. The lower of cost or net realizable value of inventories is reviewed on a periodic basis. Inventory items identified to be obsolete and no longer usable are written off and charged as expense in the consolidated statement of income.

The carrying values of inventories amounted to ₱5,740 million and ₱4,558 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

See *Note 13 – Inventories*.

Estimation of Retirement Benefit Costs

The cost of defined benefit retirement plans and other post-employment benefits as well as the present value of the retirement obligation are determined using actuarial valuations. The actuarial valuation involves making various assumptions. These include the determination of the discount rates, future salary increases, mortality rates and future retirement benefits increases. Due to the complexity of the valuation, the underlying assumptions and its long-term nature, defined benefit obligations are highly sensitive to changes in these assumptions. All assumptions are reviewed at each reporting date. The retirement and other post-employment benefits expense amounted to ₱1,199 million and ₱767 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The retirement and other post-employment benefit liabilities as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 amounted to ₱8,655 million and ₱7,576 million, respectively.

In determining the appropriate discount rate, management considers the interest rates of government bonds in the respective currencies, with extrapolated maturities corresponding to the expected duration of the defined benefit obligation. The underlying bonds are further reviewed for quality, and those having excessive credit spreads are removed from the population of bonds on which the discount rate is based, on the basis that they do not represent high quality bonds.

The mortality rate is based on publicly available mortality tables for the Philippines and is modified accordingly with estimates of mortality improvements. Future salary increases and retirement benefits increases are based on expected future inflation rates for the Philippines.

See *Note 24 – Expenses and Income* and *Note 25 – Long-term Employee Benefits*.

Provisions

The *MERALCO Group* has various claims, assessments and cases as discussed in *Note 28 – Contingencies and Legal Proceedings*. The *MERALCO Group's* estimate for probable costs for the resolution of these claims, assessments and cases has been developed in consultation with external counsel, if any, and internal counsels handling the defense in these claims, assessments and cases and is based upon thorough analysis of potential outcome.

The *MERALCO Group*, in consultation with its external legal counsels, does not believe that these claims and legal proceedings will have a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial statements. It is possible, however, that future financial performance could be materially affected by changes in the estimates or the effectiveness of management's strategies and actions relating to these proceedings.

The *MERALCO Group* recognized net provisions on various claims and assessments amounting to ₱15,685 million and ₱9,092 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditures required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period. The discount rate used to determine the present value is a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risk specific to the liability. As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, provisions are presented amounting to ₱3,302 million and ₱5,283 million, respectively.

See *Note 18 – Provisions* and *Note 21 – Trade Payables and Other Current Liabilities*.

Revenue Recognition

The *MERALCO Group*'s revenue recognition policies require the use of estimates and assumptions that may affect the reported amounts of its revenues and receivables.

Revenues from sale of electricity by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* are billed based on customer-specific billing cycle cut-off date for each customer, while recording of related purchased power cost is based on calendar month as provided in the terms of the *PPAs* and *PSAs*. The recognition of unbilled revenues for billing cycles with earlier than month-end cut-off dates requires the use of estimates. The difference between the amounts initially recognized based on provisional invoices and the settlement of the actual billings by power generation companies is taken up in the subsequent period. Also, revenues from sale of electricity are adjusted for the estimated over and/or under-recoveries of pass-through charges, which are subject of various applications for recovery and approval by the *ERC*.

Management believes that such use of estimates will not result in material adjustments in future period.

Revenues and costs from construction contracts of *MIESCOR* are recognized based on the output method. This is measured principally on the basis of the estimated completion of a physical proportion of the contract work.

6. Segment Information

Each operating segment of the *MERALCO Group* engages in business activities from which revenues are earned and expenses are incurred (including revenues and expenses relating to transactions with other business segments within the *MERALCO Group*). The operating results of each of the operating segments are regularly reviewed by *MERALCO*'s Management Committee to determine how resources are to be allocated to the operating segments and to assess their performances for which discrete financial information is available.

For management purposes, the *MERALCO Group*'s operating businesses are organized and managed separately according to the nature of services provided, with each segment representing a strategic business unit that offers different products and/or services, as follows:

- Power

The Power segment consists of (a) electricity distribution, (b) power generation and (c) *RES*.

Electricity distribution – This is principally electricity distribution and supply of power on a pass-through basis covering all captive customers in the *MERALCO* and the *Clark Electric* franchise areas in Luzon. Electricity distribution within the *MERALCO* franchise area accounts for approximately 55% of the power requirements of the country. *Clark Electric*'s franchise area covers Clark Special Economic Zone and the sub-zones.

Power generation – The *MERALCO Group*'s re-entry into power generation is through investments in operating companies or participation in the development of power generation projects.

MGen, the power generation arm of the *MERALCO Group*, has a 14% equity interest in *GBPC*. *GBPC* owns a total of 854 MegaWatt ("MW") (gross) of coal and diesel-fired power plants.

MGen owns an effective 28% equity in PacificLight Power Pte Ltd. ("*PacificLight Power*") in Jurong Island, Singapore. *PacificLight Power* owns and operates a 2 x 400 MW combined cycle turbine power plant mainly fueled by liquefied natural gas ("*LNG*").

MGen, through *SBPL*, a 51% owned joint venture entity, owns a 455 MW (net) supercritical coal-fired power plant in Mauban, Quezon. The *PSA* with *MERALCO* was approved by the *ERC* on May 19, 2015. The power plant began commercial operations on September 26, 2019.

MGen is developing a 2 x 600 MW (net) coal-fired power plant in Atimonan, Quezon through its wholly-owned subsidiary, *AIE*. It will be the first ultra-supercritical coal-fired facility to be built in the country. *AIE* shall participate in a Competitive Selection Process ("*CSP*") to be conducted by *MERALCO* for a 1,200 MW greenfield power plant capacity. In the meantime, advance site preparations and early engineering works are being done in order to meet the target operations date.

AIE is classified as a Committed Project of National Significance by the *DOE* and has the requisite Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("*DENR*") approvals and permits. It is also recognized by the Board of Investments ("*BOI*") as a registered Pioneer Project.

MGen Renewable Energy, Inc. ("*MGreen*"), a wholly owned subsidiary of *MGen* was incorporated and registered with the *SEC* on June 6, 2019 to engage in the development, financing, construction and operation of solar-powered generation facilities. Powersource First

Bulacan Solar, Inc. (“*First Bulacan*”), 40% owned by *MGreen*, is engaged in the development, construction and operation of solar-powered generation facilities, among others. *First Bulacan* is currently developing a 81 megawatt (MW) utility scale solar facility located in San Miguel, Bulacan with target commercial date of operations by January 2021, subject to additional restrictions due to the ongoing pandemic.

On September 28, 2020, *MERALCO* authorized and approved to acquire the remaining 20% stake of Sunseap Philippines Solar Holdings Pte. Ltd. in *First Bulacan*, increasing *MGreen*’s total stake in *First Bulacan* from 40% to 60%.

On December 5, 2019, *MGreen* acquired 70% of *Nortesol*, a company incorporated in the Philippines and engaged in the development, construction and operation of power plant and related facilities using renewable energy system and hybrid energy system. *Nortesol* is currently developing a 110 MW dc/90 MW ac floating solar facility in Laguna de Bay and waiting for the Laguna Lake Development Authority (“*LLDA*”) leasing policy.

LagunaSol Corporation, a 100% owned subsidiary of *MGreen* was incorporated on September 24, 2020 to serve as the vehicle company for *MGreen*’s floating solar projects.

See Note 8 – *Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures*.

RES – This covers the sourcing and supply of electricity to qualified contestable customers. *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* serve as local retail electricity suppliers within their franchise area under a separate business unit, *MPower* and *Cogent Energy*, respectively. Under Retail Competition and Open Access (“*RCOA*”), qualified contestable customers who opt to switch to contestability and elect to be among contestable customers may source their electricity supply from any retail electricity suppliers, including *MPower* and *Cogent Energy*.

The *ERC* granted the following subsidiaries distinct *RES* licenses to operate as retail electricity suppliers within Luzon and Visayas: *Vantage*, a wholly owned subsidiary of *MERALCO*; *Solvre*, a wholly owned subsidiary of *MGen*; *MeridianX*, a wholly owned subsidiary of *Comstech*, on January 10, 2017, February 9, 2017 and February 9, 2017, respectively. *Clarion*, a wholly owned subsidiary of *Clark Electric*, has submitted the requirements for its *RES* licensing to *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the approval of its *RES* licensing is pending with the *ERC*.

▪ Other Services

The other services segment is involved principally in electricity-related services, such as, electro-mechanical engineering, construction, consulting and related manpower services, e-transaction and bills collection, telecommunications services, rail-related operations and maintenance services, insurance and re-insurance, e-business development, power distribution management, energy systems management and harnessing renewable energy and electric vehicle and charging infrastructure solutions. These services are provided by *MIESCOR*, *MBI* and *MLI* (collectively known as “*MIESCOR Group*”), *CIS*, *Bayad Center*, *CFSI* and *Fieldtech* (collectively referred to as “*CIS Group*”), *e-MVI*, *Paragon* and *Radius* (collectively referred to as “*e-MVI Group*”), *Comstech*, *MRail*, *LOIL*, *Finserve*, *MServ*, *Spectrum*, *eSakay* and *Shin Clark*.

The Management Committee monitors the operating results of each business unit separately for the purpose of determining resource allocation and assessing performance. Performance is evaluated based on (i) net income attributable to equity holders of the parent for the period, (ii) consolidated core earnings before interest, taxes, and depreciation and amortization (“consolidated core *EBITDA*”);

and (iii) consolidated core net income (“*CCNI*”). Net income for the period is measured consistent with reported net income in the consolidated statement of income.

Consolidated core *EBITDA* is measured as *CCNI* excluding depreciation and amortization, interest and other financial charges, interest and other financial income, equity in net earnings or losses of associates and joint ventures and provision for income tax.

CCNI for the period is measured as consolidated net income attributable to equity holders of the parent adjusted for foreign exchange gain or loss, mark-to-market gain or loss, impairment or reversal of impairment of noncurrent assets and certain other non-recurring gain or loss, if any, net of tax effect of the foregoing adjustments.

Billings between operating segments are done on an arm’s-length basis in a manner similar to transactions with third parties. Segment revenues, segment expenses and segment results include transfers among business segments. Those transfers are eliminated upon consolidation.

The *MERALCO Group* operates and generates substantially all of its revenues in the Philippines (i.e., one (1) geographical location). Thus, geographical segment information is not presented. None of its revenues from transactions with a single external customer accounts for 10% or more of its revenues from external customers.

	Note	Power		Other Services		Inter-segment Transactions		Total	
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30							
		2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
(Amounts in Millions)									
Revenues		₱208,434	₱235,376	₱7,415	₱7,856	(₱1,641)	(₱2,106)	₱214,208	₱241,126
Segment results		₱35,605	₱37,181	₱1,880	₱1,592	₱–	₱–	₱37,485	₱38,773
Provision for probable losses and expenses from claims		(18,348)	(9,092)	–	–	–	–	(18,348)	(9,092)
Depreciation and amortization	7, 8 and 10	(5,653)	(6,020)	(441)	(380)	–	–	(6,094)	(6,400)
Interest and other financial income	24	1,844	2,392	31	49	–	–	1,875	2,441
Equity in net gains (losses) of associates and joint ventures	8	720	(265)	(3)	(45)	–	–	717	(310)
Interest and other financial charges	24	(1,141)	(1,051)	(82)	(90)	–	–	(1,223)	(1,141)
Provision for income tax - net	27	(2,549)	(5,372)	(521)	(476)	–	–	(3,070)	(5,848)
Net income attributable to non-controlling interests		–	–	–	–	(90)	(102)	(90)	(102)
Net income attributable to equity holders of the Parent		₱10,478	₱17,773	₱864	₱650	(₱90)	(₱102)	₱11,252	₱18,321

		Power		Other Services		Inter-segment Transactions		Total	

The inter-segment revenues mainly represent revenues of other services segment earned from the power segment.

The following table shows the reconciliation of the *EBITDA* to net income:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
<i>EBITDA</i>	₱19,698	₱29,762	₱8,303	₱9,883
Add (deduct):				
Depreciation and amortization	(6,094)	(6,400)	(2,049)	(2,043)
Interest and other financial income	1,875	2,441	487	715
Interest and other financial charges	(1,223)	(1,141)	(402)	(340)
Equity in net gains (losses) of associates and joint ventures	717	(310)	15	(74)
Foreign exchange gains (losses)	(561)	(81)	(384)	311
Income before income tax	14,412	24,271	5,970	8,452
Provision for income tax - net	(3,070)	(5,848)	(1,529)	(2,105)
Net income	₱11,342	₱18,423	₱4,441	₱6,347

The following table shows the reconciliation of the *CCNI* to net income:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
<i>CCNI</i>	₱15,727	₱18,453	₱5,139	₱6,136
Add (deduct) non-core items, net of tax:				
Non-core expenses	(4,082)	(50)	(462)	(60)
Foreign exchange gains (losses)	(393)	(82)	(269)	238
Net income for the period attributable to equity holders of the Parent	11,252	18,321	4,408	6,314
Net income for the period attributable to non-controlling interests	90	102	33	33
Net income	₱11,342	₱18,423	₱4,441	₱6,347

7. Utility Plant and Others

The movements in utility plant and others are as follows:

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)									
	Note	Subtransmission and Distribution	Land	Buildings and Improvements	Communication Equipment	Office Furniture, Fixtures and Other Equipment	Transportation Equipment	Others	Construction in Progress
(Amounts in millions)									
Cost:									
Balance at beginning of period		₱189,492	₱15,410	₱7,054	₱2,882	₱3,683	₱3,769	₱5,326	₱17,340
Additions		123	4	16	228	72	186	194	9,882
Disposals/retirements		(483)	–	(55)	–	–	(42)	(35)	–
Transfers from construction in progress		3,906	–	363	262	290	1	93	(4,915)
Reclassifications	7	38	–	(79)	(40)	6	–	81	(135)
Balance at end of period		193,076	15,414	7,299	3,332	4,051	3,914	5,659	22,172
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization:									
Balance at beginning of period		80,851	–	3,087	1,541	2,475	2,457	3,104	–
Depreciation and amortization		4,655	–	141	228	251	201	252	–
Disposals/retirements		(482)	–	(4)	–	–	(32)	(21)	–
Reclassifications		(3)	–	(34)	(1)	–	–	34	–
Balance at end of period		85,021	–	3,190	1,768	2,726	2,626	3,369	–
Net book value		₱108,055	₱15,414	₱4,109	₱1,564	₱1,325	₱1,288	₱2,290	₱22,172
December 31, 2019 (Audited)									
		Subtransmission and Distribution	Land	Buildings and Improvements	Communication Equipment	Office Furniture, Fixtures and Other Equipment	Transportation Equipment	Others	Construction in Progress
(Amounts in millions)									
Cost:									
Balance at beginning of period		₱181,511	₱15,412	₱6,657	₱2,857	₱2,831	₱3,550	₱4,902	₱11,004
Additions		250	–	188	110	720	345	347	17,725
Disposals/retirements		(3,028)	(2)	(30)	(230)	(25)	(133)	(122)	–
Transfers from construction in progress		10,760	–	239	108	50	7	199	(11,363)
Reclassifications		(1)	–	–	37	107	–	–	(26)
Balance at end of period		189,492	15,410	7,054	2,882	3,683	3,769	5,326	17,340
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization:									
Balance at beginning of period		77,148	–	2,920	1,427	2,227	2,310	2,846	–
Depreciation and amortization		6,720	–	183	194	273	274	359	–
Disposals/retirements		(3,017)	–	(16)	(80)	(25)	(127)	(101)	–
Balance at end of period		80,851	–	3,087	1,541	2,475	2,457	3,104	–
Net book value		₱108,641	₱15,410	₱3,967	₱1,341	₱1,208	₱1,312	₱2,222	₱17,340

As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, the net book values of customer-funded assets included in “Utility plant and others” account amounted to ₱5,333 million and ₱5,114 million, respectively. The corresponding liabilities to customers in the same amounts as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 are included in “Other noncurrent liabilities” account in the consolidated statements of financial position.

See *Note 23 – Revenues and Purchased Power*.

Construction in progress pertains to both electric capital projects (“*ECPs*”) and non-*ECPs*. *ECPs* are capital projects involving construction of new electric distribution-related facilities and the upgrade and major rehabilitation of existing electrical facilities. Total interest capitalized amounted to ₱209 million and ₱179 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

MERALCO’s average annual interest rates used for capitalization for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019 ranged from 4.80% to 4.94% and 4.56% and 4.77%, respectively.

8. Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures

This account consists of the following:

			2020	2019
	Place of Incorporation	Principal Activity	Percentage of Ownership	
Associates				
<i>RP Energy</i>	Philippines	Power generation	47	47
FPM Power Holdings Limited (“ <i>FPM Power</i> ”)	British Virgin Islands	Investment and holding company	40	40
Buang Private Power Corporation (“ <i>BPPC</i> ”)	Philippines	Power generation	38	38
Aclara Meters Philippines, Inc. (“ <i>Aclara Meters</i> ”)	Philippines	Sale of metering products and services	35	35
Power Distribution Services Ghana Limited (“ <i>PDS Ghana</i> ”)	Ghana	Distribution of power	30	30
Indra Philippines, Inc. (“ <i>Indra Philippines</i> ”)	Philippines	Management and <i>IT</i> consultancy	25	25
<i>GBPC</i>	Philippines	Power generation	14	14
<i>AF Payments</i>	Philippines	Electronic payment clearing and settlement system operator	10	10
Joint Ventures				
<i>SBPL</i>	Philippines	Power generation	51	51
MRail-DESCO Joint Venture (“ <i>MDJV</i> ”)	Philippines	Maintenance of mass transit system	50	50
<i>Pure Meridian</i>	Philippines	Renewable energy	50	50
<i>St. Raphael</i>	Philippines	Power generation	50	50
MPioneer Insurance Inc. (“ <i>MPioneer</i> ”)	Philippines	Insurance	35	49
<i>First Bulacan</i>	Philippines	Renewable energy	40	40
Rockwell Business Center Joint Venture (“ <i>RBC JV</i> ”)	Philippines	Real estate	30	30
First Balfour-MRail Joint Venture (“ <i>FBMJV</i> ”)	Philippines	Maintenance of mass transit system	49	49

The movements in investments in associates and interests in joint ventures are as follows:

	<i>Note</i>	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited) (Nine Months)	December 31, 2019 (Audited) (One Year)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Acquisition cost:			
Balance at beginning of period		₱21,619	₱16,144
Additions		722	6,421
Reclassification	<i>10</i>	–	(946)
Balance at end of period		22,341	21,619
Accumulated equity in net losses:			
Balance at beginning of period		(7,404)	(5,372)
Equity in net earnings (losses)		717	(1,486)
Reclassification		756	–
Dividends received		(107)	(546)
Balance at end of period		(6,038)	(7,404)
Share in remeasurement adjustments on retirement liabilities			
Balance at beginning of period		(12)	(10)
Share in actuarial losses		–	(2)
Balance at end of the period		(12)	(12)
Share in cumulative translation adjustments:			
Balance at beginning of period		762	551
Reclassification		(756)	–
Translation adjustments		–	211
Balance at end of period		6	762
		₱16,297	₱14,965

The carrying values of investments in associates and interests in joint ventures follow:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
<i>SBPL</i>	₱8,002	₱7,054
<i>GBPC</i>	5,287	5,109
<i>RBC JV</i>	1,038	1,032
<i>RP Energy</i>	719	723
<i>MPioneer</i>	356	306
<i>Indra Philippines</i>	340	308
<i>First Bulacan</i>	191	137
<i>Pure Meridian</i>	131	131
<i>St. Raphael</i>	105	48
<i>Aclara Meters</i>	78	64
<i>MDJV</i>	33	36
<i>PDS Ghana</i>	15	15
<i>BPPC</i>	2	2
	₱16,297	₱14,965

SBPL

SBPL, which is a joint venture between MGen (51%) and New Growth B.V. (49%), a 100% subsidiary of Electricity Generating Public Company Limited of Thailand (“*EGCO*”), owns and operates a new 455 MW (net) supercritical coal-fired power plant in Mauban, Quezon, which began operations on September 26, 2019.

SBPL and *MERALCO* signed a long-term *PSA* covering all the output of the plant. The *PSA* was approved by the *ERC* on May 19, 2015.

GBPC

GBPC owns an aggregate of 854 MW (gross) of coal and diesel-fired power plants in operation in the Visayas, through its 50% equity interest in Alsons Thermal Energy Corporation (“*ATEC*”). *ATEC* holds 75% equity interest in Sarangani Energy Corporation (“*Sarangani Energy*”). *Sarangani Energy*’s first 105 MW (net) *CFB* plant in Maasim, Sarangani started commercial operations in 2016. The second 105 MW (net) *CFB* plant completed commissioning and started commercial operations in September 2019.

RBC JV

RBC JV is a joint venture between Rockwell Land Corporation (“*Rockwell Land*”) and *MERALCO* for a pre-agreed cooperation period, pursuant to which *Rockwell Land* built and managed three (3) Business Process Outsourcing-enabled buildings on a non-regulatory asset base property of *MERALCO*. Investment in *RBC JV* represents *MERALCO*’s 30% interest in the joint venture, while *Rockwell Land* has 70% interest in *RBC JV*.

FPM Power

FPM Power is 40%-owned by *MERALCO* through *MPG Asia* (a wholly-owned subsidiary of *MGen*) and 60%-owned by First Pacific Company Limited (“*First Pacific*”). *FPM Power* has a 70% equity interest in *PacificLight Power*, which owns and operates a 2 x 400 MW *LNG*-fired power plant in Jurong Island, Singapore. *PacificLight Power*’s wholly owned subsidiary, *PacificLight Energy Pte. Ltd.*, is engaged in energy trading.

In 2020 and 2019, *MERALCO* re-assessed the estimated recoverable amount of its investment in *FPM Power* in view of the continued depressed market condition in Singapore. As a result of the re-assessment, *MERALCO* recognized impairment on its investment amounting to ₱1,252 million as at September 30, 2020.

See Note 14 – *Financial and Other Current Assets* and Note 22 – *Related Party Transactions*.

MPioneer

In accordance with the Agreement of Shareholders and Subscription of Shares among *MERALCO*, Pioneer Insurance and Surety Corporation (“*Pioneer Insurance*”) and *MPioneer*, *MPioneer* issued common shares to *Pioneer Insurance* and *MERALCO*, resulting in a dilution of *MERALCO*’s ownership interest in *MPioneer* to 49%. Under the Agreement, *MERALCO* has the right to sell to *Pioneer Insurance*, and *Pioneer Insurance* has the obligation to buy, *MERALCO*’s 49% stake in *MPioneer* which is exercisable by *MERALCO* at any time during the period from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Indra Philippines

Indra Philippines is an IT service provider in the country and in the Asia Pacific region, with a wide range of services across various industries. *Indra Philippines* provides services which meet certain of MERALCO's IT requirements in the area of system development, outsourcing of Information Systems ("IS") and IT operations and management consulting.

First Bulacan

On January 23, 2017, *Spectrum* entered into a shareholders' agreement with Sunseap International Pte Ltd. and Powersource Philippines Development Corporation for the development of solar energy projects through the joint venture, *First Bulacan*. On September 30, 2019, the ownership in *First Bulacan* was acquired by *MGreen* from *Spectrum* at its acquisition cost of ₱142 million. The joint venture is currently constructing a 50 MW ac utility scale solar facility in San Miguel, Bulacan. The ERC has issued an interim approved rate of ₱4.7268 per kWh on the 20-year PSA with MERALCO as *First Bulacan* filed a motion for reconsideration on the escalation rate. *First Bulacan* has executed an EPC contract on October 2019 and construction commenced in December 2019 with target commercial operations date by first quarter of 2021, subject to additional restrictions due to the ongoing pandemic.

On September 28, 2020, MERALCO authorized and approved to acquire the remaining 20% stake of Sunseap Philippines Solar Holdings Pte. Ltd. in *First Bulacan*, increasing *MGreen*'s total stake in *First Bulacan* from 40% to 60%.

Aclara Meters

Aclara Meters is 35% owned by MERALCO and 65% owned by Aclara Technology LLC. *Aclara Meters* serves the Philippine market for American National Standard Institute ("ANSI")-type Watt-hour meters.

MDJV

On June 2, 2014, *MRail* and Desco, Inc. entered into a Joint Venture Agreement for the general overhaul and rehabilitation of three (3) units of diesel electric locomotives by the Philippine National Railways ("PNR"). The project including its warranty period was completed on April 19, 2019. The *MDJV* is in process of liquidation.

FBMJV

On October 31, 2018, First Balfour, Inc. and *MRail* entered into a joint venture for the Rehabilitation of the Line 1 Rectifier Substations, a Light Rail Manila Corporation project. The parties agreed an ownership of 51% and 49%, respectively. The project is estimated to be completed on July 31, 2021 with an additional two (2) years warranty period.

BPPC

BPPC was incorporated and registered with the SEC on February 3, 1993 to engage in the power generation business.

In accordance with the Build-Operate-Transfer ("BOT") Agreement signed in 1993, First Private Power Corporation ("FPPC"), then parent company, constructed the 215 MW Bauang Power Plant ("*Bauang Plant*"), and operated the same under a 15-year Cooperation Period up to July 25, 2010.

The *Bauang Plant* has since been turned over to the National Power Corporation (“NPC”) without any compensation and free of any liens. In 2010, the SEC approved the merger of *FPPC* and *BPPC*, with *BPPC* as the surviving entity. *BPPC* management continues to evaluate its investment options in power generation and allied industries.

On November 24, 2017, *BPPC*’s *BOD* and stockholders approved a resolution to amend its articles of incorporation shortening the term of its existence from “50 years from the date of incorporation hereof” to “until June 30, 2019”. *BPPC* is still in the process of obtaining the related necessary regulatory approvals.

AF Payments

MERALCO, through *Finserve*, has a 10% equity interest in *AF Payments*. *AF Payments* was incorporated in February 2014 primarily to operate and maintain an electronic payment clearing and settlement system through a contactless automated fare collection system for public utility, including generic contactless micropayment solution. It shall also supply and issue fare media and store value cards or reloadable cards for use in transport and non-transport facilities and operate and maintain the related hardware and software.

Due to the lower than expected penetration rate into the micropayments business, *MERALCO* recognized impairment on the carrying amount of its investment in *AF Payments*. The recoverable amount of the investment in *AF Payments* was measured using the estimate of the value in use of the investment. The valuation analysis involved discounting estimates of free cash flows by the discount rate of 11.9%. The cash flows were based on the most recent financial budgets and forecasts representing best estimate of ranges of economic conditions that will exist over the forecast period. The forecast period covers the remaining service concession agreement term.

The condensed statements of financial position of material associates follow:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)		
	<i>GBPC</i>	<i>FPM Power</i>	<i>RP Energy</i>
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
Current assets	₱18,582	₱6,036	₱277
Noncurrent assets	54,176	21,677	1,174
Current liabilities	(13,161)	(43,643)	(4)
Noncurrent liabilities	(23,596)	(4,944)	(24)
Non-controlling interests	(6,027)	4,245	–
Net assets (liabilities)	₱29,974	(₱16,629)	₱1,423

	December 31, 2019 (Audited)		
	<i>GBPC</i>	<i>FPM Power</i>	<i>RP Energy</i>
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
Current assets	₱20,180	₱6,980	₱293
Noncurrent assets	55,968	37,450	1,149
Current liabilities	(11,441)	(29,971)	(5)
Noncurrent liabilities	(30,565)	(5,252)	(5)
Non-controlling interests	(5,439)	1,028	–
Net assets	₱28,703	₱10,235	₱1,432

The condensed statements of comprehensive income of material associates are as follows:

For the Nine Months Ended September 30 (Unaudited)						
	2020			2019		
	GBPC	FPM Power	RP Energy	GBPC	FPM Power	RP Energy
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Revenues	₱16,390	₱19,981	₱4	₱18,402	₱28,766	₱10
Costs and expenses	(14,489)	(21,072)	(12)	(16,043)	(30,748)	(24)
Net income (loss)	1,901	(1,091)	(8)	2,359	(1,982)	(14)
Non-controlling interests	(631)	(653)	—	(844)	737	—
Net income (loss) attributable to equity holders of the parent	1,270	(1,744)	(8)	1,515	(1,245)	(14)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	(52)	—
Total comprehensive income (loss)	₱1,270	(₱1,744)	(₱8)	₱1,515	(₱1,297)	(₱14)
Dividends received	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱—

The reconciliation of the net assets of the foregoing material associates to the carrying amounts of investments and advances in these associates recognized in the consolidated statements of financial position is as follows:

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)			
	GBPC	FPM Power	RP Energy
	<i>(Amounts in millions, except % of ownership)</i>		
Net assets of associates	₱29,974	₱—	₱1,423
Proportionate ownership in associates (%)	14	40	47
	4,196	—	669
Goodwill	1,091	—	50
	₱5,287	₱—	₱719

December 31, 2019 (Audited)			
	GBPC	FPM Power	RP Energy
	<i>(Amounts in millions, except % of ownership)</i>		
Net assets of associates	₱28,703	₱10,235	₱1,432
Proportionate ownership in associates (%)	14	40	47
	4,018	4,094	673
Goodwill	1,091	—	50
	₱5,109	₱4,094	₱723

The following is the aggregate information of associates that are considered as not individually material:

For the Nine Months Ended September 30 (Unaudited)		
	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Share in net income	₱46	(₱17)
Share in other comprehensive income	—	—
Share in total comprehensive income	₱46	(₱17)
Dividends received	₱—	₱—

Joint Ventures

The condensed statements of financial position of material joint ventures follow:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	
	RBC JV	SBPL
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Current assets	₱1,208	₱8,898
Noncurrent assets	2,862	49,589
Current liabilities	(610)	(4,774)
Noncurrent liabilities	—	(38,023)
Net assets	₱3,460	₱15,690

	December 31, 2019 (Audited)	
	RBC JV	SBPL
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Current assets	₱1,182	₱5,357
Noncurrent assets	2,830	55,019
Current liabilities	(572)	(6,585)
Noncurrent liabilities	—	(39,960)
Net assets	₱3,440	₱13,831

The foregoing condensed statements of financial position include the following:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	
	RBC JV	SBPL
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Cash and cash equivalents	₱873	₱4,162
Current financial liabilities (excluding trade payables)	(93)	(4,180)
	December 31, 2019 (Audited)	
	RBC JV	SBPL
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Cash and cash equivalents	₱1,006	₱1,574
Current financial liabilities (excluding trade payables)	(41)	(2,361)

The condensed statements of comprehensive income of material joint ventures are as follows:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30 (Unaudited)			
	2020		2019	
	RBC JV	SBPL	RBC JV	SBPL
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Revenues	₱587	₱9,238	₱546	₱436
Costs and expenses	(120)	(7,958)	(140)	(681)
Other income - net	14	6	15	4
Benefit from (provision for) income tax - net	(114)	11	(98)	—
Net income (loss)	₱367	₱1,297	₱323	(₱241)
Dividends received	₱107	₱—	₱82	₱—

The foregoing condensed statements of comprehensive income include the following:

		For the Nine Months Ended September 30 (Unaudited)	
		2020	2019
		<i>RBC JV</i>	<i>SBPL</i>
		<i>RBC JV</i>	<i>SBPL</i>
		<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Depreciation		₱159	₱18
Interest income		(11)	(4)

The reconciliation of the net assets of the foregoing material joint ventures to the carrying amounts of investments in these joint ventures recognized in the consolidated statements of financial position is as follows:

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	
		<i>RBC JV</i>	<i>SBPL</i>
		<i>(Amounts in millions, except % of ownership)</i>	
Net assets of joint ventures		₱3,460	₱15,690
Proportionate ownership in joint ventures (%)		30	51
		₱1,038	₱8,002
		December 31, 2019 (Audited)	
		<i>RBC JV</i>	<i>SBPL</i>
		<i>(Amounts in millions, except % of ownership)</i>	
Net assets of joint ventures		₱3,440	₱13,831
Proportionate ownership in joint ventures (%)		30	51
		₱1,032	₱7,054

The following is the condensed financial information of joint ventures which are considered as not material:

		For the Nine Months Ended September 30 (Unaudited)	
		2020	2019
		<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Share in net income (loss)		(₱105)	₱5
Share in other comprehensive loss		—	—
Share in total comprehensive income (loss)		(₱105)	₱5

9. Investment Properties

The movements in investment properties are as follows:

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)			
	Land	Buildings and Improvements	Total
	(Amounts in millions)		
Cost:			
Balance at beginning of period	₱1,427	₱206	₱1,633
Disposal	–	(2)	(2)
Reclassification and others	–	1	1
Balance at end of period	1,427	205	1,632
Less accumulated depreciation:			
Balance at beginning of period	–	131	131
Depreciation	–	3	3
Reclassification and others	–	(1)	(1)
Balance at end of period	–	133	133
	₱1,427	₱72	₱1,499

December 31, 2019 (Audited)			
	Land	Buildings and Improvements	Total
	(Amounts in millions)		
Cost:			
Balance at beginning of period	₱1,427	₱202	₱1,629
Additions	–	1	1
Others	–	3	3
Balance at end of period	1,427	206	1,633
Less accumulated depreciation:			
Balance at beginning of period	–	127	127
Depreciation	–	4	4
Balance at end of period	–	131	131
	₱1,427	₱75	₱1,502

Investment properties consist of real properties held for capital appreciation, former substation sites and other non-regulatory asset base real properties. Some of these investment properties are being leased out.

The aggregate fair values of the investment properties as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 are as follows:

	Amount in millions
Land	₱4,501
Buildings and improvements	197

Land pertains primarily to properties where the business process outsourcing buildings and “Strip” mall are located and other non-regulated asset base properties.

The fair values of investment properties were determined by independent, professionally qualified appraisers. The fair value represents the price that would be received to sell an investment property in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The fair value disclosures of the investment properties are categorized as Level 3 as there is no active market for identical or similar properties. The inputs include price per square meter ranging from ₱100 to ₱155,000. There have been no changes in the valuation techniques used.

In conducting the appraisal, the independent professional appraisers used one (1) of the following approaches:

a. Market Data or Comparative Approach

Under this approach, the value of the property is based on sales and listings of comparable property registered within the vicinity. This approach requires the establishment of a comparable property by reducing comparative sales and listings to a common denominator with the subject property. This is done by adjusting the differences between the subject property and those actual sales and listings regarded as comparables. The properties used are either situated within the immediate vicinity or at different floor levels of the same building, whichever is most appropriate to the property being valued. Comparison was premised on the following: location, size and physical attributes, selling terms, facilities offered and time element.

b. Depreciated Replacement Cost Approach

This method of valuation considers the cost to reproduce or replace in new condition the assets appraised in accordance with current market prices for similar assets, with allowance for accrued depreciation based on physical wear and tear and obsolescence.

10. Financial and Other Noncurrent Assets

This account consists of:

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	Note		
(Amounts in millions)			
Financial assets:			
Debt securities at amortized cost	14 and 26	₱26,257	₱25,588
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	8 and 26	10,769	4,514
Advance payments to supplier and others	26 and 29	5,538	5,698
Nonfinancial assets:			
Under-recoveries of pass-through charges - net	2	7,832	5,862
Intangible assets	7	1,660	1,764
Deferred input VAT		1,090	1,548
Receivable from the <i>BIR</i>		181	181
Goodwill		35	35
Others		3,024	2,792
		₱56,386	₱47,982

Debt Securities at Amortized Cost

The details of debt securities at amortized cost are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)			December 31, 2019 (Audited)		
	Current Portion	Noncurrent Portion	Total	Current Portion	Noncurrent Portion	Total
	(see Note 14)			(see Note 14)		
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>						
Government securities	₱4,181	₱17,555	₱21,736	₱7,769	₱19,539	₱27,308
Private debt securities	3,563	8,702	12,265	7,160	6,049	13,209
	₱7,744	₱26,257	₱34,001	₱14,929	₱25,588	₱40,517

This account represents investments in government securities issued by the Republic of Philippines and private debt securities issued by Philippine listed corporations.

Financial Assets at FVOCI

The details of financial assets at *FVOCI* are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
Investment in debt securities:		
Corporate bonds and other investments	₱9,454	₱1,045
Government securities	—	2,166
Investments in shares of stock and club shares	1,315	1,303
	₱10,769	₱4,514

MGen's 10% interest in *Mariveles Power* amounting to ₱964.6 million is classified as investment in *FVOCI* financial asset.

Interest income from debt and equity securities amounted to ₱1,280 million and ₱1,009 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

See Note 8 – *Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures*.

The rollforward of unrealized fair value gains (losses) on quoted *FVOCI* financial assets, net of tax, included in the consolidated statements of financial position follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amounts in millions)	
Balance at beginning of period	₱227	(₱295)
Unrealized fair value gains (losses) on fair value changes on:		
Debt securities	54	507
Equity securities	(3)	15
Balance at end of period	₱278	₱227

Intangible Assets

The movements of intangible assets are as follows:

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)					
	Note	Software	Franchise	Land and Leasehold Rights	Total
		(Amounts in millions)			
Cost:					
Balance at beginning of period		₱5,391	₱49	₱537	₱5,977
Additions		168	—	47	215
Retirement		—	—	(72)	(72)
Reclassification	7	128	—	—	128
Balance at end of period		5,687	49	512	6,248
Less accumulated amortization:					
Balance at beginning of period		3,886	—	327	4,213
Amortization		330	—	33	363
Reclassification		9	—	3	12
Balance at end of period		4,225	—	363	4,588
		₱1,462	₱49	₱149	₱1,660

December 31, 2019 (Audited)					
	Note	Software	Franchise	Land and Leasehold Rights	Total
		(Amounts in millions)			
Cost:					
Balance at beginning of period		₱5,308	₱49	₱431	₱5,788
Additions		441	—	106	547
Retirement		(241)	—	—	(241)
Reclassification	7	(117)	—	—	(117)
Balance at end of period		5,391	49	537	5,977
Less accumulated amortization:					
Balance at beginning of period		3,437	—	294	3,731
Amortization		690	—	33	723
Retirement		(241)	—	—	(241)
Balance at end of period		3,886	—	327	4,213
		₱1,505	₱49	₱210	₱1,764

Deferred Input VAT

The amount includes portion of input VAT incurred and paid in connection with purchase of capital assets in excess of ₱1 million per month. As provided for under RA No. 9337 (“EVAT Law”), said portion of input VAT shall be deferred and credited evenly over the estimated useful lives of the related capital assets or 60 months, whichever is shorter, against the output VAT due.

Net Under-Recoveries of Pass-through Charges

This account represents generation, transmission and other pass-through costs incurred by *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* as *DUs* determined based on *ERC*-approved recovery mechanism, which shall be billed to customers, upon confirmation by the *ERC*. The balance also includes other net under-recoveries of generation, transmission and other pass-through charges of current and prior periods, which are the subject of various applications for recovery and approval by the *ERC*.

Allowance for *ECL* on net under-recoveries of pass-through charges amounted to ₱2,201 million and ₱3,146 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

See Note 12 - Trade and Other Receivables.

11. Cash and Cash Equivalents

This account consists of:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Cash on hand and in banks	₱5,886	₱8,375
Cash equivalents	25,811	29,887
	₱31,697	₱38,262

Cash in banks earns interest at prevailing bank deposit rates. Cash equivalents are temporary cash investments, which are made for varying periods up of to three (3) months depending on *MERALCO Group*’s immediate cash requirements, and earn interest at the prevailing short-term investment rates.

Interest income on cash in banks and cash equivalents amounted to ₱504 million and ₱1,386 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

12. Trade and Other Receivables

This account consists of:

	Note	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
(Amounts in millions)			
Trade:			
Electricity	22, 23 and 26	P58,515	P25,885
Service contracts		3,747	5,424
Unbilled receivables	23	1,857	1,682
Nontrade	22 and 26	3,564	2,002
		67,683	34,993
Less allowance for expected credit losses		3,849	2,385
		P63,834	P32,608

Movements in allowance for expected credit losses for trade and other receivables are as follows:

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)				
	Balance at Beginning of Period	Provisions	Write-offs	Balance at End of Period
(Amounts in millions)				
Trade - electricity	P1,761	P1,411	P–	P3,172
Other trade receivables	622	45	–	667
Nontrade receivables	2	8	–	10
	P2,385	P1,464	P–	P3,849

December 31, 2019 (Audited)				
	Balance at Beginning of Period	Provisions	Write-offs	Balance at End of Period
(Amounts in millions)				
Trade - electricity	P1,360	P404	(P3)	P1,761
Other trade receivables	318	304	–	622
Nontrade receivables	2	–	–	2
	P1,680	P708	(P3)	P2,385

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)					December 31, 2019 (Audited)			
	Trade - Electricity	Other Trade Receivables	Nontrade Receivables	Total	Trade - Electricity	Other Trade Receivables	Nontrade Receivables	Total
(Amounts in millions)								
Individually impaired	P638	P667	P10	P1,315	P845	P622	P2	P1,469
Collectively impaired	2,534	–	–	2,534	916	–	–	916
	P3,172	P667	P10	P3,849	P1,761	P622	P2	P2,385

Trade Receivables – Electricity

Trade receivables of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* include charges for pass-through costs. Pass-through costs of *MERALCO* consist of generation, transmission and *SL* charges, which represent 55%, 10% and 4%, respectively, of the total billed amount in 2020 and 59%, 8% and 4%, respectively, of the total billed amount in 2019. Billed receivables are due 10 days after bill date. *MERALCO*'s and *Clark Electric*'s trade receivables are noninterest-bearing and are substantially secured by bill deposits. Electricity consumed after the meter reading cut-off dates, which will be billed to customers in the immediately following billing period, is included as part of trade receivables.

See Note 26 – *Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities*.

Trade Receivables – Service Contracts

Service contracts receivable arise from contracts entered into by the *MIESCOR Group*, *e-MVI Group*, *CIS Group*, *MRail*, *MServ*, *Finserve*, *Comstech*, *eSakay* and *Spectrum* for construction, engineering, consulting and related manpower, light rail maintenance, telecommunications and data transport, e-transactions and bills collection, tellering and e-business development, energy systems management and harnessing renewable energy to third parties.

Receivables from service contracts and others are noninterest-bearing and are generally on 30- to 90-day terms.

See Note 10 – *Financial and Other Noncurrent Assets*.

13. Inventories

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
Materials and supplies:		
At cost	₱5,945	₱4,764
At net realizable value (“ <i>NRV</i> ”)	5,740	4,558
Materials and supplies at <i>NRV</i>	₱5,740	₱4,558

The net realizable value of inventories is net of allowance for inventory obsolescence of ₱206 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019. No items of inventory has been written off for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019.

14. Financial and Other Current Assets

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	Note		
(Amounts in millions)			
Financial assets:			
Debt securities at amortized cost	10 and 26	₱7,744	₱14,929
Current portion of advance payments to a supplier	26	173	180
Advances to an associate - net	8, 22 and 26	–	3,454
Short-term investments		–	18,185
Nonfinancial assets:			
Prepayments		2,541	2,670
Prepaid tax		1,307	1,380
Input VAT		1,165	1,207
Others		608	256
		₱13,538	₱42,261

Short-term investments are temporary cash placements for varying period beyond three (3) months but not exceeding 12 months, and earn interest at the prevailing short-term placement investment rates.

Pass-through VAT pertains to VAT on generation and transmission costs billed to the DU, which are in turn billed to the customers. Remittance of such pass-through VAT to the generation companies is based on collection of billed receivables from the customers.

15. Equity

Common Stock			
		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
(In millions, except par value)			
Authorized number of shares- ₱10 par value per share		1,250	1,250
Issued and outstanding - number of shares		1,127	1,127

There was no movement in the number of shares of MERALCO's common stock.

The common shares of MERALCO were listed on the PSE on January 8, 1992. There are 41,975 and 42,114 shareholders of MERALCO's common shares as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

Unappropriated Retained Earnings

The unappropriated retained earnings include accumulated earnings of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, the balance of MERALCO's revaluation increment in utility plant and others and investment properties carried at deemed cost, deferred tax assets and unrealized foreign exchange gains totaling to ₱60,140 million and ₱48,322 million as at September 30, 2020 and

December 31, 2019, respectively. These amounts are restricted for dividend declaration purposes as of the close of the respective reporting.

The following are the cash dividends declared on common shares for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Per Share	Amount
				(In millions)
July 27, 2020	August 20, 2020	September 15, 2020	₱4.70	₱5,294
February 24, 2020	March 20, 2020	April 15, 2020	10.40	11,716
July 29, 2019	August 20, 2019	September 20, 2019	5.46	6,159
February 26, 2019	March 22, 2019	April 15, 2019	10.59	11,941

The BOD-approved dividend policy of *MERALCO* consists of (i) regular cash dividends equivalent to 50% of *CCNI* for the period, and (ii) special dividend determined on a “look-back” basis. Declaration and payment of special dividend are dependent on the availability of unrestricted retained earnings and availability of free cash. The declaration, record and payment dates shall be consistent with the guidelines and regulations of the Philippine SEC.

Treasury Shares

Treasury shares represent 172,412 subscribed shares and the related rights of employees who have opted to withdraw from the *ESPP* in accordance with the provisions of the *ESPP* and which *MERALCO* purchased.

16. Interest-bearing Long-term Financial Liabilities

This account consists of the following:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
(Amounts in millions)		
Long-term portion of interest-bearing financial liabilities - long-term debt	₱12,392	₱12,745
Current portion of interest-bearing financial liabilities:		
Long-term debt	3,539	3,636
Redeemable preferred stock	1,474	1,479
	5,013	5,115
	₱17,405	₱17,860

All of the redeemable preferred shares have been called as at June 30, 2011, consistent with the terms of the Preferred Shares Subscription Agreement. Accrued interests amounted to ₱250 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019. Interest is no longer accrued from the time such preferred shares were called for redemption.

The details of interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
<i>Fixed Rate Loans</i>		
₱11.5 Billion 7-year Bonds	₱7,000	₱7,000
₱7.0 Billion 12-year Bonds	3,179	3,179
₱7.2 Billion Note Facility Agreement	5,040	5,400
₱600 Million Term Loan Facilities	510	540
₱350 Million Note Facility Agreements	210	280
₱130 Million Term Loan Facility	24	35
₱27 Million Term Loan Facility	27	27
Total long-term debt	15,990	16,461
Less unamortized debt issuance costs	59	80
	15,931	16,381
<i>Redeemable Preferred Stock</i>	1,474	1,479
	17,405	17,860
Less current portion	5,013	5,115
Long-term portion of interest-bearing financial liabilities	₱12,392	₱12,745

All of the interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 are denominated in Philippine peso. The scheduled maturities of the outstanding long-term debt at nominal values as at September 30, 2020 are as follows:

	Amount <i>(In millions)</i>
Less than one (1) year	₱3,668
One (1) year up to two (2) years	464
More than two (2) years up to three (3) years	464
More than three (3) years up to four (4) years	4,054
More than four (4) years up to five (5) years	95
More than five (5) years	7,245
	₱15,990

₱18.5 Billion Fixed Rate Puttable Bonds

In December 2013, *MERALCO* offered, sold and issued by way of public offering in the Philippines, 7- and 12-year corporate bonds, puttable in five (5) and ten (10) years, respectively, with an aggregate principal amount of up to ₱15.5 billion and with an overallotment option of up to ₱5.0 billion. The 12-year corporate bonds also include a call option, whereby *MERALCO* may redeem (in whole but not in part only) the outstanding bonds on the 7th year from issue date at the early redemption price of 101.0%. The put and call options are clearly and closely related to the host instruments, and thus, were not recognized separately.

Holders of the 7-year bonds totaling ₱8.32 billion exercised the put option, which were settled by the *MERALCO* in March 2019. The outstanding balance of the 7-year bonds is classified as current portion of interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

₱7.2 Billion Note Facility Agreement

In February 2014, *MERALCO* entered into a ₱7,200 million, 10-year Fixed Rate Note Facility Agreement due in February 2024. The principal is payable in nominal annual amortizations with a balloon payment upon final maturity.

₱600 Million Term Loan Facilities

MServ obtained a total of ₱600 million, 10-year fixed rate term loans. The principal amount is payable over 10 years until January 2027.

₱350 Million Note Facility Agreements

In July 2018, *MServ* obtained a total of ₱350 million, five (5)-year Fixed Rate Note Facility Agreements due in July 2023. The principal amount is payable semi-annually over five (5) years until July 2023.

₱130 Million Term Loan Facility

On June 27, 2014, *MIESCOR* obtained a ₱130 million, seven (7)-year fixed rate term loan. The principal is payable over six (6) years until June 2021.

₱27 Million Term Loan Facility

On November 8, 2019, *eSakay* obtained a ₱27 million, seven (7)-year fixed rate term loan. The principal amount is payable over seven (7) years until November 2026.

The annual interest rates for the interest-bearing financial liabilities range from 4.38% to 7.00% as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

Debt Covenants

MERALCO's loan agreements require compliance with debt service coverage of 1.1 times calculated on specific measurement dates. The agreements also contain restrictions with respect to the creation of liens or encumbrances on assets, issuance of guarantees, mergers or consolidations, disposition of a significant portion of its assets and related party transactions.

As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, *MERALCO* is in compliance with all of the covenants of the loan agreements.

Interest expense on interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities amounted to ₱360 million and ₱453 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Unamortized Debt Issuance Costs

The following presents the changes to the unamortized debt issuance costs:

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	Note		
(Amounts in millions)			
Balance at beginning of period		₱80	₱107
Amortization charged to interest and other financial charges	24	(21)	(27)
Balance at end of period		₱59	₱80

Redeemable Preferred Stock

The movements in the number of shares of the redeemable preferred stock, which have all been called, are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
Balance at beginning of period	147,880,772	148,701,324
Redemptions	(504,463)	(820,552)
Balance at end of period	147,376,309	147,880,772

The original “Terms and Conditions” of *MERALCO*’s Special Stock Subscription Agreement, which required an applicant to subscribe to preferred stock with 10% dividend to cover the cost of extension of, or new, distribution facilities, have been amended by the *Magna Carta* and the *DSOAR*, effective June 17, 2004 and January 18, 2006, respectively. The amendment sets forth the guidelines for the issuance of preferred stock, only if such instrument is available.

17. Customers’ Deposits

This account consists of:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)			December 31, 2019 (Audited)		
	Current Portion (see Note 21)	Noncurrent Portion	Total	Current Portion (see Note 21)	Noncurrent Portion	Total
(Amounts in millions)						
Bill deposits	₱2,273	₱29,544	₱31,817	₱2,557	₱28,247	₱30,804
Meter deposits	314	–	314	313	–	313
	₱2,587	₱29,544	₱32,131	₱2,870	₱28,247	₱31,117

Bill Deposits

Bill deposits serve to guarantee payment of bills by a customer.

As provided in the *Magna Carta* and *DSOAR*, all captive customers are required to pay a deposit to the *DU*, equivalent to the estimated monthly bill calculated based on applied load, which shall be recognized as bill deposit of the captive customer. Such deposit shall be updated annually

based on the historical 12-month average bill. A captive customer who has paid his electric bills on or before due date for three (3) consecutive years may apply for the full refund of the bill deposit, together with the accrued interests, prior to the termination of his service; otherwise bill deposits and accrued interests shall be refunded within one (1) month from the termination of service, provided all bills have been paid.

On February 22, 2010, the amended *DSOAR*, which became effective on April 1, 2010, was promulgated by the *ERC*. Under the amended *DSOAR*, interest on bill deposits for both residential and non-residential customers shall be computed using the equivalent peso savings account interest rate of the Land Bank of the Philippines (“*Land Bank*”) or other government banks, on the first working day of the year, subject to the confirmation of the *ERC*.

As provided for under *ERC* Resolution No. 1, *A Resolution Adopting the Revised Rules for the Issuance of Licenses to Retail Electricity Suppliers*, a local *RES* may require security deposits from its contestable customers, which shall earn interest equivalent to the actual interest earnings of the total amount of deposits received from the customers.

On May 10, 2019, *MERALCO* received a copy of the Petition dated April 27, 2019 filed by various partylist representatives which questioned the imposition of bill deposits by the *DU* for its captive customers.

The Petition prayed that the bill deposits provisions in the Magna Carta be declared as illegal and void and that *MERALCO* and other *DUs* be permanently prohibited from imposing and collecting bill deposit from the captive market. The Petition further prayed that the bill deposit be refunded and/or that combining the bill deposits with the general funds of *MERALCO* be disallowed. Lastly, the Petition prayed for the conduct of an audit of the bill deposits collected by *MERALCO*.

MERALCO filed its Comment to the Petition on October 18, 2019. On October 28, 2019, the *OSG* filed a Manifestation and Motion to drop *COA* as a respondent in the case. In a Resolution dated February 4, 2020, the *SC* required *COA* to file their comments on the Petition. On July 27, 2020, *MERALCO* received a copy of the Comment filed by the *COA*, through the *OSG*.

The following are the movements of the bill deposits account:

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	Note		
		(Amounts in millions)	
Balance at beginning of period		₱30,804	₱29,173
Additions		2,705	5,615
Refunds		(1,692)	(3,984)
Balance at end of period		31,817	30,804
Less portion maturing within one period	21	2,273	2,557
Noncurrent portion of bill deposits and related interests		₱29,544	₱28,247

Interest expense on bill deposits amounted to ₱29 million and ₱25 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019.

Meter Deposits

Meter deposits were intended to guarantee the cost of meters installed.

The *Magna Carta* for residential customers (effective July 19, 2004) and *DSOAR* (effective February 2, 2006) for non-residential customers exempt all customer groups from payment of meter deposits beginning July 2004 for residential customers and April 2006 for non-residential customers.

The *ERC* released Resolution No. 8, Series of 2008, otherwise known as “Rules to Govern the Refund of Meter Deposits to Residential and Non-Residential Customers” (“*Rules*”) which required the refund of meter deposits from the effectivity of said *Rules* on July 5, 2008. Under the *Rules*, a customer has the option of receiving his refund in cash, check, credit to future monthly billings, or as an offset to other due and demandable claims of the *DU* against him.

The total amount of refund shall be equivalent to the meter deposit paid by the customer plus the total accrued interest earned from the time the customer paid the meter deposit until the day prior to the start of refund.

On August 8, 2008, in compliance with the *Rules*, *MERALCO* submitted to the *ERC* an accounting of the total meter deposit principal and interest amount for refund. The actual refund of meter deposits commenced on November 3, 2008.

In May 2014, *MERALCO* implemented automatic crediting or offsetting of the remaining unclaimed meter deposit refund (“*MDR*”) as approved by *ERC*, including all accrued interests to the corresponding existing and active service contracts. This was done after releasing a “Final Notice” to advise our customers, particularly those who have not yet claimed their *MDR*, to claim the same prior to *MERALCO*’s implementation of auto-crediting. Thus, all remaining unclaimed *MDR* as reported to the *ERC* as at December 31, 2014 were only for terminated services.

In May 2016, the *ERC* promulgated *ERC* Resolution No. 12, Series of 2016 entitled, “Amended Rules to Govern the Refund of Meter Deposits to Residential and Non-Residential Consumers,” directing all *DUs* to deposit all unclaimed meter deposits including all accrued interests in a government or commercial bank under a single savings account and in the name of the *DU* strictly intended for the claimants of meter deposits. Further, customers were given until December 31, 2017 within which to claim their *MDR*, to be facilitated by the *DU*; otherwise, all unclaimed meter deposits, including accrued interest will be subject to an escheat proceeding in favor of the government.

In compliance with said *ERC* directive, in July 2016, *MERALCO* deposited unclaimed meter deposits in a single savings account. In May 2017, *MERALCO* submitted the required reports to the *ERC* in compliance with the *ERC*’s directive to all *DUs* pursuant to *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2016, entitled, “Guidelines to Govern the Audit Process of Meter Deposit Refund to Residential and Non-Residential Customers.”

In April 2018, *MERALCO* submitted to the *ERC* the total amount of unclaimed *MDR* that will be subject of regulatory directive. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is waiting for directive from the *ERC* on the next steps with respect to the unclaimed meter deposits.

18. Provisions

Provisions consist of amounts recognized related to certain proceedings and claims against *MERALCO Group*, among others. The movements follow:

	Note	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
(Amounts in millions)			
Balance at beginning of period		₱34,191	₱32,550
Provisions (reversals) for the period - net		(525)	2,063
Settlements		(882)	(422)
Balance at end of period		32,784	34,191
Less current portion	21	14,919	16,835
Noncurrent portion of provisions		₱17,865	₱17,356

The balance of provisions substantially represents the amounts of claims related to a commercial contract which remains unresolved and local taxes being contested as discussed in *Note 28 – Contingencies and Legal Proceedings*, consistent with the limited disclosure as allowed in *PFRS*.

19. Customers' Refund

This account represents the balance of the refund related to the *SC* decision promulgated on April 30, 2003, which is continuously being refunded based on documents presented by claimants.

In June 2003, the *ERC*, in the implementation of the *SC* decision, ordered *MERALCO* to refund to its customers an equivalent ₱0.167 per *kWh* for billings made from February 1994 to April 2003.

On February 1, 2011, *MERALCO* filed a motion with the *ERC* to: (i) allow it to continue with the implementation of the refund to eligible accounts or customers under Phases I to IV, for another five (5) years from the end of Phase IV-B, or from the end of December 2010 to the end of December 2015; and (ii) adopt its proposed procedures for the implementation of the *SC* refund during the extended period. The *ERC* approved *MERALCO*'s motion in its Order dated February 7, 2011.

On December 18, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Motion seeking the *ERC*'s approval to continue refunding to eligible accounts or customers under Phases I to IV, for three (3) years from January 1, 2016 or until December 31, 2018. In an Order dated December 19, 2018, the *ERC* authorized *MERALCO* to continue with the implementation of the refund to eligible customers until June 30, 2019. The *ERC* also required *MERALCO* to submit information and documents related to the customers' refund, including a proposed scheme on how the unclaimed refund will be utilized for purposes of reducing the distribution rates of customers. On February 18, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Partial Compliance with Manifestation and Motion. On March 8, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Compliance with Manifestation and Motion. On July 12, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Manifestation informing the *ERC* that on July 1, 2019, *MERALCO* deposited all the unclaimed amounts of the *SC* Refund as of June 30, 2019 in a separate interest-bearing account. *MERALCO* further manifested in said Compliance that it shall continue with the processing of the refund claims of eligible customers and should the refund claims of these customers be evaluated to be valid, *MERALCO* shall, for the benefit of the customers, withdraw the refund amount from the bank account, release the same to the concerned customers and accordingly inform the *ERC* of such fact. On September 10, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Manifestation and Motion with respect to the Order dated December 19, 2018 of the *ERC*. The

ERC has yet to rule on the Urgent Manifestation and Motion by *MERALCO*. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is still processing the refund claims of eligible customers.

See Note 2 – *Rate Regulations*.

20. Notes Payable

Notes payable represent unsecured interest-bearing working capital loans obtained from local banks. Annual interest rates were up to 4.95% and 7.72% as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

Interest expense on notes payable amounted to ₱771 million and ₱643 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

21. Trade Payables and Other Current Liabilities

This account consists of the following:

	Note	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Trade accounts payable	22 and 23	₱39,436	₱39,520
Taxes		13,864	10,830
Provisions	18 and 28	14,919	16,835
Accrued expenses:			
Employee benefits		1,815	1,809
Interest	16	277	246
Others		364	1,753
Current portions of:			
Bill deposits and related interests	17	2,273	2,557
Deferred income		1,350	994
Meter deposits and related interests	17	314	313
Refundable service extension costs		1,468	1,468
Dividends payable on:			
Common stock	15	1,302	1,037
Redeemable preferred stock	16	250	250
Payable to customers		9,239	8,376
Universal charges payable	31	3,007	2,837
FiT-All payable	31	720	1,257
Regulatory fees payable		182	226
Other current liabilities		4,867	3,372
		₱95,647	₱93,680

Trade Accounts Payable

Trade accounts payable mainly represent obligations to power generating companies, National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (“*NGCP*”) and Independent Electricity Market Operator of the Philippines Inc. (“*IEMOP*”) for cost of power purchased and transmission services. In addition, this account includes liabilities due to local and foreign suppliers for purchases of goods

and services, consisting of transformers, poles, materials and supplies, and contracted services, among others.

Trade payables are non-interest-bearing and are generally settled within 15 to 30 days from the receipt of invoice. Other payables are non-interest-bearing and due within one (1) year from incurrence.

See *Note 22 – Related Party Transactions*, *Note 23 – Revenue and Purchased Power* and *Note 29 – Significant Contracts and Commitments*.

Refundable Service Extension Costs

Article 14 of the *Magna Carta*, specifically, “Right to Extension of Lines and Facilities”, requires a customer requesting for an extension of lines and facilities beyond 30-meter service distance from the nearest voltage facilities of the *DU* to advance the cost of the project. The amended *DSOAR*, which became effective April 1, 2010, requires such advances from customers to be refunded at the rate of 75% of the distribution revenue generated from the extension lines and facilities until such amounts are fully refunded. The related asset shall form part of the rate base only as the refund is paid out. Customer advances are non-interest-bearing.

As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, the noncurrent portion of refundable service extension costs of ₱7,672 million and ₱6,932 million, respectively, is presented as “Refundable service extension costs - net of current portion” account in the consolidated statements of financial position.

Universal Charges Payable

Universal charges are amounts passed on and collected from customers on a monthly basis by *DUs*. These are charges imposed to recover the stranded debts, stranded contract costs of *NPC* and stranded contract costs of eligible contracts of distribution. *DUs* remit collections monthly to *PSALM* who administers the fund generated from universal charges and disburses the said funds in accordance with the intended purposes.

Payable to Customers

Payable to customers represents amounts paid by customers in advance and which are applied to their current consumption.

22. Related Party Transactions

The *MERALCO Group* has approval process and limits on the amount and extent of related party transactions.

The following summarizes the total amount of transactions, which have been provided and/or contracted by the *MERALCO Group* to/with related parties for the relevant period. The outstanding balances are unsecured, non-interest-bearing and settled in cash.

Pole Attachment Contract with PLDT, Inc. ("PLDT")

MERALCO has a pole attachment contract with *PLDT* similar to third party pole attachment contracts of *MERALCO* with other telecommunication companies. Under the pole attachment contract, *PLDT* shall use the contracted cable position exclusively for its telecommunication cable network facilities.

Sale of Electricity under Various Service Contracts

MERALCO sells electricity to related party shareholder groups within the franchise area such as *PLDT*, *Metro Pacific* and *JG Summit* and their respective subsidiaries, and affiliates for their facilities within *MERALCO*'s franchise area. The rates charged to related parties are the same ERC-mandated rates applicable to all customers within the franchise area.

Purchase of Telecommunication Services from PLDT and Subsidiaries

The *MERALCO Group*'s telecommunications carriers include *PLDT* for its wireline and Smart Communications, Inc. and Digitel Mobile Philippines, Inc., for its wireless services. Such services are covered by standard service contracts between the telecommunications carriers and each legal entity within the *MERALCO Group*.

Purchase of Goods and Services

In the ordinary course of business, the *MERALCO Group* purchases goods and services from its affiliates and sells power and renders services to such affiliates.

PSAs with Joint Ventures and Associates

As discussed in Note 29, *MERALCO* signed long-term *PSAs* with *PEDC* and *SBPL*.

Following is a summary of related party transactions for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019 and the outstanding balances as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019:

Category	Amount of Transactions		Outstanding Receivable (Liability)		Terms	Conditions
	For the Nine Months					
	Ended September 30	September 30,	December 31,			
2020	2019	2020	2019			
(Amounts in millions)						
Sale of electricity:						
JG Summit Group	₱1,924	₱2,656	₱471	₱397	10-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured, no impairment
PLDT Group	897	1,092	196	108	10-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured, no impairment
Metro Pacific Group	307	434	65	42	10-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured, no impairment
Purchases of IT services - Indra Philippines	892	653	(294)	(128)	30-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured
Purchases of meters and devices - Aclara Meters	79	—	(32)	—	30-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured
Purchase of insurance premium - MPioneer	278	254	(1)	(1)	30-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured
Revenue from pole attachment - PLDT	381	248	182	101	Advance payment	Unsecured, no impairment
Purchases of wireline and wireless services - PLDT Group	79	67	(12)	(13)	30-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured
Purchases of power - PEDC	1,375	1,355	(241)	(242)	30-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured
SBPL	9,202	1,597	(922)	(389)	30-day; noninterest-bearing	Unsecured

Advances to FPM Power

FPM Power has a non-interest-bearing loan from *MPG Asia* amounting to ₱5,751 million and ₱5,748 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively, which is due and demandable. The allowance for expected losses related to the non-interest-bearing loan amounted to ₱4,995 million and ₱2,332 million, respectively. The loan remains outstanding as at September 30, 2020.

See Note 14 – Financial and other Current Assets and Note 8 – Investments in Associates and Interests in Joint Ventures.

Transaction with MERALCO Retirement Benefits Fund (“Retirement Fund”)

MERALCO’s Retirement Fund holds 6,000 common shares of *RP Energy* at par value of ₱100 per share, with total carrying amount of ₱600,000 or an equivalent 3% equity interest in *RP Energy*. The fair value of *RP Energy*’s common shares cannot be reliably measured as these are not traded in the financial market. As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, the fair value of the total assets being managed by the Fund amounted to ₱34.6 billion and ₱35.0 billion, respectively.

See Note 25 – Long-Term Employee Benefits.

Compensation of Key Management Personnel

The compensation of key management personnel of the *MERALCO Group* by benefit type is as follows:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30	For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Short-term employee benefits	₱442	₱410	₱82	₱73
Long-term employee incentives and retirement benefits	137	147	46	49
Total compensation to key management personnel	₱579	₱557	₱128	₱122

All directors are entitled to a reasonable per diem for their attendance in meetings of the *BOD* and Board Committees plus an additional compensation, provided that the total value of such additional compensation, in whatever form so given, shall not exceed one (1) percent of the income before income tax of *MERALCO* during the preceding year.

Each of the directors is entitled to a per diem of ₱140,000 for every *BOD* meeting attended. Each member of the Audit, Risk Management, Remuneration and Leadership Development, Finance, Related Party Transactions and Nomination and Governance Committees is entitled to a fee of ₱24,000 for every committee meeting attended. Also, the members of the *BOD* are entitled to a stock grant based on a pre-approved number of shares for each director which was implemented beginning May 2013 as approved by the stockholders. The directors have the option to receive the number of shares granted or the equivalent cash value.

As at September 30, 2020, there are no agreements between the *MERALCO Group* and any of its key management personnel providing for benefits upon termination of employment or retirement, except with respect to benefits provided under (i) a defined benefit retirement plan, (ii) a program which aims to address capability refresh and organizational optimization requirements, and (iii) a contributory provident plan. Post-retirement benefits under the defined benefit retirement plan cover employees hired up to December 31, 2003 only. The provident plan, which is implemented on a voluntary basis, covers employees hired beginning January 1, 2004.

23. Revenues and Purchased Power

Revenues

The *MERALCO Group* disaggregates its revenue information in the same manner as it reports its segment information.

See *Note 6 – Segment Information*.

Contract Assets and Contract Liabilities

The *MERALCO Group*'s contract balances are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amounts in millions)	
Trade:		
Electricity	₱58,515	₱25,885
Service contracts	3,747	5,424
Contract assets:		
Unbilled receivables	1,857	1,682
Under-recoveries of pass-through charges - net	7,832	5,862
Contract liabilities:		
Nonrefundable liability related to asset funded by customers	840	822
Over-recoveries from transmission and <i>SL</i> charges	1,255	1,146

Income recognized from the nonrefundable liability related to assets funded by customers amounted to ₱71 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Purchased Power

The details of purchased power are as follows:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	(Amounts in millions)			
Generation costs	₱127,858	₱155,949	₱42,546	₱47,950
Transmission costs	28,264	27,406	9,429	8,740
	₱156,122	₱183,355	₱51,975	₱56,690

Purchased power costs for the captive customers are pass-through costs and are revenue-neutral to *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric*, as *DUs*.

Generation costs include line rentals, market fees and must-run unit charges billed by *IEMOP*.

The details of purchased power follow:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
First Gas Power Corporation (“FGPC”), FGP Corp. (“FGP”) and First Gen Hydro Power Corporation (“FGHPC”)	₱34,288	₱41,537	₱10,131	₱13,446
NGCP	28,242	27,353	9,423	8,725
South Premiere Power Corporation (“SPPC”)	17,173	25,449	6,562	6,621
San Miguel Energy Corporation (“SMEC”)	13,013	16,089	4,472	5,545
IEMOP	12,357	20,064	4,410	4,358
QPPL	10,741	12,883	3,375	4,058
SBPL	9,202	1,597	3,309	1,246
AC Energy Philippines, Inc. (“AC Energy”)	7,386	1,392	3,096	445
First NatGas Power Corp. (“FNPC”)	6,760	9,752	1,883	3,147
Masinloc Power Partners Co. Ltd. (“MPPCL”)	6,180	9,777	2,394	3,137
Therma Luzon, Inc. (“TLI”)	4,208	7,768	1,181	2,856
Sem-Calaca Power Corporation (“Sem-Calaca”)	2,805	4,953	702	1,494
PEDC	1,375	1,355	513	447
Therma Mobile, Inc. (“TMO”)	516	1,235	–	480
Millenium Energy, Inc. (“MEI”)	307	500	–	136
Solar Philippines Tarlac Corporation (“SPTC”)	260	39	77	39
Southwest Luzon Power Generation Corporation	34	156	–	21
Others	1,275	1,456	447	489
	₱156,122	₱183,355	₱51,975	₱56,690

Generation and transmission costs over- or under-recoveries result from the lag in the billing and recovery of generation and transmission costs from consumers. As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, the total transmission costs and SL charge over-recoveries included in “Other noncurrent liabilities” account in the consolidated statements of financial position amounted to ₱1,255 million and ₱1,146 million, respectively.

24. Expenses and Income

Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits

	<i>Note</i>	Unaudited			
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30		
		2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Salaries, wages and related employee benefits		₱8,825	₱9,172	₱2,706	₱3,200
Retirement benefits	25	1,116	663	363	221
Other long-term post-employment benefits	25	83	104	27	34
		₱10,024	₱9,939	₱3,096	₱3,455

Depreciation and Amortization

	<i>Note</i>	Unaudited			
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30		
		2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Utility plant and others	7	₱5,728	₱5,857	₱1,892	₱1,835
Intangible assets	10	363	540	156	207
Investment properties	9	3	3	1	1
		₱6,094	₱6,400	₱2,049	₱2,043

Other Expenses

	<i>Note</i>	Unaudited			
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30	For the Three Months Ended September 30		
		2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Materials used	13	₱1,145	₱1,781	₱467	₱691
Rent and utilities		541	633	161	200
Insurance		299	294	94	79
Transportation and travel		181	273	60	92
Communication	22	106	96	39	32
Advertising		165	192	120	50
Others		1,929	572	160	303
		₱4,366	₱3,841	₱1,101	₱1,447

25. Long-term Employee Benefits

Liabilities for long-term employee benefits consist of the following:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amounts in millions)	
Retirement benefits liability	₱6,623	₱5,627
Long-term incentives	2,236	1,306
Other post-employment benefits	2,032	1,949
	₱10,891	₱8,882

Defined Benefit Retirement Plans

The features of the *MERALCO Group's* defined benefit plans are discussed in *Note 4 – Significant Accounting Policies, Changes and Improvements*.

Actuarial valuations are prepared annually by the respective independent actuaries engaged by *MERALCO* and its subsidiaries.

Expense recognized for defined benefit plans (included in “Salaries, wages and employee benefits” account in the consolidated statements of income)

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	(Amounts in millions)			
Current service costs	₱892	₱656	₱288	₱222
Net interest costs (income)	187	(26)	61	(13)
Net retirement benefits expense	₱1,079	₱630	₱349	₱209

Retirement Benefits Liability

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amounts in millions)	
Defined benefit obligation	₱41,247	₱40,674
Fair value of plan assets	(34,624)	(35,047)
Net retirement benefits liability	₱6,623	₱5,627

Changes in the net retirement benefits asset and liability are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Retirement benefits liability (asset) at beginning of period	₱5,627	(₱356)
Net retirement benefits expense	1,079	887
Amounts recognized in OCI	65	5,096
Contributions by employer	(148)	–
Net retirement benefits liability at end of period	₱6,623	₱5,627

Changes in the present value of the defined benefits obligation are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Defined benefit obligation at beginning of period	₱40,674	₱33,686
Interest costs	1,382	2,341
Current service costs	892	895
Benefits paid	(1,766)	(2,970)
Actuarial losses (gains) due to:		
Changes in financial assumptions	65	7,283
Experience adjustments	–	(561)
Defined benefit obligation at end of period	₱41,247	₱40,674

Changes in the fair value of plan assets are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of period	₱35,047	₱34,042
Interest income	1,195	2,349
Contributions by employer	148	–
Return on plan assets, excluding amount included in net interest on the net defined benefit obligation and interest income	–	1,626
Benefits paid	(1,766)	(2,970)
Fair value of plan assets at end of period	₱34,624	₱35,047

The Board of Trustees (“BoT”) of the *Fund* is chaired by the Chairman of *MERALCO*, who is neither an executive nor a beneficiary. The other members of the *BoT* are (i) an executive member of the *BOD*; (ii) two (2) senior executives; (iii) an independent member of the *BOD*; and (iv) a member of the *BOD* who represents the largest shareholder group, all of whom are not beneficiaries of the plan.

The *Fund* follows a conservative approach by investing in fixed income, money market and equity assets to diversify the portfolio in order to minimize risk while maintaining an adequate rate of return. The assets of the *Fund* are managed by four (4) local and one (1) foreign trustee banks

whose common objective is to maximize the long-term expected return of plan assets. The *BoT*, periodically reviews and approves the strategic mandate of the portfolio to ensure the ability of the *Fund* to service its short-term and long-term obligations.

The net carrying amount and fair value of the assets of the *Fund* as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 amounted to ₱34,624 million and ₱35,047 million, respectively. The major categories of plan assets are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amount in millions)	
Investments quoted in active markets:		
Quoted equity investments		
Holding firms	₱4,004	₱3,509
Banks	1,239	1,215
Telecommunication	1,141	702
Property	971	841
Electricity, energy, power and water	494	502
Retail	484	477
Food, beverages and tobacco	481	498
Transportation services	296	330
Construction, infrastructure and allied services	28	263
Mining	8	62
Others	1,952	1,691
Quoted debt investments		
“AAA” rated securities	12,366	13,321
Government securities	8,365	8,341
Cash and cash equivalents	1,520	1,359
Real property	1,014	1,014
Receivables	260	921
Others	1	1
Fair value of plan assets	₱34,624	₱35,047

Marketable equity securities, government securities, bonds and commercial notes are investments held by the trustee banks.

Other Long-term Post-employment Benefits (included as part of “Salaries, wages and employee benefits” account in the consolidated statements of income)

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	(Amounts in millions)			
Interest costs	₱67	₱88	₱23	₱29
Current service costs	16	16	4	5
	₱83	₱104	₱27	₱34

Other Long-term Post-employment Benefits Liability

Changes in the present value of other long-term post-employment benefits liability are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amounts in millions)	
Balance at beginning of period	₱1,949	₱1,633
Interest costs	67	118
Current service costs	16	21
Benefits paid	—	(54)
Actuarial losses due to change in assumptions	—	231
Balance at end of period	₱2,032	₱1,949

Actuarial Assumptions

The principal assumptions used as in determining retirement benefits and other long-term post-employment benefits obligations are shown below:

Annual discount rate	4.56%
Future range of annual salary increases	5.00 %-11.00%

Funding

MERALCO contributes to the *Fund* from time to time such amounts of money required under accepted actuarial principles to maintain the *Fund* in a sound condition, subject to the provisions of the *Plan*.

The amount of the annual contributions to the *Fund* is determined through an annual valuation report performed by an independent actuary.

The following is the maturity profile of the undiscounted benefit obligation (amounts in millions):

Less than one (1) year	₱4,343
One (1) year up to five (5) years	19,205
More than five (5) years up to 10 years	27,487
More than 10 years up to 15 years	15,706
More than 15 years up to 20 years	9,996
More than 20 years	8,835

Risk

The *Fund* is exposed to the following risks:

Credit Risk

The *Fund*'s exposure to credit risk arises from its financial assets which comprise of cash and cash equivalents, investments and receivables. The credit risk results from the possible default of the issuer of the financial instrument, with a maximum exposure equivalent to the carrying amounts of the instruments.

The credit risk is minimized by ensuring that the exposure to the various chosen financial investment structures is limited primarily to government securities and bonds or notes duly recommended by the Trust Committees of the appointed fund managers of the *Fund*.

Share Price Risk

The *Fund*'s exposure to share price risk arises from the shares of stock it holds and are traded at the PSE. The price share risk emanates from the volatility of the stock market.

The policy is to limit investment in shares of stock to blue chip issues or issues with good fair values or those trading at a discount to its net asset value so that in the event of a market downturn, the *Fund* may still consider to hold on to such investments until the market recovers.

By having a balanced composition of holdings in the equities portfolio, exposure to industry or sector-related risks is reduced. The mix of various equities in the portfolio reduces volatility and contributes to a more stable return over time. Equity investments are made within the parameters of the investment guidelines approved by the *BoT*. The *BoT* also meets periodically to review the investment portfolio based on financial market conditions. Share prices are also monitored regularly.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the *Fund* is unable to meet its payment obligations associated with its financial liabilities as they fall due and to replace funds when they are withdrawn. Liquidity risk is being managed to ensure that adequate fixed income and cash deposits are available to service the financial obligations of the *Fund*. The schedule of the maturities of fixed income investment assets are staggered by tenure or term. Policies are established to ensure that all financial obligations are met, wherein the timing of the maturities of fixed income investments are planned and matched to the due date of various obligations. Thus, for this investment class, maturities are classified into short-, medium- and long-term. A certain percentage of the portfolio is kept as cash to manage liquidity and settle all currently maturing financial obligations.

Defined Contribution Provident Plan

MERALCO has a defined contributory Provident Plan effective January 1, 2009, intended to be a Supplemental retirement benefit for employees hired beginning 2004, the participation of which is voluntary. Each qualified employee-member who chooses to participate in the plan shall have the option to contribute up to a maximum of 25% of his base salary. *MERALCO* shall match the member's contribution up to 100% of employee's contribution or 10% of the member's monthly base salary, subject to a certain threshold. Upon resignation, the member shall be entitled to the total amount credited to his personal retirement account immediately preceding his actual retirement date, subject to provisions of the Provident Plan. *MERALCO*'s contribution to the Provident Plan amounted to ₱37 million and ₱33 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Consolidated Retirement Benefits Cost (included in “Salaries, wages and employee benefits” account in the consolidated statements of income)

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
			<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>	
Expense recognized for defined benefit plans	₱1,079	₱630	₱349	₱209
Expense recognized for defined contribution plan	37	33	14	12
Retirement benefits expense	₱1,116	₱663	₱363	₱221

Long-term Incentive Plan (“LTIP”)

MERALCO’s *LTIP* covers qualified employees and is based on MERALCO Group’s achievement of specified level of *CCNI* approved by the *BOD* and determined on an aggregate basis for a three (3)-year period as well as employees’ attainment of a minimum level of performance rating. Employees invited to *LTIP* must serve a minimum uninterrupted period to be entitled to an award. Further, the employee should be on active employment at the time of pay-out.

26. Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

Financial assets consist of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and trade and other receivables, which are generated directly from operations, advances to an associate, advance payments to a supplier, financial assets at *FVOCI* and debt securities at *amortized cost*. The principal financial liabilities consist of bank loans, redeemable preferred shares, trade and nontrade payables, which are incurred to finance operations in the normal course of business. Accounting policies related to financial assets and financial liabilities are set out in *Note 4 – Significant Accounting Policies, Changes and Improvements*.

The following table sets forth the financial assets and financial liabilities:

	Financial Assets at Amortized Cost	FVOCI Financial Assets	Liabilities Carried at Amortized Cost	Total Financial Assets and Liabilities
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Assets as at September 30, 2020				
Noncurrent				
Financial and other noncurrent assets	₱31,795	₱10,769	₱–	₱42,564
Current				
Cash and cash equivalents	31,697	–	–	31,697
Trade and other receivables	61,986	–	–	61,986
Financial and other current assets	7,917	–	–	7,917
Total Assets	₱133,395	₱10,769	₱–	₱144,164
Liabilities as at September 30, 2020				
Noncurrent				
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities - net of current portion	₱–	₱–	₱12,392	₱12,392
Customers' deposits - net of current portion	–	–	29,544	29,544
Refundable service extension costs - net of current portion	–	–	7,672	7,672
Current				
Notes payable	–	–	23,373	23,373
Trade payables and other current liabilities	–	–	58,182	58,182
Customers' refund	–	–	2,963	2,963
Current portion of interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	–	–	5,013	5,013
Total Liabilities	₱–	₱–	₱139,139	₱139,139

	Financial Assets at Amortized Cost	FVOCI Financial Assets	Liabilities Carried at Amortized Cost	Total Financial Assets and Liabilities
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Assets as at December 31, 2019				
Noncurrent				
Financial and other noncurrent assets	₱31,286	₱4,514	₱–	₱35,800
Current				
Cash and cash equivalents	38,262	–	–	38,262
Trade and other receivables	30,935	–	–	30,935
Financial and other current assets	36,748	–	–	36,748
Total Assets	₱137,231	₱4,514	₱–	₱141,745
Liabilities as at December 31, 2019				
Noncurrent				
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities - net of current portion	₱–	₱–	₱12,745	₱12,745
Customers' deposits - net of current portion	–	–	28,247	28,247
Refundable service extension costs - net of current portion	–	–	6,932	6,932
Current				
Notes payable	–	–	23,393	23,393
Trade payables and other current liabilities	–	–	54,093	54,093
Customers' refund	–	–	3,032	3,032
Current portion of interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	–	–	5,115	5,115
Total Liabilities	₱–	₱–	₱133,557	₱133,557

Fair Values

The fair values of the financial assets and financial liabilities are amounts that would be received to sell the financial assets or paid to transfer the financial liabilities in orderly transactions between market participants at the measurement date. Set out below is a comparison of carrying amounts and fair values of the *MERALCO Group's* financial instruments:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)		December 31, 2019 (Audited)	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Financial assets				
Debt securities at amortized cost	P34,001	P34,940	P40,517	P39,147
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	10,769	10,769	4,514	4,514
Financial assets at amortized cost - Advance payments to a supplier and others	5,711	5,863	5,878	6,063
	P50,481	P51,572	P50,909	P49,724
Financial liabilities				
Financial liabilities carried at amortized cost - Interest-bearing-long-term financial liabilities	P15,931	P18,035	P16,381	P18,704

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instrument for which it is practicable to estimate such value.

Cash and Cash Equivalents, Trade and Other Receivables, Short-term Investments, Advances to an Associate, Trade Payables and Other Current Liabilities and Notes Payable

Due to the short-term nature of transactions, the fair values of these instruments approximate their carrying amounts as at reporting date.

Advance Payments to a Supplier

The fair values of advance payments to a supplier were computed by discounting the instruments' expected future cash flows using the rates of 2.75% and 4.12% as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively.

Financial assets at FVOCI

The fair values were determined by reference to market bid quotes as at reporting date.

Debt securities at amortized cost

The fair values were determined by discounting the expected future cash flows using the interest rate as at reporting date.

Meter Deposits and Customers' Refund

Meter deposits and customers' refund are due and demandable. Thus, the fair values of these instruments approximate their carrying amounts.

Bill Deposits

The carrying amounts of bill deposits approximate their fair values as bill deposits are interest-bearing.

Interest-bearing Long-term Financial Liabilities

The fair values of interest-bearing long-term debt (except for redeemable preferred stock) were computed by discounting the instruments' expected future cash flows using the rates ranging from 0.11% to 3.98% as at September 30, 2020 and 0.11% to 4.00% as at December 31, 2019, respectively.

Redeemable Preferred Stocks

The carrying amount of the preferred stock represents the fair value. Such preferred shares have been called and are payable anytime upon presentation by the shareholder of their certification. This is included under "Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities" account.

Refundable Service Extension Costs

The fair values of refundable service extension costs cannot be reliably measured since the timing of related cash flows cannot be reasonably estimated and are accordingly measured at cost.

Fair Value Hierarchy

Below is the list of financial assets and financial liabilities that are classified using the fair value hierarchy:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)				December 31, 2019 (Audited)			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>							
Financial assets								
Advance payments to a supplier and others	P5,863	P—	P—	P5,863	P—	P6,063	P—	P6,063
Financial assets at FVOCI	9,766	—	1,003	10,769	3,518	—	996	4,514
Debt securities at amortized cost	34,940	—	—	34,940	39,147	—	—	39,147
	P50,569	P—	P1,003	P51,572	P42,665	P6,063	P996	P49,724
Financial liabilities								
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	P—	P18,035	P—	P18,035	P—	P18,704	P—	P18,704

For the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, there were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements, and no transfers into or out of Level 3 fair value measurements.

Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The main risks arising from the financial instruments are interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, commodity price risk, credit risk, and liquidity risk. The importance of managing these risks has significantly increased in light of the considerable change and volatility in the Philippine and international financial markets. The BOD reviews and approves policies for managing each of these risks. Management monitors the market price risk arising from all financial instruments. The policies for managing these risks are as follows:

Interest Rate Risk

The *MERALCO Group*'s exposure to the changes in market interest rates relate to changes of fair value of its long-term financial assets and to the fluctuation of future cash flows in relation to its long-term interest-bearing financial liabilities.

The *MERALCO Group*'s policy is to manage its interest rate risk exposure using a mix of fixed and variable rate debts. The strategy, which yields a reasonably lower effective cost based on market conditions, is adopted. Refinancing of fixed rate loans may also be undertaken to manage interest cost. All borrowings bear fixed interest rate as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

Foreign Currency Risk

The revaluation of any of foreign currency-denominated financial assets and financial liabilities as a result of the appreciation or depreciation of the Philippine peso is recognized as foreign exchange gains or losses as at the end of each reporting period. The extent of foreign exchange gains or losses is largely dependent on the amount of foreign currency-denominated financial instruments. While an insignificant percentage of the *MERALCO Group*'s revenues and liabilities is denominated in U.S. dollars, a substantial amount of the *MERALCO Group*'s expenditures for electricity capital projects and a portion of the operating expenses are denominated in foreign currencies, mostly in U.S. dollars. As such, a strengthening or weakening of the Philippine peso against the U.S. dollar will decrease or increase in Philippine peso terms, the principal amount of the *MERALCO Group*'s foreign currency-denominated liabilities and the related interest expense, foreign currency-denominated capital expenditures and operating expenses as well as U.S. dollar-denominated revenues.

The following table shows the consolidated foreign currency-denominated financial assets and financial liabilities as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, translated to Philippine peso at ₱48.50 and ₱50.64 to US\$1, respectively.

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)		December 31, 2019 (Audited)	
	U.S. Dollar	Peso Equivalent	U.S. Dollar	Peso Equivalent
	(Amounts in millions)			
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$138	₱6,691	\$171	₱8,657
Trade and other receivables	—	—	2	97
Short-term investments	—	—	104	5,331
Advances to an associate	—	—	67	3,416
Debt securities at amortized cost	22	1,018	20	1,013
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	21	1,067	12	592
Advance payments to a supplier	48	2,302	51	2,584
	229	11,078	427	21,690
Financial liabilities -				
Trade payables and other liabilities	(5)	(256)	(3)	(177)
	\$224	₱10,822	\$424	₱21,513

All of the *MERALCO Group*'s long-term financial liabilities are denominated in Philippine peso. However, an insignificant portion of its trade payables are denominated in U.S. dollar. Thus, the

impact of ₱1 movement of the Philippine peso against the U.S. dollar will not have a significant impact on the *MERALCO Group's* obligations.

The following table demonstrates the sensitivity to a reasonably possible change in the U.S. dollar exchange rate vis-a-vis the Philippine peso, with all other variables held constant, of the *MERALCO Group's* income before income tax due to changes in the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities. There is no other impact on the *MERALCO Group's* equity other than those already affecting the consolidated statements of income.

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)		December 31, 2019 (Audited)	
	Appreciation (Depreciation) of U.S. Dollar	Effect on Income before Income Tax	Appreciation (Depreciation) of U.S. Dollar	Effect on Income before Income Tax
	(In %)	(In millions)	(In %)	(In millions)
U.S. dollar-denominated financial assets and financial liabilities	+5 -5	₱543 (543)	+5 -5	₱1,076 (1,076)

Foreign exchange gain or loss for the period is computed based on management's best estimate of a +/-5 percent change in the closing Philippine peso to U.S. dollar conversion rate using the balances as at financial reporting date of U.S. dollar-denominated cash and cash equivalents, receivables and other assets and liabilities. There has been no change in the methods and assumptions used by management in the above analysis.

Commodity Price Risk

Commodity price risk is the risk that the fair value or cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in world prices or index of the commodity. The exposure of *MERALCO* and *Clark Electric* to price risk is minimal. The cost of fuel is part of *MERALCO's* and *Clark Electric's* generation costs that are recoverable through the generation charge in the billings to customers.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty will not meet its obligation under a financial instrument or customer contract, leading to a financial loss. The *MERALCO Group* is exposed to credit risk from its operating activities (primarily trade receivables) and from its financing activities, including deposits with banks and financial institutions and other financial instruments.

Trade and Other Receivables and Contract Assets

Customer credit risk is managed by each business segment subject to *MERALCO Group's* procedures and controls relating to customer credit risk management. The *MERALCO Group* manages and controls credit risk by setting limits on the amount of risk that it is willing to accept for individual counterparties and by monitoring exposures in relation to such limits.

An impairment analysis is performed at each reporting date using a provision matrix to measure expected credit losses. The provision rates are based on days past due for groupings of various customer segments with similar loss pattern (i.e. residential, industrial, commercial). The calculation reflects the probability-weighted outcome, the time value of money and reasonable and supportable information that is available at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

The provision matrix is initially based on the *MERALCO Group* business segment's historical observed default rates. Each business segment of the *MERALCO Group* will calibrate the matrix to adjust the historical credit loss experience with forward-looking information. At every reporting date, historical observed default rates are updated and changes in the forward-looking estimates are analyzed. The assessment of the correlation between historical observed default rates, forecast economic conditions and *ECLs* is a significant estimate. The amount of *ECLs* is sensitive to changes in circumstances and forecast of economic conditions. The historical credit loss experience and forecast of economic conditions may also not be representative of customers' actual default in the future.

MERALCO as a franchise holder serving public interest cannot refuse customer connection. To mitigate risk, the *DSOAR* allows *MERALCO* to collect bill deposit equivalent to one (1) month's consumption to secure credit. Also, as a policy, disconnection notices are sent three (3) days after the bill due date and disconnections are carried out beginning on the third day after receipt of disconnection notice.

The subsidiaries of *MERALCO* trade only with recognized, creditworthy third parties. It is the *MERALCO Group's* policy that all customers who wish to trade on credit terms are subject to credit verification procedures. In addition, receivables are monitored on an ongoing basis to reduce exposure to bad debt.

Financial Instruments and Cash and Cash Equivalents

With respect to placements of cash with financial institutions, these institutions are subject to the *MERALCO Group's* accreditation evaluation based on liquidity and solvency ratios and on the bank's credit rating. The *MERALCO Group* transacts derivatives only with similarly accredited financial institutions. In addition, the *MERALCO Group's* deposit accounts in banks are insured by the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation up to ₱500,000 per bank account.

The *MERALCO Group* invests only in quoted debt securities with very low credit risk. The *MERALCO Group's* debt instruments at *FVOCI* comprised solely of quoted bonds that are graded in the top investment category (Very Good and Good) by credit rating agencies and therefore, are considered to be low credit risk investments.

Finally, credit quality review procedures are in place to provide regular identification of changes in the creditworthiness of counterparties. Counterparty limits are established and reviewed periodically based on latest available financial information of counterparties, credit ratings and liquidity. The *MERALCO Group's* credit quality review process allows it to assess any potential loss as a result of the risks to which it may be exposed and to take corrective actions.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk within the *MERALCO Group*.

The table below shows the maximum exposure to credit risk for the components of the consolidated statements of financial position. The maximum exposure is equivalent to the nominal amount of the accounts.

	Gross Maximum Exposure	
	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	(Amounts in millions)	
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Cash in banks	₱5,607	₱8,250
Cash equivalents	25,811	29,887
Trade and other receivables:		
Electricity	55,343	24,124
Service contracts	3,089	4,811
Nontrade receivables	3,554	2,000
Financial current assets:		
Debt securities at amortized cost	7,744	14,929
Current portion of advance payments to a supplier	173	180
Short-term investments	—	18,185
Advances to an associate	—	3,454
Financial noncurrent assets:		
Debt securities at amortized cost	26,257	25,588
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	10,769	4,514
Advance payment to a supplier and others	5,538	5,698
	₱143,885	₱141,620

The credit quality of financial assets is managed by *MERALCO* using “High Grade”, “Standard Grade” and “Sub-standard Grade” for accounts, which are neither impaired nor past due using internal credit rating policies

The following tables show the credit quality by asset class:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)					
	Neither Past Due nor Impaired					
	High Grade	Standard Grade	Sub-standard Grade	Past Due but not Impaired	Impaired Financial Assets	Total
	(Amounts in millions)					
Cash in banks and cash equivalents	₱31,418	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱31,418
Trade and other receivables:						
Electricity	12,018	6,586	27,719	9,020	3,172	58,515
Service contracts	1,078	—	212	1,799	658	3,747
Nontrade receivables	2,418	43	—	1,093	10	3,564
Financial and other current assets:						
Debt securities at amortized cost	7,744	—	—	—	—	7,744
Current portion of advance payments to a supplier	173	—	—	—	—	173
Financial and other noncurrent assets:						
Debt securities at amortized cost	26,257	—	—	—	—	26,257
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	10,769	—	—	—	—	10,769
Advance payment to a supplier and others	5,538	—	—	—	—	5,538
	₱97,413	₱6,629	₱27,931	₱11,912	₱3,840	₱147,725

December 31, 2019 (Audited)						
	Neither Past Due nor Impaired					
	High Grade	Standard Grade	Sub-standard Grade	Past Due but not Impaired	Impaired Financial Assets	Total
	(Amounts in millions)					
Cash in banks and cash equivalents	₱38,137	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱—	₱38,137
Trade and other receivables:						
Electricity	5,729	2,443	11,464	4,488	1,761	25,885
Service contracts	2,760	—	181	1,870	613	5,424
Nontrade receivables	1,525	67	—	408	2	2,002
Financial and other current assets:						
Debt securities at amortized cost	14,929	—	—	—	—	14,929
Short-term investments	18,185	—	—	—	—	18,185
Advances to an associate	3,454	—	—	—	—	3,454
Current portion of advance payments to a supplier	180	—	—	—	—	180
Financial and other noncurrent assets:						
Debt securities at amortized cost	25,588	—	—	—	—	25,588
Financial assets at <i>FVOCI</i>	4,514	—	—	—	—	4,514
Advance payment to a supplier and others	5,698	—	—	—	—	5,698
	₱120,699	₱2,510	₱11,645	₱6,766	₱2,376	₱143,996

Credit ratings are determined as follows:

▪ High Grade

High grade financial assets include cash in banks, cash equivalents, short-term investments, advances to an associate, debt securities at amortized cost investments, *FVOCI* financial assets and advance payments to a supplier transacted with counterparties of good credit rating or bank standing. Consequently, credit risk is minimal. These counterparties include large prime financial institutions, large industrial companies and commercial establishments, and government agencies. For trade receivables, these consist of current month's billings (less than 30 days) that are expected to be collected within 10 days from the time bills are delivered.

▪ Standard Grade

Standard grade financial assets include trade receivables that consist of current month's billings (less than 30 days) that are expected to be collected before due date (10 to 14 days after bill date).

▪ Sub-standard Grade

Sub-standard grade financial assets include trade receivables that consist of current month's billings, which are not expected to be collected within 60 days.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the *MERALCO Group* will be unable to meet its payment obligations when these fall due. The *MERALCO Group* manages this risk through monitoring of cash flows in consideration of future payment of obligations and the collection of its trade receivables. The *MERALCO Group* also ensures that there are sufficient, available and approved working capital lines that it can draw from at any time.

The *MERALCO Group* maintains an adequate amount of cash, cash equivalents and *FVOCI* financial assets, which may be readily converted to cash in any unforeseen interruption of its cash collections. The *MERALCO Group* also maintains accounts with several relationship banks to avoid significant concentration of funds with one (1) institution.

The following table sets out the maturity profile of the financial liabilities and contract liabilities based on contractual undiscounted payments plus future interest:

September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)					
	Less than 3 Months	Over 3–12 Months	Over 1–5 Years	More than 5 Years	Total
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Notes payable	₱1,124	₱23,285	₱–	₱–	₱24,409
Trade payables and other current liabilities	50,458	–	–	–	50,458
Customers' refund	2,963	–	–	–	2,963
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities:					
Fixed rate borrowings	316	607	10,903	7,515	19,341
Redeemable preferred stock	1,474	–	–	–	1,474
Customers' deposits	333	2,254	509	29,035	32,131
Refundable service extension costs	345	1,123	4,405	3,267	9,140
Nonrefundable liability related to asset funded by customers	127	127	127	459	840
Over-recoveries from transmission and SL charges	–	–	1,255	–	1,255
Total undiscounted financial liabilities	₱57,140	₱27,396	₱17,199	₱40,276	₱142,011

December 31, 2019 (Audited)					
	Less than 3 Months	Over 3–12 Months	Over 1–5 Years	More than 5 Years	Total
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Notes payable	₱1,094	₱23,404	₱–	₱–	₱24,498
Trade payables and other current liabilities	49,755	–	–	–	49,755
Customers' refund	3,032	–	–	–	3,032
Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities:					
Fixed rate borrowings	293	1,311	11,104	7,856	20,564
Redeemable preferred stock	1,479	–	–	–	1,479
Customers' deposits	1,275	1,595	6,075	22,172	31,117
Refundable service extension costs	345	1,123	4,405	2,527	8,400
Nonrefundable liability related to asset funded by customers	127	127	127	441	822
Over-recoveries from transmission and SL charges	–	–	1,146	–	1,146
Total undiscounted financial liabilities	₱57,400	₱27,560	₱22,857	₱32,996	₱140,813

The maturity profile of bill deposits is not determinable since the timing of each refund is linked to the cessation of service, which is not reasonably predictable. However, *MERALCO* estimates that the amount of bill deposits (including related interests) of ₱2,273 million will be refunded within a year. This is shown as part of “Trade payables and other current liabilities” account in the consolidated statement of financial position as at September 30, 2020.

Capital Management

The primary objective of the *MERALCO Group*'s capital management is to enhance shareholder value. The capital structure is reviewed with the end view of achieving a competitive cost of capital and at the same time ensuring that returns on, and of, capital are consistent with the levels approved by its regulators for its core distribution business.

The capital structure optimization plan is complemented by efforts to improve capital efficiency to increase yields on invested capital. This entails efforts to improve the efficiency of capital assets, working capital and non-core assets.

The *MERALCO Group* monitors capital using, among other measures, debt to equity ratio, which is gross debt divided by equity attributable to the holders of the parent. The *MERALCO Group* considers long-term debt, redeemable preferred stock and notes payable as debt.

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions, except debt to equity ratio)</i>		
Long-term debt	₱15,931	₱16,381
Notes payable	23,373	23,393
Redeemable preferred stock	1,474	1,479
Debt (a)	₱40,778	₱41,253
Equity attributable to the holders of the parent (b)	₱77,713	₱84,230
Debt to equity ratio(a)/(b)	0.52	0.49

27. Income Taxes and Local Franchise Taxes

Income Taxes

The components of net deferred income tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	Note	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Deferred income tax assets:			
Provisions for probable losses and expenses from claims	18 and 21	₱32,890	₱28,397
Unfunded retirement benefits cost and unamortized past service cost	25	1,888	1,564
Accrued employee benefits	25	1,213	910
Allowance for expected credit losses	12	950	527
Actuarial losses	25	76	76
Allowance for excess of cost over net realizable value of inventories	13	58	58
Others		274	342
		37,349	31,874

		September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
	<i>Note</i>		
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>			
Deferred income tax liabilities:			
Revaluation increment in utility plant and others	15	₱6,698	₱6,801
Capitalized interest		766	768
Capitalized duties and taxes deducted in advance		545	591
Depreciation method differential		24	86
Others		248	272
		8,281	8,518
		₱29,068	₱23,356

The deferred income tax assets and liabilities are presented in the consolidated statements of financial position as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
Deferred income tax assets - net	₱29,172	₱23,440
Deferred income tax liabilities - net	(104)	(84)
	₱29,068	₱23,356

Provision for (benefit from) income tax consists of:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Current	₱8,878	₱8,990	₱3,212	₱3,121
Deferred	(5,808)	(3,142)	(1,683)	(1,016)
	₱3,070	₱5,848	₱1,529	₱2,105

The deferred tax assets charged directly to *OCI* amounted to ₱20 million (benefit) and ₱147 million (expense) for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

A reconciliation between the provision for income tax computed at statutory income tax rate of 30% for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, and provision for income tax as shown in the consolidated statements of income is as follows:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>				
Income tax computed at statutory tax rate	₱4,324	₱7,281	₱1,792	₱2,535
Income tax effects of:				
Interest income subjected to lower final tax rate	(558)	(729)	(145)	(214)
Nondeductible interest expense	230	301	59	88
Nontaxable income	(49)	(76)	(32)	(9)
Equity in net losses (gains) of associates and joint ventures	(215)	93	(4)	22
Difference in calculation of tax deductible costs and expenses	(1,675)	(1,456)	(276)	(465)
Unrecognized deferred tax assets	—	92	—	43
Others	1,013	342	135	105
	₱3,070	₱5,848	₱1,529	₱2,105

On December 18, 2009, the BIR issued Revenue Regulations (“RR”) No. 16-2008, which implemented the provisions of RA No. 9504 on Optional Standard Deductions (“OSD”). Such regulation allows both individual and corporate taxpayers to use OSD in computing their taxable income. For corporations, they may elect to adopt standard deduction in an amount not exceeding 40% of gross income in lieu of the allowed itemized deductions. In 2020 and 2019, *MERALCO* elected to adopt the OSD in lieu of itemized deductions beginning with its first quarter income tax return.

Certain deferred tax assets and liabilities expected to be recovered or settled in subsequent taxable periods, for which the related income and expense were not considered in determining gross income for income tax purposes, were not recognized. This is because the manner by which *MERALCO* expects to recover or settle the underlying assets and liabilities would not result in any future tax consequence under the current method of computing taxable income.

Meanwhile, certain deferred income tax assets and liabilities expected to be recovered or settled in taxable year 2020, for which the related income and expense were considered in determining gross income for income tax purposes, were recognized only to the extent of their future tax consequence under OSD method. Hence, the tax base of these deferred income tax assets and liabilities was reduced by the 40% allowable deduction provided for under the OSD method resulting into an adjusted tax rate of 18% from 30%.

The deferred income tax assets and liabilities expected to be recovered or settled in taxable years 2021 onwards were measured at the tax rate of 30% since *MERALCO* is expecting to adopt itemized deductions in computing its income tax liabilities for the said taxable years.

Accordingly, *MERALCO*'s net deferred tax assets as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, which were not recognized in the taxable year 2020 and 2019 are as follows:

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2019 (Audited)
<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>		
Deferred tax assets:		
Provisions for various claims	₱1,140	₱1,207
Others	462	16
	1,602	1,223
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Depreciation method differential	50	29
Revaluation increment in utility plant and others	29	17
Capitalized interest	17	10
Capitalized duties and taxes deducted in advance	8	2
Others	3	2
	107	60
	₱1,495	₱1,163

The temporary differences for which deferred tax assets have not been recognized pertain to the tax effect of net operating loss carryover ("*NOLCO*") amounting to ₱2,275 million and ₱1,843 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively. These are not recognized because the *MERALCO Group* does not expect to utilize such deferred tax assets against sufficient taxable profit.

NOLCO totaling to ₱2,275 million may be claimed as deduction against taxable income as follows:

Date Incurred	Expiry Date	Amount
		<i>(In millions)</i>
December 31, 2017	December 31, 2020	₱613
December 31, 2018	December 31, 2021	859
December 31, 2019	December 31, 2022	372
September 30, 2020	September 30, 2023	431
		₱2,275

LFT

Consistent with the decisions of the *ERC*, *LFT* is a recoverable charge of the *DU* from the particular province or city imposing and collecting the *LFT*. It is presented as a separate line item in the customer's bill and computed as a percentage of the sum of generation, transmission, distribution services and related *SL* charges.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations ("*IRR*") issued by the *ERC* provide that *LFT* shall be paid only on its distribution wheeling and captive market supply revenues. Pending the promulgation of guidelines from the relevant government agencies, *MERALCO* is paying *LFT* based on the sum of the foregoing charges in the customers' bill.

28. Contingencies and Legal Proceedings

Overpayment of Income Tax related to SC Refund

With the decision of the SC for *MERALCO* to refund ₱0.167 per kWh to customers during the billing period February 1994 to May 2003, *MERALCO* overpaid income tax in the amount of ₱7,107 million for taxable years 1994 to 1998 and 2000 to 2001. Accordingly, on November 27, 2003, *MERALCO* filed a claim for the recovery of such excess income taxes paid. After examination of the books of *MERALCO* for the covered periods, the *BIR* determined that *MERALCO* had in fact overpaid income taxes in the amount of ₱6,690 million. However, the *BIR* also maintained that *MERALCO* is entitled to a refund amount of only ₱894 million, which pertains to taxable year 2001, claiming that the period for filing a claim had prescribed in respect to the difference between *MERALCO*'s overpayment and the refund amount *MERALCO* is entitled to.

The *BIR* then approved the refund of ₱894 million for issuance of tax credit certificates (“*TCCs*”), proportionate to the actual refund of claims to utility customers. The *BIR* initially issued *TCCs* amounting to ₱317 million corresponding to actual refund to customers as at August 31, 2005. In May 2014, the *BIR* issued additional *TCCs* amounting to ₱396 million corresponding to actual refund to customers as at December 31, 2012.

As at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 the amount of unissued *TCCs* of ₱181 million is presented as part of “Financial and other noncurrent assets” account in the consolidated statements of financial position.

See Note 10 – *Financial and other Noncurrent Assets*.

MERALCO filed a Petition with the Court of Tax Appeals (“*CTA*”) assailing the denial by the *BIR* of its income tax refund claim of ₱5,796 million for the years 1994 - 1998 and 2000, arising from the SC decision (net of ₱894 million as approved by the *BIR* for taxable year 2001 “Overpayment of Income Tax related to SC Refund”). In a Decision dated December 6, 2010, the *CTA*'s Second Division granted *MERALCO*'s claim and ordered the *BIR* to refund or to issue *TCC* in favor of *MERALCO* in the amount of ₱5,796 million in proportion to the tax withheld on the total amount that has been actually given or credited to its customers.

On appeal by the *BIR* to the *CTA* En Banc, *MERALCO*'s petition was dismissed on the ground of prescription in the Decision of the *CTA* En Banc dated May 8, 2012. On a *MR* by *MERALCO* of the said dismissal, the *CTA* En Banc partly granted *MERALCO*'s motion and issued an Amended Decision dated November 13, 2012, ruling that *MERALCO*'s claim was not yet barred by prescription and remanding the case back to the *CTA* Second Division for further reception of evidence.

The *BIR* filed a *MR* of the above Amended Decision, while *MERALCO* filed its Motion for Partial Reconsideration or Clarification of Amended Decision. Both parties filed their respective Comments to the said motions, and these were submitted for resolution at the *CTA* En Banc.

In a Resolution promulgated on May 22, 2013, the *CTA* denied the said motions of the *BIR* and *MERALCO*, and the *CTA* Second Division was ordered to receive evidence and rebuttal evidence relating to *MERALCO*'s level of refund to customers, pertaining to the excess charges it made in taxable years 1994-1998 and 2000, but corresponding to the amount of ₱5,796 million, as already determined by the said court.

On July 12, 2013, the *BIR* appealed the *CTA En Banc's* Amended Decision dated November 13, 2012 and Resolution dated May 22, 2013 via Petition for Review with the *SC*. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending resolution by the *SC*.

LFT Assessments of Municipalities

Certain municipalities have served assessment notices on *MERALCO* for *LFT*. As provided in the Local Government Code (“*LGC*”), only cities and provincial governments may impose taxes on establishments doing business in their localities. On the basis of the foregoing, *MERALCO* and its legal counsel believe that *MERALCO* is not subject or liable for such assessments.

RPT Assessments

Several Local Government Units (“*LGUs*”) assessed *MERALCO* for deficiency *RPT* on certain assets. The assets include electric transformers, distribution wires, insulators, and poles, collectively referred to as *TWIP*. Of these *LGUs*, one (1) has secured a favorable decision from the *CA*. Such decision was appealed by *MERALCO* to the *SC* for the benefit of *MERALCO* customers. On October 22, 2015, *MERALCO* received a copy of the *SC* Decision promulgated on August 5, 2015 declaring, among others, that the transformers, electric posts, transmission lines, insulators, and electric meters of *MERALCO* are not exempted from *RPT* under the *LGC*. *MERALCO* did not appeal the *SC* Decision. The cases of the other *LGUs* are pending with their respective administrative bodies or government offices.

In 2016, *MERALCO* began the process of settlement with the affected *LGUs*. *MERALCO* has filed for the recovery of the resulting *RPT* payments to certain *LGUs* from customers in the relevant areas with the *ERC* and will file for similar recovery for succeeding payments.

On January 30, 2017, *PEPOA* filed a Petition for rule-making proposing that *RPT* be allowed as a pass-through cost in the light of the *SC* Decision. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its intervention and submitted its comments. As at October 26, 2020, the Petition is pending before the *ERC*. A similar Petition was likewise filed by the Philippine Rural Electric Cooperative Association (“*PHILRECA*”) on April 17, 2019. As at October 26, 2020, hearings are ongoing.

See Note 18 – Provisions.

Mediation with NPC

The *NPC* embarked on a Power Development Program (“*PDP*”), which consisted of contracting generating capacities and the construction of its own, as well as private sector, generating plants, following a crippling power supply crisis. To address the concerns of the creditors of *NPC*, namely, Asian Development Bank and the World Bank, the Department of Energy (“*DOE*”) required that *MERALCO* enter into a long-term supply contract with the *NPC*.

Accordingly, on November 21, 1994, *MERALCO* entered into a 10-year Contract for Sale of Electricity (“*CSE*”) with *NPC* which commenced on January 1, 1995. The *CSE*, the rates and amounts charged to *MERALCO* therein, were approved by the *BOD* of *NPC* and the then Energy Regulatory Board, respectively.

Separately, the *DOE* further asked *MERALCO* to provide a market for half of the output of the Camago-Malampaya gas field to enable its development and production of natural gas, which was to generate significant revenues for the Philippine Government and equally significant foreign

exchange savings for the country to the extent of the fuel imports, which the domestic volume of natural gas will displace.

MERALCO's actual purchases from *NPC* exceeded the contract level in the first seven (7) years of the *CSE*. However, the 1997 Asian crisis resulted in a significant curtailment of energy demand.

While the events were beyond the control of *MERALCO*, *NPC* did not honor *MERALCO*'s good faith notification of its off-take volumes. A dispute ensued and both parties agreed to enter into mediation.

The mediation resulted in the signing of a Settlement Agreement ("SA") between the parties on July 15, 2003. The SA was approved by the respective *BODs* of *NPC* and *MERALCO*. The net settlement amount of ₱14,320 million was agreed upon by *NPC* and *MERALCO* and manifested before the *ERC* through a Joint Compliance dated January 19, 2006. The implementation of the SA is subject to the approval of the *ERC*.

Subsequently, the *OSG* filed a "Motion for Leave to Intervene with Motion to Admit Attached Opposition to the Joint Application and Settlement Agreement between *NPC* and *MERALCO*". As a result, *MERALCO* sought judicial clarification with the Regional Trial Court ("*RTC-Pasig*"). Pre-trials were set, which *MERALCO* complied with and attended. However, the *OSG* refused to participate in the pre-trial and opted to seek a Temporary Restraining Order ("*TRO*") from the *CA*.

In a Resolution dated December 1, 2010, the *CA* issued a *TRO* against the *RTC-Pasig*, *MERALCO* and *NPC* restraining the respondents from further proceeding with the case. Subsequently, in a Resolution dated February 3, 2011, the *CA* issued a writ of preliminary injunction enjoining the *RTC-Pasig* from conducting further proceedings pending resolution of the Petition. In a Decision dated October 14, 2011, the *CA* resolved to deny the Petition filed by the *OSG* and lifted the injunction previously issued. The said Decision likewise held that the *RTC-Pasig* committed no error in finding the *OSG* in default due to its failure to participate in the proceedings. The *RTC-Pasig* was thus ordered to proceed to hear the case *ex-parte*, as against the *OSG*, and with dispatch. The *OSG* filed a *MR* which was denied by the *CA* in its Resolution dated April 25, 2012. The *OSG* filed a Petition for Review on Certiorari with the *SC*. *MERALCO*'s Comment was filed on October 29, 2012. Subsequently, a Decision dated December 11, 2013 was rendered by the First Division of the *SC* denying the Petition for Review on Certiorari by the *OSG* and affirming the Decision promulgated by the *CA* on October 14, 2011.

With the dismissal of the petition filed by the Office of the Solicitor General ("*OSG*") with the *CA*, *MERALCO* filed a motion for the reception of its evidence *ex-parte* with the *RTC-Pasig* pursuant to the ruling of the *CA*. In a Decision dated May 29, 2012, the *RTC-Pasig* declared the SA valid and binding, independent of the pass-through for the settlement amount which is reserved for the *ERC*. The *OSG* has filed a Notice of Appeal with the *RTC-Pasig* on June 19, 2012. After both parties filed their respective appeal briefs, the *CA* rendered a Decision dated April 15, 2014 denying the appeal and affirming the *RTC* Decision, which declared the SA as valid and binding. The *OSG* filed a Petition for Review with the *SC*. On November 10, 2014, *MERALCO* filed its comment to the Petition. *PSALM* likewise filed its comment to the Petition. In a Resolution dated July 8, 2015, the *SC* resolved to serve anew its Resolutions requiring *NPC* to comment on the Petition. In compliance, *NPC* submitted its Comment dated September 8, 2015. *MERALCO* submitted its Motion for Leave to File and to Admit Attached Reply on October 12, 2015. Pursuant to the *SC* Resolution dated November 11, 2015, the *OSG* filed a Consolidated Reply to the comments filed by *NPC*, *MERALCO* and *PSALM*. *MERALCO* then filed a Motion for Leave to File and to Admit the Attached Rejoinder. The parties have filed their respective memoranda. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the *SC* on the matter.

Sucat-Araneta-Balintawak Transmission Line

The Sucat-Araneta-Balintawak transmission line is a two (2)-part transmission line, which completed the 230 kV line loop within Metro Manila. The two (2) main parts are the Araneta to Balintawak leg and the Sucat to Araneta leg, which cuts through Dasmariñas Village, Makati City.

On March 10, 2000, certain residents along Tamarind Road, Dasmariñas Village, Makati City “the *Plaintiffs*”, filed a case against *NPC* with the *RTC-Makati*, enjoining *NPC* from further installing high voltage cables near the *Plaintiffs*’ homes and from energizing and transmitting high voltage electric current through said cables because of the alleged health risks and danger posed by the same through the electromagnetic field emitted by said lines. Following its initial status quo Order issued on March 13, 2000, *RTC-Makati* granted on April 3, 2000 the preliminary injunction sought by the *Plaintiffs*. The decision was affirmed by the SC on March 23, 2006, which effectively reversed the decision of the CA to the contrary. The *RTC-Makati* subsequently issued a writ of execution based on the Order of the SC. *MERALCO*, in its capacity as an intervenor, was constrained to file an Omnibus Motion to maintain status quo because of the significant effect of a de-energization of the Sucat-Araneta line to the public and economy. Shutdown of the 230 kV line will result in widespread and rotating brownouts within *MERALCO*’s franchise area with certain power plants unable to run at their full capacities.

On September 8, 2009, the *RTC-Makati* granted the motions for intervention filed by intervenors, *MERALCO* and *NGCP* and dissolved the Writ of Preliminary Injunction issued, upon the posting of the respective counter bonds by defendant *NPC*, intervenors *MERALCO* and *NGCP*, subject to the condition that *NPC* and intervenors will pay for all damages, which the *Plaintiffs* may incur as a result of the Writ of Preliminary Injunction.

In its Order dated February 5, 2013, the *RTC-Makati* granted the *Plaintiffs*’ motion and directed the re-raffle of the case to another branch after the judicial dispute resolution failed.

This case remains pending and is still at the pre-trial stage. During the pre-trial stage, *Plaintiffs* filed a Manifestation stating that they are pursuing the deposition of a supposed expert in electromagnetic field through oral examination without leave of court in late January or early February 2016 or on such date as all the parties may agree amongst themselves at the Consulate Office of the Philippines in Vancouver, Canada. *NPC* and intervenors filed their Opposition and Counter-Manifestation. Intervenor *NGCP* filed a Motion to Prohibit the Taking of the Deposition of the said expert. Intervenor *MERALCO* intends to file its Comment/Opposition in due course. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the SC on the matter.

Petition for Dispute Resolution against PEMC, TransCo, NPC and PSALM

On September 9, 2008, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Dispute Resolution, against *PEMC*, *TransCo*, *NPC* and *PSALM* with the *ERC* as a result of the congestion in the transmission system of *TransCo* arising from the outages of the San Jose-Tayabas 500 kV Line 2 on June 22, 2008, and the 500 kV 600 Mega Volt-Ampere Transformer Bank No. 2 of *TransCo*’s San Jose, Bulacan substation on July 11, 2008. The Petition seeks to, among others, direct *PEMC* to adopt the *NPC*-Time-of-Use (“*TOU*”) rate or the new price determined through the price substitution methodology of *PEMC* as approved by the *ERC*, as basis for its billing during the period of the congestion and direct *NPC* and *PSALM* to refund the transmission line loss components of the line rentals associated with *NPC/PSALM* bilateral transactions from the start of *WESM* operation on June 26, 2006.

In a Decision dated March 10, 2010, the *ERC* granted *MERALCO*'s petition and ruled that there is double charging of the transmission line costs billed to *MERALCO* by *NPC* for the Transition Supply Contract ("TSC") quantities to the extent of 2.98% loss factor, since the effectivity of the TSC in November 2006. Thus, *NPC* was directed to refund line rental adjustment to *MERALCO*. In the meantime, the *ERC* issued an Order on May 4, 2011 allowing *PEMC* to submit an alternative methodology for the segregation of line rental into congestion cost and line losses from the start of the *WESM*. *PEMC* has filed its compliance submitting its alternative methodology.

On September 8, 2011, *MERALCO* received a copy of *PEMC*'s compliance to the *ERC*'s directive and on November 11, 2011, *MERALCO* filed a counter-proposal which effectively simplifies *PEMC*'s proposal.

In an Order of the *ERC* dated June 21, 2012, *MERALCO* was directed to submit its computation of the amount of the double charging of line loss on a per month basis from June 26, 2006 up to June 2012. On July 4, 2012, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance to the said Order. Thereafter, the *ERC* issued an Order directing the parties to comment on *MERALCO*'s submissions. Hearings were conducted on October 2, 2012 and October 16, 2012 to discuss the parties' proposal and comments.

In an Order dated March 4, 2013, the *ERC* approved the methodology proposed by *MERALCO* and *PEMC* in computing the double charged amount on line losses by deducting 2.98% from the *NPC-TOU* amount. Accordingly, the *ERC* determined that the computed double charge amount to be collected from *NPC* is ₱5.2 billion, covering the period November 2006 to August 2012 until actual cessation of the collection of the 2.98% line loss charge in the *NPC-TOU* rates imposed on *MERALCO*. In this regard, *NPC* was directed by the *ERC* to refund said amount by remitting to *MERALCO* the equivalent amount of ₱73.9 million per month until the over-recoveries are fully refunded. In the said Order, the *ERC* likewise determined that the amount to be collected from the successor generating companies ("SGCs") is ₱4.7 billion. Additionally, *MERALCO* was directed to file a petition against the following SGCs: *MPPCL*, *Aboitiz Power Renewables, Inc. ("APRI")*, *TLI*, *SMEC* and *Sem-Calaca*, within 30 days from receipt thereof, to recover the line loss collected by them. On April 19, 2013, *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Clarification with the *ERC* regarding the directives contained in the March 4, 2013 Order. On April 30, 2013 and May 8, 2013, *PSALM* and *NPC*, respectively, filed motions seeking reconsideration of the March 4, 2013 Order. *MERALCO* filed a motion seeking for an additional 15 days from its receipt of the *ERC*'s Order resolving its Motion for Clarification, within which to file its Petition against the SGCs.

In an Order dated July 1, 2013, the *ERC* issued the following clarifications/resolutions: (i) *SPPC* should be included as one of the SGCs against whom a petition for dispute resolution should be filed by *MERALCO*; (ii) amount to be refunded by *NPC* is not only ₱5.2 billion but also the subsequent payments it received from *MERALCO* beyond August 2012 until the actual cessation of the collection of the 2.98% line loss charge in its *TOU* rates; (iii) petition to be filed by *MERALCO* against the SGCs should not only be for the recovery of the amount of ₱4.7 billion but also the subsequent payments beyond August 2012 until the actual cessation of the collection of the 2.98% line loss charge in its *TOU* rates; (iv) "SCPC Ilijan" pertains to *SPPC* instead. Thus, the refundable amount of ₱706 million pertaining to "SCPC Ilijan" should be added to *SPPC*'s refundable amount of ₱1.1 billion; (v) grant the Motion for Extension filed by *MERALCO* within which to file a petition against the following SGCs: *MPPCL*, *APRI*, *TLI*, *SMEC*, *Sem-Calaca* and *SPPC*; and (vi) deny the respective *MRs* filed by *NPC* and *PSALM*.

On September 12, 2013, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* seeking approval of its proposal to offset the amount of ₱73.9 million per month against its monthly remittances to *PSALM*. *PSALM* and *NPC* filed their comments *Ad Cautelam* and Comment and

Opposition *Ad Cautelam*, respectively, on *MERALCO*'s Manifestation with Motion. On November 4, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its reply. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO*'s Manifestation with Motion is pending resolution by the *ERC*.

On October 24, 2013, *MERALCO* received *PSALM*'s Petition for Review on Certiorari with the *CA* (With Urgent *TRO* and/or Writ of Preliminary Mandatory Injunction Applications) questioning the March 4, 2013 and July 1, 2013 Orders of the *ERC*.

On February 3, 2014, *MERALCO* filed a Comment with Opposition to the Application for *TRO* or Writ of Preliminary Injunction dated January 30, 2014. *PEMC* filed a Comment and Opposition Re: Petition for Certiorari with Urgent *TRO* and/or Writ of Preliminary Mandatory Injunction dated January 6, 2014. On June 4, 2014, the *CA* issued a Resolution declaring that *PSALM* is deemed to have waived the filing of a Reply to the comment and opposition of *MERALCO* and *PEMC* and directing the parties to submit their simultaneous memoranda within 15 days from notice. On December 1, 2014, the *CA* issued a decision dismissing the Petition for Certiorari filed by *PSALM* against the *ERC*, *MERALCO* and *PEMC* and affirming the *ERC*'s ruling on the refund of the ₱5.2 billion of transmission line losses double charged by *PSALM* and *NPC*. On January 30, 2015, *PSALM* filed its *MR* on the December 1, 2014 Decision of the *CA*. *MERALCO* has filed its Opposition to the *MR*. In a Resolution dated August 11, 2015, the *CA* denied *PSALM*'s *MR*. On October 27, 2015, *MERALCO* received *PSALM*'s Petition for Review with the *SC*. The Petition has been given due course and the parties have filed their respective memoranda. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is still awaiting further action of the *SC* on the Petition.

Petition for Dispute Resolution against SPPC, MPPCL, APRI, TLI, SMEC and Sem-Calaca

On August 29, 2013, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Dispute Resolution against *SPPC*, *MPPCL*, *APRI*, *TLI*, *SMEC* and *Sem-Calaca*. Said Petition seeks the following: 1) refund of the 2.98% transmission line losses in the amount of ₱5.4 billion, inclusive of the ₱758 million line loss for the period September 2012 to June 25, 2013, from said *SGCs*; and 2) approval of *MERALCO*'s proposal to correspondingly refund to its customers the aforementioned line loss amounts, as and when the same are received from the *SGCs*, until such time that the said over-recoveries are fully refunded, by way of automatic deduction of the amount of refund from the computed monthly generation rate. On September 20, 2013, *MERALCO* received the *SGCs*' Joint Motion to Dismiss. On October 7, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its Comment on the said Joint Motion.

On October 8, 2013, *MERALCO* received the *SGCs* Manifestation and Motion, which sought, among other things, the cancellation of the scheduled initial hearing of the case, including the submission of the parties respective Pre-trial Briefs, until the final resolution of the *SGC*'s Joint Motion to Dismiss. On October 11, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its pre-trial brief. On October 14, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its Opposition to the *SGC*'s Manifestation and Motion. On October 24, 2013, *MERALCO* received the *SGC*'s Reply to its Comment on the Joint Motion to Dismiss. On October 29, 2013, *MERALCO* filed its Rejoinder. Thereafter, the *SGC*'s filed their Sur-Rejoinder dated November 4, 2013. As at October 26, 2020, the Joint Motion to Dismiss is pending resolution by the *ERC*.

PSALM versus PEMC and MERALCO

Due to the significant increases in *WESM* prices during the 3rd and 4th months of the *WESM* operations, *MERALCO* raised its concerns with the *PEMC* with request for the latter to investigate whether *WESM* rules were breached or if anti-competitive behavior had occurred.

While resolutions were initially issued by the *PEMC* directing adjustments of *WESM* settlement amounts, a series of exchanges and appeals with the *ERC* ensued. *ERC* released an order directing that the *WESM* settlement price for the 3rd and 4th billing months be set at *NPC-TOU* rates, prompting *PSALM* to file a Motion for Partial Reconsideration, which was denied by the *ERC* in an Order dated October 20, 2008. *PSALM* filed a Petition for Review before the *CA*, which was dismissed on August 28, 2009, prompting *PSALM* to file an *MR*, which was likewise denied by the *CA* on November 6, 2009. On July 1, 2020, *MERALCO* received the *SC* Resolution dated March 11, 2020, affirming the *CA* decision that upheld *ERC*'s order directing that the *WESM* settlement price for the 3rd and 4th billing months be set at *NPC-TOU* rates.

Petition for Dispute Resolution with NPC on Premium Charges

On June 2, 2009, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Dispute Resolution against *NPC* and *PSALM* with respect to *NPC*'s imposition of premium charges for the alleged excess energy it supplied to *MERALCO* covering the billing periods May 2005 to June 2006. The premium charges amounting to ₱315 million during the May-June 2005 billing periods have been paid but are the subject of a protest by *MERALCO*, and premium charges of ₱318 million during the November 2005, February 2006 and April to June 2006 billing periods are being disputed and withheld by *MERALCO*. *MERALCO* believes that there is no basis for the imposition of the premium charges. The hearings on this case have been completed. As at October 26, 2020, the Petition is pending resolution by the *ERC*.

SC TRO on MERALCO's December 2013 Billing Rate Increase

On December 9, 2013, the *ERC* gave clearance to the request of *MERALCO* to implement a staggered collection over three (3) months covering the December 2013 billing month for the increase in generation charge and other bill components such as *VAT*, *LFT*, transmission charge, and *SL* charge. The generation costs for the November 2013 supply month increased significantly because of the aberrant spike in the *WESM* charges on account of the non-compliance with *WESM* Rules by certain plants resulting in significant power generation capacities not being offered and dispatched, and the scheduled and extended shutdowns, and the forced outages, of several base load power plants, and the use of the more expensive liquid fuel or bio-diesel by the natural gas-fired power plants that were affected by the Malampaya Gas Field shutdown from November 11 to December 10, 2013.

On December 19, 2013, several party-list representatives of the House of Representatives filed a Petition against *MERALCO*, *ERC* and *DOE* before the *SC*, questioning the *ERC* clearance granted to *MERALCO* to charge the resulting price increase, alleging the lack of hearing and due process. It also sought for the declaration of the unconstitutionality of the *EPIRA*, which essentially declared the generation and supply sectors competitive and open, and not considered public utilities. A similar petition was filed by a consumer group and several private homeowners' associations challenging also the legality of the *AGRA* that the *ERC* had promulgated. Both petitions prayed for the issuance of *TRO*, and a Writ of Preliminary Injunction.

On December 23, 2013, the *SC* consolidated the two (2) Petitions and granted the application for *TRO* effective immediately and for a period of 60 days, which effectively enjoined the *ERC* and *MERALCO* from implementing the price increase. The *SC* also ordered *MERALCO*, *ERC* and *DOE* to file their respective comments to the Petitions. Oral Arguments were conducted on January 21, 2014, February 4, 2014 and February 11, 2014. Thereafter, the *SC* ordered all the Parties to the consolidated Petitions to file their respective Memorandum on or before February 26, 2014 after which the Petitions will be deemed submitted for resolution of the *SC*. *MERALCO* complied with said directive and filed its Memorandum on said date.

On February 18, 2014, acting on the motion filed by the Petitioners, the SC extended for another 60 days or until April 22, 2014, the *TRO* that it originally issued against *MERALCO* and *ERC* on December 23, 2013. The *TRO* was also similarly applied to the generating companies, specifically *MPPCL*, *SMEC*, *SPPC*, *FGPC*, and the *NGCP*, and the *PEMC* (the administrator of *WESM* and market operator at that time) who were all enjoined from collecting from *MERALCO* the deferred amounts representing the ₱4.15 per *kWh* price increase for the November 2013 supply month.

In the meantime, on January 30, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an Omnibus Motion with Manifestation with the *ERC* for the latter to direct *PEMC* to conduct a re-run or re-calculation of the *WESM* prices for the supply months of November to December 2013. Subsequently, on February 17, 2014, *MERALCO* filed with the *ERC* an Application for the recovery of deferred generation costs for the December 2013 supply month praying that it be allowed to recover the same over a six (6)-month period.

On March 3, 2014, the *ERC* issued an Order voiding the Luzon *WESM* prices during the November and December 2013 supply months on the basis of the preliminary findings of its Investigating Unit (“*IU*”) that these are not reasonable, rational and competitive, and imposing the use of regulated rates for the said period. *PEMC* was given seven (7) days upon receipt of the Order to calculate these regulated prices and implement the same in the revised *WESM* bills of the concerned *DUs* in Luzon. *PEMC*’s recalculated power bills for the supply month of December 2013 resulted in a net reduction of the December 2013 supply month bill of the *WESM* by ₱9.3 billion. Due to the pendency of the *TRO*, no adjustment was made to the *WESM* bill of *MERALCO* for the November 2013 supply month. The timing of amounts to be credited to *MERALCO* is dependent on the reimbursement of *PEMC* from associated generator companies. However, several generating companies, including *MPPCL*, *SN Aboitiz Power, Inc.*, *Team (Philippines) Energy Corporation*, *PanAsia Energy, Inc.* (“*PanAsia*”), and *SMEC*, have filed *MRs* questioning the Order dated March 3, 2014. *MERALCO* has filed a consolidated comment to these *MRs*. In an Order dated October 15, 2014, the *ERC* denied the *MRs*. The generating companies have appealed the Orders with the *CA*. *MERALCO* has filed a motion to intervene and a comment in intervention. The *CA* consolidated the cases filed by the generation companies. In a Decision dated November 7, 2017, the *CA* set aside *ERC* Orders dated March 3, 2014, March 27, 2014, May 9, 2014 and October 15, 2014 and declared the orders null and void. The Decision then reinstated and declared valid *WESM* prices for the November and December 2013 supply months. *MERALCO* and the *ERC* have filed their respective motions for reconsideration. Several consumers also intervened in the case and filed their respective motions for reconsideration. In a Resolution dated March 29, 2019, the *CA* denied the motions for reconsideration and upheld its Decision dated November 7, 2017.

MERALCO and several consumers have elevated the *CA* Decision and Order to the SC where the case is pending.

In view of the pendency of the various submissions before the *ERC* and mindful of the complexities in the implementation of the *ERC*’s Order dated March 3, 2014, the *ERC* directed *PEMC* to provide the market participants additional 45 days to comply with the settlement of their respective adjusted *WESM* bills. In an Order dated May 9, 2014, the parties were then given an additional non-extendible period of 30 days from receipt of the Order within which to settle their *WESM* bills. However, in an Order dated June 6, 2014 and acting on an intervention filed by *Angeles Electric Corporation*, the *ERC* deemed it appropriate to hold in abeyance the settlement of *PEMC*’s adjusted *WESM* bills by the market participants.

On April 22, 2014, the SC extended indefinitely the *TRO* issued on December 23, 2013 and February 18, 2014 and directed generating companies, *NGCP* and *PEMC* not to collect from *MERALCO*. As at October 26, 2020, the SC has yet to resolve the various petitions filed against *MERALCO*, *ERC*, and *DOE*.

ERC IU Complaint

On December 26, 2013, the *ERC* constituted the *IU* under its Competition Rules to investigate possible anti-competitive behavior by the industry players and possible collusion that transpired in the *WESM* during the supply months of November 2013 and December 2013. *MERALCO* participated in the proceedings and submitted a Memorandum.

An investigating officer of the *IU* filed a Complaint dated May 9, 2015 against *MERALCO* and *TMO* for alleged anti-competitive behavior constituting economic withholding in violation of Section 45 of the *EPIRA* and Rule 11, Section 1 and 8(e) of the *EPIRA IRR*. In an Order dated June 15, 2015, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to file its comment on the Complaint. *MERALCO* and *TMO* have filed their respective answers to the Complaint.

In an Order dated September 1, 2015, the *ERC* directed the investigating officer to file his reply to *MERALCO*. In a Manifestation and Motion to Set the Case for Hearing dated November 9, 2015, the investigating officer manifested that he would no longer file a reply and that the case be set for hearing.

On May 24, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 14, Series of 2016, which resolved to divide the Commission into two (2) core groups for the conduct of hearings and to designate the commissioners to act as presiding officers in anti-competition cases. The raffle pursuant to said Resolution was conducted on June 15, 2016.

In a Notice of Pre-Trial Conference dated June 16, 2016, the *ERC* set the pre-trial conference on August 18, 2016 and required *MERALCO* and *TMO* to submit their respective pre-trial briefs. However, on July 27, 2016, the complainant filed two (2) omnibus motions for the consolidation and deferment of the pre-trial conferences. Hence, in an Order dated August 1, 2016, the respondents were given 10 days to submit their comments on the Motion for Consolidation, with the complainant given five (5) days to file his reply. As such, the pre-trial conferences as scheduled were deferred until further notice and all parties were granted 20 days to submit their respective pre-trial briefs.

In the meantime, *MERALCO* likewise filed an Urgent Motion to Dismiss with Motion to Suspend Proceedings which was adopted by *TMO* in its Manifestation and Motion filed on July 28, 2016. *MERALCO* maintained that the Complaint should be dismissed due to the absence of subject matter jurisdiction as it is now the Philippine Competition Commission (“*PCC*”) which has original and primary jurisdiction over competition-related cases in the energy sector. On August 23, 2016, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Motion Ad Cautelam for suspension of proceeding including period to file pre-trial brief and judicial affidavit.

In a Motion dated August 25, 2016, complainant filed a Motion to defer the submission of the complainant’s pre-trial brief and judicial affidavit. In an Order dated June 13, 2017, the *ERC* denied the motion to consolidate but upheld the authority of private counsel to represent the complainants. *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration to question such authority.

In an Order dated February 2, 2017, the *ERC* denied the motion to dismiss and asserted jurisdiction over the Complaint. *MERALCO* filed its *MR* to the Order on February 23, 2017. In an

Order dated June 20, 2017, the *ERC* denied the *MR*. On September 19, 2017, *MERALCO* filed a Petition for Certiorari with the *CA*. In a Resolution dated October 2, 2017, the *CA* required respondents to file their Comment on the Petition within 10 days and held in abeyance its resolution on the prayer for injunctive relief until the comments have been filed. *MERALCO* was likewise given five (5) days to file its reply. In a Manifestation dated October 23, 2017, the *ERC* stated that it is a nominal party in the case as the quasi-judicial tribunal that issued the assailed ordinances. The *IU* filed its own Comment dated December 19, 2017. In a Manifestation and Motion dated December 22, 2017, the *OSG* informed the *CA* that it will no longer represent the *IU* and will instead participate as “tribune of the people”. In the meantime, *TMO* also filed a separate Petition for Review on Certiorari with the *CA*. In a Resolution dated January 10, 2018, the *CA* ordered the consolidation of the petitions of *TMO* and *MERALCO*. In a Decision dated May 23, 2018, the *CA* denied the consolidated Petitions filed by *MERALCO*, *TMO*, and *APRI*, and ruled that the jurisdiction to resolve the *IU* cases remains with the *ERC* because the Philippine Competition Act (“*PCA*”) does not apply retroactively.

On June 20, 2018, *MERALCO* filed an *MR* with the *CA*. The *ERC* likewise filed its Motion for Partial Reconsideration on the ground that it retained concurrent jurisdiction together with the *PCC* over cases involving alleged anti-competitive conduct supposedly because the *PCA* did not repeal Section 45 of the *EPIRA*.

In Resolution dated January 28, 2019, the *CA* denied the motions for reconsideration filed by all of the parties. While it sustained its finding that the *PCC* now holds original, exclusive, and primary jurisdiction over all competition-related cases, the *CA* reiterated its view that the *PCA* has no retroactive effect.

The *ERC* has elevated the matter to the *SC*. *MERALCO*, *TMO* and *APRI* have all filed their respective manifestations before the *SC*. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action by the *SC* on the matter.

SPPC vs. PSALM

SPPC and *PSALM* are parties to an Independent Power Producer Administration (“*IPPA*”) Agreement covering the Ilijan Power Plant. On the other hand, *MERALCO* and *SPPC* had a *PSA* covering the sale of electricity from the Ilijan Power Plant to *MERALCO*. In a letter dated September 8, 2015, *SPPC* informed *MERALCO* that due to an ongoing dispute with *PSALM* arising from difference in interpretation of the provisions of the *IPPA* Agreement, *PSALM* terminated the said Agreement. *SPPC* filed a complaint at the *RTC-Mandaluyong* to nullify the termination notice for lack of factual and legal basis. On said date, the executive judge of *RTC-Mandaluyong* issued a 72-hour *TRO*. In an Order dated September 11, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* extended the *TRO* by an additional 17 days. In an Order dated September 28, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* granted the prayer for preliminary injunction. *PSALM* has filed *MRs* to question the Orders.

MERALCO filed a Motion for Leave to Intervene with Motion to Admit Attached Complaint-in-Intervention. In an Order dated October 19, 2015, the *RTC-Mandaluyong* allowed *MERALCO*’s intervention in the proceedings and admitted its Complaint-in-Intervention. *PSALM* filed a *MR* dated November 6, 2015 of the Order admitting *MERALCO*’s intervention. *RTC-Mandaluyong* issued an Order dated June 27, 2016 denying the *MRs*. *PSALM* elevated these orders to the *CA* through a Petition for Certiorari. In a Resolution dated May 25, 2017, the *CA* denied *PSALM*’s prayer for the issuance of a *TRO* and/or writ of preliminary injunction. In a Decision dated December 19, 2017, the *CA* dismissed the Petition and affirmed the Orders of the *RTC-Mandaluyong*.

On July 26, 2019, *PSALM* filed a Petition for Certiorari to assail the September 24, 2018 Order and April 29, 2019 Order of the *RTC* which directed *PSALM* to respond to *SPPC*'s interrogatories and submit certain documents. *PSALM* subsequently filed an Amended Petition on March 14, 2020. In a Resolution dated June 17, 2020, the *CA* directed the respondents to file their comment to the Amended Petition. *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Motion to Drop Party-Respondent on July 13, 2020.

In the meantime, on February 14, 2020, *MERALCO* filed its Motion to Withdraw as *MERALCO* no longer possessed any legal interest in the subject matter of the case as its *PSA* with *SPPC* subject of the dispute already expired. While *PSALM* has no objection to *MERALCO*'s withdrawal from the case, *SPPC* requested for time to file its comment. In an Order dated July 20, 2020, the *RTC* granted *MERALCO*'s Motion to Withdraw.

Ombudsman Cases Against MERALCO Directors

On January 30, 2018, *MERALCO* received an Order dated January 22, 2018 from the Office of the Ombudsman directing *MERALCO*'s directors to comment on a complaint-affidavit for syndicated estafa filed by certain consumer group which charged that there was conspiracy between *MERALCO* directors and the *ERC* regarding the alleged misappropriation of the bill deposits received from *MERALCO* consumers. On February 9, 2018, *MERALCO*'s directors filed their Counter-Affidavits where they refuted the arguments of the consumer group. In a Resolution dated May 18, 2018, the criminal complaint for syndicated estafa was dismissed for insufficiency of evidence. The case was referred to the *COA* for the conduct of audit on the bill deposits collected by *MERALCO* from the public consumers and to inform the Ombudsman of the compliance therewith. The consumer group filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration dated June 16, 2018 to which *MERALCO* filed its Comment. The consumer group's Motion for Partial Reconsideration was denied through an Order dated July 30, 2018.

On February 28, 2018, *MERALCO* received an Order dated February 20, 2018 from the Office of the Ombudsman directing *MERALCO*'s directors to comment on a complaint-affidavit for syndicated estafa filed by certain consumer group which charged that there was conspiracy between *MERALCO* directors and the *ERC* regarding the *MERALCO*'s investment activities in other businesses for being violative of its legislative franchise and the *EPIRA*. On March 12, 2018, *MERALCO*'s directors filed their Counter-Affidavits where they refuted the arguments of the consumer group. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action of the Office of the Ombudsman on the matter.

Others

Liabilities for certain local taxes amounting to ₱1,473 million as at September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019 are included in the "Other noncurrent liabilities" account in the consolidated statements of financial position.

Management and its internal and external counsels believe that the probable resolution of these issues will not materially affect *MERALCO*'s financial position and results of operations.

29. Significant Contracts and Commitments

MERALCO

Independent Power Producers (“IPPs”)

FGPC and FGP

In compliance with the DOE’s program to create a market for Camago-Malampaya gas field and enable its development, *MERALCO* has committed to contract 1,500 MW of the 2,700 MW output of the Malampaya gas field.

Accordingly, *MERALCO* entered into separate 25-year *PPAs* with *FGPC* (March 14, 1995) and *FGP* (July 22, 1999) for a minimum number of *kWh* of the net electric output of the Sta. Rita and San Lorenzo power plants, respectively, from the start of their commercial operations. The *PPA* with *FGPC* terminates on August 17, 2025, while that of *FGP* ends on October 1, 2027.

On January 7, 2004, *MERALCO*, *FGP* and *FGPC* signed an Amendment to their respective *PPAs*. The negotiations resulted in certain new conditions including the assumption of *FGP* and *FGPC* of community taxes at current tax rate, and subject to certain conditions increasing the discounts on excess generation, payment of higher penalties for non-performance up to a capped amount, recovery of accumulated deemed delivered energy until 2011 resulting in the non-charging of *MERALCO* of excess generation charge for such energy delivered beyond the contracted amount but within a 90% capacity quota. The amended terms under the respective *PPAs* of *FGP* and *FGPC* were approved by the *ERC* on May 31, 2006.

Under the respective *PPAs* of *FGP* and *FGPC*, the fixed capacity fees and fixed operating and maintenance fees are recognized monthly based on the actual Net Dependable Capacity tested and proven, which is usually conducted on a semi-annual basis.

QPPL

MERALCO entered into a *PPA* with *QPPL* on August 12, 1994, which was subsequently amended on December 1, 1996. Under the terms of the amended *PPA*, *MERALCO* is committed to purchase a specified volume of electric power and energy from *QPPL*, subject to certain terms and conditions. The *PPA* is for a period of 25 years from the start of commercial operations up to July 12, 2025.

In a Letter Agreement signed on February 21, 2008, the amount billable by *QPPL* included a transmission line charge reduction in lieu of a previous rebate program. The Letter Agreement also provides that *MERALCO* make advances to *QPPL* of US\$2.85 million per annum for 10 years beginning 2008 to assist *QPPL* in consideration of the difference between the transmission line charge specified in the Transmission Line Agreement (“*TLA*”) and the *ERC*-approved transmission line charge in March 2003. *QPPL* shall repay *MERALCO* the same amount at the end of the 10-year period in equal annual payments without adjustment. However, if *MERALCO* is able to dispatch *QPPL* at a plant capacity factor of no less than 86% in any particular year, *MERALCO* shall not be required to pay US\$2.85 million on that year. This arrangement did not have any impact on the rates to be charged to consumers and hence, did not require any amendment in the *PPA*, as approved by the *ERC*.

See Note 10 – Financial and other Noncurrent Assets.

Committed Energy Volume to be Purchased

The following are forecasted purchases/payments to *FGPC*, *FGP* and *QPPL* corresponding to the Minimum Energy Quantity (“*MEQ*”) provisions of the contracts. The forecasted fixed payments include capacity charge and fixed operation and maintenance cost escalated using the *U.S.* and *Philippine Consumer Price Index*.

Year	MEQ	Equivalent Amount
	<i>(In million kwh)</i>	<i>(In Millions)</i>
2020	14,195	₱24,244
2021	14,195	24,988
2022	14,195	25,716
2023	14,195	26,058
2024-2030	33,194	57,820

Contracts for the CSE and PSAs with Privatized Plants and IPPAs

MERALCO entered into separate *PSAs* with *SPPC*, *Sem-Calaca* and *MPPCL* on December 12 and December 21, 2011, respectively. Also, separate *PSAs* with *TLI* and *SMEC* were executed on February 29 and June 26, 2012, respectively. These *PSAs* are for a period of seven (7) years, extendable for three (3) years upon agreement of the parties. Thereafter, applications for approval of the *PSAs* were filed with the *ERC*.

MPower likewise signed separate *PSAs* with *SPPC*, *MPPCL*, *Sem-Calaca*, and *TLI* on December 12, 2011, March 16, 2012, June 25, 2012, October 10, 2012 and October 19, 2012, respectively.

In separate Decisions dated December 17, 2012, the *ERC* approved with modifications the *PSAs* of *MERALCO* with *SPPC*, *Sem-Calaca*, *MPPCL*, *TLI* and *SMEC*.

MRs were filed regarding the *ERC* decisions on the *PSAs* with *SPPC*, *Sem-Calaca* and *SMEC*. *MERALCO* is awaiting the decision of the *ERC* on the *SPPC* and *Sem-Calaca MRs*. In an Order dated December 16, 2013, the *ERC* denied the Motion for Partial Reconsideration on the *PSA* with *SMEC*. Both *MERALCO* and *SMEC* have filed separation motions with respect to such order. In an Order dated May 29, 2018, the *ERC* partially granted the Motion for Partial Reconsideration on the *PSA* with *Sem-Calaca*. On July 25, 2018, *MERALCO* filed a motion for clarification of the said Order which, as at October 26, 2020, remains pending for resolution of the *ERC*. Meanwhile, the term of the *PSA* with *Sem-Calaca* expired on December 25, 2018, while the *PSAs* with *SPPC*, *TLI* and *SMEC* expired on December 25, 2019.

MERALCO entered into separate Supplemental Agreements with *MPPCL* and *TLI* on April 8 and 27, 2016, respectively, for the extension of the term of these *PSAs* for an additional period of three (3) years up to December 25, 2022. Thereafter, relevant Manifestations with Motion for Approval of the Supplemental Agreements were filed with the *ERC*. In its order dated September 11, 2019, the *ERC* denied the motion filed by *MERALCO* to extend the *TLI PSA*.

On December 6, 2019, *MERALCO* and *TLI* executed a new short-term *PSA* for the purchase of 250 MW capacity and energy from *TLI*'s power plant for the period of December 26, 2019 to December 25, 2020. On December 19, 2019, the *DOE* issued a Certificate of Exemption from *CSP* in favor of *MERALCO* for the new short-term *PSA*. On December 23, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for the approval of its new short-term *PSA* with *TLI*. As at October 26, 2020, hearings have been completed.

Under the PSAs approved by the ERC, fixed capacity fees and fixed operating maintenance fees are recognized monthly based on their contracted capacities. The annual projection of these payments is shown in the table below:

Year	Contracted Capacity (In Megawatt)	Fixed Payment Amount (In millions)
2020	3,133	₱60,483
2021	2,645	60,410
2022	2,575	61,361
2023	2,575	62,278
2024-2030	11,305	304,305

The ERC, for the MPPCL case, issued an Order dated October 11, 2016 resolving to consider MERALCO's "Manifestation and Motion" as a new application for approval of PSA. In view of the said Order, MERALCO and MPPCL filed a Joint Application for approval of the Supplemental Agreement extending the term of their PSA for an additional three (3) years. The initial hearing for the case was set on May 25, 2017 and a series of hearings ensued, however, a petition for intervention and opposition was filed by a consumer group, mainly on the ground that the parties, in extending the PSA, failed to conduct a CSP, thus, omitting a key policy and regulatory requirement of the DOE and ERC in assuring the least cost of electricity supply procured by MERALCO in order to oppose the extension of the PSA. On December 19, 2019, MERALCO and MPPCL entered into an Agreement to Amend the Supplemental Agreement, whereby the Parties resolved to extend the PSA for an additional period of one (1) year reckoned from the date of the approval by the ERC of the said Agreement to Amend. The Agreement to Amend supersedes the previous 3-year extension of term provided in the Supplemental Agreement. On June 8, 2020, MERALCO and MPPCL filed a Joint Manifestation and Omnibus Motion to the ERC seeking approval of said Agreement to Amend. As at October 26, 2020, the hearing of the case is suspended, while the parties await the resolution of the ERC.

On January 1, 2018, the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion ("TRAIN") Law became effective. Among other things, the TRAIN Law increased the excise tax on coal from ₱10.00 per metric ton to ₱50.00 per metric ton, effective January 1, 2018. This tax is to increase year on year, up to ₱150.00 per metric ton for coal, beginning January 1, 2020. Under MERALCO's PSA with TLI, should there be any increase in existing charges, fees, taxes, duties assessments, or other similar amounts, a party to the PSA may claim the same as a charge due to change in law, upon ERC approval thereof. On July 19, 2018, MERALCO and TLI filed a joint application for the approval of recovery of the increase in excise tax as a result of the implementation of the TRAIN Law. On November 9, 2018, the parties filed their joint FOE. In its Order dated December 11, 2018, the ERC granted the parties interim relief authorizing the implementation of the recovery of the increase in excise tax as a result of the implementation of the TRAIN Law, subject to certain conditions. On December 27, 2019, MERALCO filed a Manifestation with the ERC that, in view of the billing of TLI and its submission of the validation of its third-party auditor and DOE Certification, the implementation of the additional coal excise tax will be reflected in MERALCO's January 2020 billing to its customers.

Philippine Power and Development Company ("Philpodeco")

On May 15, 2014, MERALCO and Philpodeco executed a PSA. Philpodeco operates three (3) run-of-river hydro power plants, namely: (i) Palakpakin, a 448 kW hydro power plant located at Barangay Prinza, Calauan, Laguna; (ii) Calibato, a 75 kW Calibato hydro power plant located at Barangay Sto. Angel, San Pablo City, Laguna; and (iii) Balugbog, a 528 kW hydro power plant

located at Barangay Palina, Nagcarlan, Laguna. The PSA has a term of five (5) years from the delivery period commencement date.

On June 2, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for the approval of its PSA with *Philpodeco*. This PSA provides that *MERALCO* shall accept all the energy deliveries of *Philpodeco* as measured by the latter's billing meter. Hearings on this case have been completed and *MERALCO* has submitted its *FOE*. On January 25, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Urgent Motion to Resolve the case. On May 22, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion to Resolve seeking *ERC* confirmation of the extension of the term of the PSA with *Philpodeco* from May 15, 2019 to October 25, 2019. On October 24, 2019, *MERALCO* wrote *DOE* asking for exemption from the requirement for CSP for a further extension of the term of the PSA with *Philpodeco* from October 25, 2019 to May 15, 2020. On the same date, *MERALCO* also filed a Manifestation with Motion to Resolve seeking *ERC* confirmation of the said extension of term. In its letter to *Philpodeco* dated December 18, 2019, the *DOE* has taken the position that “xxx [u]nder Section 45(b) of Republic Act No. 9136, *ERC* is the sole authority mandated to review and approve PSAs.” On May 15, 2020, the PSA with *Philpodeco* expired. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending decision by the *ERC*.

Bacavalley Energy Inc. (“BEI”)

MERALCO signed a CSE with *BEI* on November 12, 2010. *BEI* owns and operates a four (4) MW renewable energy generation facility powered by landfill gas in San Pedro, Laguna. The CSE has a term of two (2) years from the delivery period commencement date.

Purchases from *BEI*, an embedded renewable energy generator, are VAT zero-rated and exempt from power delivery service charge. *MERALCO* filed an application for the approval of the CSE with the *ERC*, for the provisional implementation of the contract on December 15, 2010. In an order dated January 31, 2011, the *ERC* provisionally approved the said application.

After a series of negotiations, *MERALCO* and *BEI* signed the Letter Agreements dated March 1, 2013 and March 5, 2013, extending the CSE between said parties for another two (2) years from March 16, 2013, or until March 15, 2015. In its Order December 9, 2013, the *ERC* allowed the CSE to be extended until March 15, 2015. On March 12, 2015, *MERALCO* and *BEI* executed a Letter of Agreement extending the CSE until March 15, 2016. On March 16, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion to the *ERC* for approval of the extended term. On March 1, 2016, *BEI* requested for another extension of the CSE for another two (2) years. In its letter dated April 7, 2016, *MERALCO* denied *BEI*'s request to extend the CSE. On May 18, 2018 and January 25, 2019, *MERALCO* filed Urgent Motions to Resolve the case. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and the case is pending decision by the *ERC*.

PSAs with Application for Approval with the ERC

Pangea Green Energy Philippines, Inc. (“PGEP”)

On May 31, 2012, *MERALCO* signed a CSE with *PGEP*, a biomass power plant located in Payatas, Quezon City using methane gas extracted from the Payatas landfill as its fuel. Its plant has a total nominal generating capacity of 1,236 kW. The CSE is for a period of two (2) years from the delivery period commencement date.

On June 15, 2012, *MERALCO* filed an application for approval of the CSE. On August 28, 2012, the *ERC* issued an Order provisionally approving the application. On August 29, 2013, the *ERC* extended the provisional authority in its Order dated August 12, 2013. On March 2, 2015,

MERALCO and *PGEP* executed a Letter of Agreement extending the *CSE* until February 29, 2016. On March 4, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* for the approval of the extended term. On September 16, 2015, *MERALCO* received a letter from *PGEP* seeking the termination of the *CSE* effective October 15, 2015. The termination of the *CSE* was thereafter formalized in the Letter Agreement dated October 29, 2015 where the parties agreed to terminate the *CSE* effective October 9, 2015, which was *PGEP*'s Facility Registration Date with the *WESM*. On January 8, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* seeking approval of the extended term of March 4, 2015 until October 9, 2015. On May 17, 2018 and January 25, 2019, *MERALCO* filed Urgent Motions to Resolve the case. In its Order dated February 18, 2019, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to submit certain documents to facilitate its evaluation of the application. On March 29, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Manifestation. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and the case is pending decision by the *ERC*.

TMO

On March 4, 2013, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *TMO* for their 243 MW generating facility at the Navotas Fish Port Complex, Navotas City, which is an interconnection at *MERALCO*'s Grace Park-Malabon 115 kV line. *TMO* is an embedded generator. *TMO* shall construct at its own cost, operate and maintain the 115 kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO*'s system. *TMO* and *MERALCO* subsequently signed a Supplement to the Interconnection Agreement dated July 3, 2014 covering the construction of a second line from the connection point at the Grace Park-Malabon 115 kV line to the *TMO* switchyard.

On September 27, 2013, *MERALCO* signed a *PSA* with *TMO* for the output of the barge-mounted, bunker oil-fired diesel engines moored at the Fish Port Complex in Navotas, Manila. On September 30, 2013, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for the approval of the *PSA*. In an Order dated November 4, 2013, the *ERC* granted the prayer for provisional authority. After hearing and submission of the required documents, including the *FOE*, the case is now submitted for decision.

On December 17, 2014, *MERALCO* and *TMO* entered into an Amendment to the *PSA* based on the power situation outlook for 2015 and 2016 issued by the *NGCP* that the reserve capacity will be below the Contingency Reserves due to the maintenance shutdowns and forced outages of major power plants in Luzon. The amendment to the *PSA* was filed for approval with the *ERC* on January 21, 2015. In an Order dated April 6, 2015, the *ERC* approved the amendment in the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *TMO* with modification. In an Order dated July 1, 2015, the *ERC* clarified that the provisional approval, while not specifically modifying nor stating any condition with respect to the implementation of the outage provisions of the amendment, covers the increase in outage allowance and the minor change in operating procedures.

On June 16, 2015, *MERALCO* received the Omnibus Motion for Partial Reconsideration and Deferment of Implementation of the Order dated April 6, 2015; Urgent Resolution of the Application; and Confidential Treatment filed by *TMO*.

In an Order dated April 5, 2016, the *ERC* ruled that the provisional authority granted to *MERALCO* and *TMO* is extended unless revoked or made permanent. On June 10, 2016 and July 5, 2016, respectively, *MERALCO* and *TMO* filed a Motion for Clarification of the *ERC* Order dated April 5, 2016. Said motions are still pending decision by the *ERC*. On January 3, 2017, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation with Motion informing the *ERC* of the extension of the term of the *PSA* from June 26, 2017 to June 25, 2018. In an Order dated June 6, 2017, the *ERC* noted *MERALCO*'s Manifestation and Motion and confirmed one (1) year extension of the *PSA*.

MERALCO and *TMO* were further directed to strictly comply with the provisions of *ERC* Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016, in particular, the one (1) time limit for renewal of the *PSA*. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and the decision remains pending with the *ERC*.

SBPL

On May 30, 2014, *MERALCO* signed a long-term *PSA* for a 455 *MW* net capacity and electric output with *SBPL*.

On June 2, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an application with the *ERC* for approval of its *PSA* with *SBPL*. On May 19, 2015, *MERALCO* received the *ERC* Decision with modification for the approval of the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *SBPL*. *SBPL* began commercial operations on September 26, 2019.

Bacman Geothermal, Inc. ("BGI")

On November 25, 2014, *MERALCO* signed a *PSA* with *BGI* for the purchase of up to 50 *MW* capacity and energy from the latter's power plant. On March 4, 2015, the Joint Application for approval of said *PSA* was filed with the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending decision by the *ERC*, but the *PSA*, which was never implemented, already expired on December 25, 2019. On August 10, 2020, *MERALCO* and *BGI* filed a joint manifestation with the *ERC*, manifesting that the Joint Application for approval of the *PSA* is already deemed moot considering the provisions of the *PSA* are already inapplicable and unenforceable given the expiration of the *PSA* without being implemented by *MERALCO* and *BGI*.

Montalban Methane Power Corporation ("MMPC")

On May 13, 2009, *MERALCO* filed an Application with the *ERC* for approval of its *CSE* with *MMPC* which the *ERC* approved with modification in its Decision dated December 3, 2012. In a Letter Agreement dated June 6, 2013, the *CSE* was extended until September 11, 2013 and parties agreed to automatically renew the *CSE* for a series of 3-month terms unless *MMPC* informs *MERALCO* in writing no longer than 30 days before the lapse of each 3-month term that it no longer intends to extend the *CSE*. Upon information from *MMPC*, in a Letter Agreement dated January 21, 2015, the parties agreed to terminate the *CSE* effective January 26, 2015. However, despite the termination of the *CSE*, *MMPC* was still able to inject energy to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. In its letter dated June 9, 2015, *MMPC* sought the *ERC*'s assistance to, among other things, recover reasonable charges for the energy that was generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. In a letter dated July 20, 2015, the *ERC* suggested that *MERALCO* and *MMPC* discuss and agree on the possible mechanism for the compensation of energy generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. Pursuant to the directive of the *ERC*, *MERALCO* and *MMPC* entered into a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") covering the payment of energy generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system. On July 1, 2020, *MERALCO* received the *ERC* Decision dated November 5, 2019 approving the collection from the customers of the payment of energy generated and injected by *MMPC* to *MERALCO*'s distribution system in five (5) equal monthly installments and the remittance of the same to *MMPC*, beginning the billing period following *MERALCO*'s receipt of the Decision.

PEDC

On April 26, 2016, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *PEDC* for the purchase of up to 70 *MW* of electric output from the 150 *MW* coal-fired power generating facility that *PEDC* owns

and operates in Brgy. Ingore, La Paz, Iloilo. In its letter dated November 23, 2016, the *ERC* informed *MERALCO* that the *ERC* has provisionally approved the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *PEDC* in its Order dated July 11, 2016. On January 10, 2017, *MERALCO* and *PEDC* filed their Joint Motion to Admit the *FOE* with Joint Urgent Motion for Early Resolution of the Application, seeking to, among other things, already source 70 MW from *PEDC* beginning January 28, 2017 in order to temper the anticipated additional burden that the *SPEX*-Malampaya outage may bring to end-users. On March 3, 2017, *PEDC* filed a Motion partially seeking reconsideration of the provisional rate approved under the *PSA*. On October 3, 2017, *PEDC* filed a Supplemental Motion for Reconsideration. On April 30, 2018, *MERALCO* received *PEDC*'s Manifestation and Motion praying that *MERALCO* be authorized by the *ERC* to collect from its customers the difference between the provisional rate approved by the *ERC* and the rates originally applied for under the *PSA*. As at October 26, 2020, further *ERC* action is pending.

Meanwhile, several consumers filed their petitions to intervene. On July 19, 2017, *MERALCO* filed its consolidated opposition to these petitions. On August 30, 2017, the *ERC* issued an order denying the requests for intervenor status but treating them instead as oppositors. Oppositors filed their respective *MRs*, which the *ERC* likewise denied in an Order dated November 17, 2017. On January 15, 2018, the *ERC* conducted a hearing for the purpose of giving intervenor, a consumer group, a chance to present its evidence. However, due to its unjustified and continued absence, the consumer group was deemed to have waived its right to present its evidence. Thus, the *ERC* deemed the case submitted for decision. On January 19, 2018, *MERALCO* received a motion filed by an oppositor before the *CA* seeking additional time to file a Petition for Review. In a decision dated February 28, 2018, the *CA* denied the Petition, prompting the oppositor's filing of an *MR*. On December 3, 2018, *MERALCO* received the *CA*'s Notice of Resolution granting the oppositor's *MR* without necessarily giving due course to the oppositor's Petition for Review and requiring *MERALCO* and *PEDC* to file their respective comments thereto. *MERALCO* and *PEDC* have filed their respective comments. On December 7, 2018, *MERALCO* filed its Comment with Opposition to the *CA*'s Resolution. As at October 26, 2020, the case is awaiting further action from the *CA*.

In the meantime, on May 17, 2019, *MERALCO* received the *SC* Decision that effectively required all *PSA* applications for *ERC* approval filed on or after June 30, 2015 to undergo *CSP*. Consequently, on October 8, 2019, *MERALCO* filed a Manifestation that it has requested *DOE* for exemption from *CSP* for a *PSA* with *PEDC* for an additional period up to one (1) year and preparations for the implemented term of their *PSA* (i.e., not covered by *CSP* exemption) is already underway. On January 15, 2020, the *DOE* issued a *CSP* exemption for a period of one (1) year from August 26, 2019 to August 25, 2020. On July 11, 2020, the Terms of Reference for the *CSP* of the *PSA* for its remaining term was submitted by *MERALCO* to the *DOE* for approval.

First Bulacan

On December 22, 2016, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *First Bulacan* for the purchase of 50 MW of electric output from its solar plant in San Miguel, Bulacan. On February 23, 2017, after conduct of a *CSP* wherein *First Bulacan* was declared as the winning power supplier, the application for approval of the *PSA* with *First Bulacan* was filed. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on July 12, 2017.

In a Decision promulgated on June 20, 2019, the *ERC* approved the *PSA* between *MERALCO* and *First Bulacan* subject to certain conditions. The applicable rate shall be ₱4.69 per kWh, subject to 2% annual escalation, excluding the franchise and benefits to host communities charge.

Solar Philippines Tanauan Corporation (“Solar Philippines Tanauan”)

On December 22, 2016, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tanauan* for the purchase of 50 MW of electric output from its solar plant in Tanauan, Batangas. On February 27, 2017, after conduct of a *CSP* wherein *Solar Philippines Tanauan* was declared as the winning power supplier, the application for approval of the *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tanauan* was filed. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on July 12, 2017. In a Decision promulgated on February 28, 2020, the *ERC* approved the *PSA* with modification.

Solar Philippines Tarlac Phase 1

On October 6, 2017, after being declared the winning power supplier in a *CSP*, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* for the purchase of up to 85 MW of electric output from Phase one (1) of its solar plant in Tarlac. The application for approval of the *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* was filed on October 19, 2017. Hearings have been completed and parties await *ERC* resolution on *Solar Philippines Tarlac*’s opposition to a consumer group’s intervention, which shall prompt submission of case for final decision. Meanwhile, in an Order promulgated on June 8, 2018, the *ERC* granted Interim Relief to provisionally implement the *PSA*. On July 3, 2018, *Solar Philippines Tarlac* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration of the said Order. *MERALCO* and *Solar Philippines Tarlac* agreed on a way forward, subject to resolution of the Motion for Partial Reconsideration, and began implementation of the *PSA* on August 20, 2018. On July 13, 2018, *MERALCO* filed its *Comment with Opposition* in so far as the adjustment of the timelines under the *PSA* is concerned. On November 26, 2018, a consumer group filed its *Comment with Opposition*, likewise with respect to *Solar Philippines Tarlac*’s motion for the adjustment of the timelines under the *PSA*. In its Order dated January 23, 2019, the *ERC* partially granted the Motion for Partial Reconsideration filed by *Solar Philippines Tarlac* and allowed the 2% annual escalation under the *PSA*. On June 25, 2019, the *ERC* promulgated its Order leaving the adjustment of the timelines set under the *PSA* to the discretion of *MERALCO* and *Solar Philippines Tarlac*. As at October 26, 2020, the parties are awaiting *ERC*’s final decision on the Joint Application.

FNPC

Following conduct and completion of a *CSP*, *MERALCO* confirmed effectivity of the *PSA* with *FNPC* dated December 13, 2017, for the purchase of 414 MW electric energy generated by the San Gabriel Gas Plant beginning *ERC* approval and ending on February 23, 2024. A joint application for approval of the *PSA* with *FNPC* was filed on March 19, 2018. In an Order dated June 5, 2018, the *ERC* granted interim relief to provisionally implement the *PSA*. On June 26, 2018, *MERALCO* and *FNPC* implemented the *PSA* based on the June 5, 2018 Order of the *ERC*. On August 8, 2018, a party filed an intervention to the case. *MERALCO* and *FNPC* filed their *Comment/Opposition* to said intervention. *FNPC* thereafter filed a *Compliance with Motion for Confidential Treatment of Information*. Thereafter, the pre-trial conference on the case was concluded. As at October 26, 2020, the parties are awaiting the order of the *ERC* resolving pending matters and setting the case for another hearing.

Solar Philippines Tarlac Phase 2

On February 22, 2019, after being declared the winning power supplier in a *CSP*, *MERALCO* signed a 20-year *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* for the purchase of up to 50 MW of electric output from Phase 2 of its solar plant in Tarlac. The application for approval of the *PSA* with *Solar Philippines Tarlac* was filed on March 18, 2019. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending decision by the *ERC*.

Interim Power Supply Agreements (“IPSAs”)

On January 24, 2017, in view of the Malampaya shutdown that was to coincide with the scheduled outage of other plants, *MERALCO* signed an *IPSA* with Strategic Power Development Corporation (“*SPDC*”) for the supply of 100 MW per hour of electric power from 0901H to 1000H and from 2001H to 2100H, and 150 MW per hour of electric power from 1001H to 2000H, from January 28, 2017 until February 16, 2017. An application for approval of such *IPSA* was filed before the *ERC* on February 9, 2017. The said *IPSA* was effective immediately, on the condition that disallowances and penalties that the *ERC* may impose as a result thereof shall be for the account of *SPDC*. *MERALCO* and *SPDC*, in a letter agreement dated February 15, 2017, agreed to extend the term of the *IPSA* until March 25, 2017 under the same terms and conditions of the *IPSA*. On February 16, 2017, *MERALCO* and *SPDC* filed a Joint Manifestation with Motion with the *ERC* apprising the Honorable Commission of the extended term and praying that the same be duly considered and approved accordingly. The hearings on this case have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on July 21, 2017. As at October 26, 2020, the contract term has expired and *MERALCO* awaits the *ERC*’s final decision on the *IPSA*.

On April 15, 2019, in view of the *NGCP* forecast that low voltage situations will occur for the weekdays of May up to the first half of June 2019 every time the Luzon peak demand exceeds 11,200 MW, *MERALCO* signed two (2) separate *IPSAs* with: (i) *MEI* for the purchase of 70 MW of electric power, subject to a net dependable capacity test, from April 26, 2019 to June 25, 2019, from *MEI*’s Gas Turbine Power Plant in Navotas Fishport Complex, Navotas City; and (ii) *TMO* for the purchase of up to 200,000 kW contract capacity and associated energy, subject to restatement based on the results of capacity test, from April 26, 2019 to April 25, 2020, from *TMO*’s 242 MW-installed capacity, barge-mounted, bunker-fired diesel power generating and interconnection facilities in Navotas City. For the said *IPSAs*, *MERALCO* also received the *DOE*’s grant of exemption from the requirement for *CSP*. The applications for approval of said *IPSAs* were filed before the *ERC* on April 17, 2019. In accordance with the said *IPSAs*, with the filing of the joint applications and *DOE*’s exemption, the mutual obligations to sell and purchase power under said agreements were implemented beginning April 26, 2019. On July 1, 2019, *MERALCO* filed its Compliance with Formal Offer of Evidence on the *TMO IPSA* Joint Application. Thereafter, on July 3, 2019, *MERALCO* received petitions for intervention in both cases. On July 15, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an Opposition to the petition for intervention filed in the *TMO IPSA* Joint Application considering that the same was already filed out of time. On the other hand, in light of the declarations of yellow and red alerts in the Luzon Grid by *NGCP*, *MERALCO* and *MEI*, in a Letter Agreement dated June 20, 2019, agreed to extend their *IPSA* until September 25, 2019. Further, given continuing declarations of yellow and red alerts in the Luzon grid by *NGCP*, *MERALCO* and *MEI*, in a Letter Agreement dated September 23, 2019, agreed to further extend their *IPSA* until April 25, 2020. *MERALCO* also received the *DOE*’s grant of exemption from the requirement for *CSP* for said periods. In a Letter Agreement dated January 28, 2020, *MERALCO* and *MEI* agreed on another extension of their *IPSA* from April 26, 2020 to June 25, 2020 in view of *DOE*’s forecast, presented to *MERALCO* in a meeting with the *DOE* on January 16, 2020, which showed red alert situation in the Luzon grid for the period from April to June 2020. *MERALCO* wrote *DOE* on January 29, 2020 to request for exemption from the requirement for *CSP* for said period. However, the *PSA* with *MEI* was not extended as the *DOE* did not issue any exemption to be able to further extend the *PSA*. Thus, on April 25, 2020, the *PSA* with *MEI* expired. As at October 26, 2020, the cases are pending decision by the *ERC*.

Clark Electric

SMEC

On March 20, 2013, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC*, as the *IPP* Administrator of the Sual coal-fired thermal power plant, entered into a *PSA* through December 25, 2019, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. The initial contracted capacity from the plant was pegged at 55 *MW* which may be increased up to 70 *MW*.

On July 09, 2015, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC* filed a joint application for the amendment of the *PSA*, which prayed that *Clark Electric* be allowed to get additional supply from *SMEC* as replacement power during scheduled maintenance shutdown of the Sual Power Plant Unit 1 at rate lower than that of the *WESM* rate. Although a decision has yet to be granted by the *ERC* with respect to the said application, it has, nonetheless, granted *Clark Electric*'s application for Interim Power Supply Agreements for the replacement power during the outage of Sual Power Plant Unit 1 in 2016 and in 2017 through the *ERC* orders dated September 20, 2016 and September 13, 2017, respectively.

With the effectivity of *RCOA*, the various contestable customers shifted their power supply sourcing from *Clark Electric* to their respective *RES*. In line with the switching, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC* agreed to gradually lower the *PSA* contracted capacity by an aggregate of 40 *MW* in 2017 to manage the electric retail rates of its captive customers.

On October 10, 2019, *Clark Electric* and *SMEC* jointly filed an Extremely Urgent Motion for the Confirmation of the *PSA* Extension in which the *ERC* resolved to grant an interim relief to extend the implementation of the *PSA* from December 26, 2019 to December 25, 2020.

SPDC

On February 20, 2017, *Clark Electric* executed an agreement for the power supply with *SPDC*, the *IPP* Administrator of the 345 *MW* San Roque Hydroelectric Power Plant in Barangay San Roque, San Miguel, Pangasinan. *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* agreed that the latter shall supply a total of 25 *MW*, consisting of 20 *MW* (firm) and 5 *MW* (non-firm) capacities during Mondays to Saturdays, excluding national holidays from trading intervals 0901H to 2100H. This *PSA* was entered into by *Clark Electric* to diversify its source of capacity and also to mitigate its exposure to the *WESM* during the outages of its then lone power supplier, *SMEC*. The *PSA* was jointly filed by *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* on May 19, 2017 for *ERC* approval. On May 29, 2019 and May 30, 2019 *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* received, respectively, the Honorable Commission's Order dated December 19, 2019, which granted interim relief to implement the *PSA*. In view of this, the parties immediately implemented the *PSA* beginning July 2019 billing period.

On December 10, 2019, *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* filed an Extremely Urgent Motion for the Confirmation of the *PSA* Extension praying for the confirmation of the extension of the *PSA* effective December 26, 2019 to December 25, 2020. On December 19, 2019, the *ERC* issued an order which granted an interim relief to implement the said extension.

On June 17, 2020, *Clark Electric* and *SPDC* filed a Joint Ex-Parte Manifestation to the *ERC* as stipulated in the June 1, 2020 Supplemental Agreement to mitigate the rate impact of the imposition of Enhanced Community Quarantine ("*ECQ*") throughout Luzon to contain the spread of *COVID-19*.

TransCo/NGCP

Clark Electric entered into a Transmission Service Agreement with *TransCo* beginning March 30, 2006 until terminated, in accordance with the Open Access Transmission Service (“OATS”) rules.

In January 2009, by virtue of RA No. 9511, *NGCP* acquired the franchise to engage in *TransCo*’s business of conveying or transmitting electricity.

Clark Electric executed a Transmission Service Agreement on December 26, 2013 with *NGCP* for the provision of necessary transmission services in accordance with the OATS rules for five (5) years until December 25, 2018. This was renewed for another five years until December 25, 2023.

Interconnection Agreement with Alternergy Wind One Philippine Holdings Corporation (“Alternergy”)

On March 1, 2012, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *Alternergy*, an embedded generator, for the latter’s 90 MW wind farm renewable energy plant in Pililla, Rizal, which shall interconnect at *MERALCO*’s Malaya-Teresa 115 kV line. Under the agreement, *Alternergy* shall construct at its own cost, operate and maintain the 115 kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO*’s system. On September 3, 2014, *MERALCO* signed a supplement to the Interconnection Agreement with *Alternergy* to temporarily connect the latter’s facilities to *MERALCO*’s Malaya-Caliraya 115 kV line until December 31, 2015 and thereafter, proceed to the ultimate connection at the Malaya-Teresa 115 kV line. In its letter to *MERALCO* dated October 30, 2015, *Alternergy* expressed its intention to extend its use of the 115 kV line until the completion of the construction of the Phase 2 Line or until December 31, 2017. In the letter agreement dated December 2, 2015, *MERALCO* and *Alternergy* formalized the extended use of said line.

Interconnection Agreement with Alternergy Sembrano Wind Corporation (“Alternergy Sembrano”)

On March 23, 2017, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *Alternergy Sembrano*, an embedded generator, for the latter’s 81 MW wind farm renewable energy plant in Pililla, Rizal, which shall also interconnect at *MERALCO*’s Malaya-Teresa 115 kV line. On May 4, 2018, *Alternergy Sembrano* filed an application with the *ERC* to develop, own and/or operate a dedicated point-to-point 115 kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO*’s system. On November 15, 2018, the said case was submitted for decision by the *ERC*.

Interconnection Agreement with Maibarara Geothermal, Inc. (“MGI”)

On December 6, 2012, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *MGI*, an embedded generator, for the latter’s 20 MW (with maximum capacity of 40 MW) geothermal facility plant in Sto. Tomas, Batangas, which shall interconnect at *MERALCO*’s FPIP - Los Baños 115 kV line. *MGI* shall construct at its own cost, operate and maintain the 115kV line connecting its generating facility to *MERALCO*’s system. In its Decision dated September 30, 2013, the *ERC* approved *MGI*’s application for authority to develop, own and operate dedicated point-to-point facilities to connect to the distribution system of *MERALCO*.

Interconnection Agreement with ATN Philippines Solar Energy Group, Inc. (“ATN”)

On December 8, 2014, *MERALCO* signed an Interconnection Agreement with *ATN*, an embedded generator, for the latter’s 25.2 MW solar generating facility in Rodriguez, Rizal, to be connected to *MERALCO*’s Novaliches 44 YJ, Diliman 435 VU and Parang 412 YL circuits. *ATN* shall construct at its own cost, operate dedicated point-to-point lines and facilities that will connect its generating facility to *MERALCO*’s system. In its Decision dated June 8, 2015, the *ERC* approved *ATN*’s application for authority to develop, own and operate a dedicated point-to-point lines and facilities.

Cagbalete Island Microgrid Electrification Expansion Capital Expenditure Project (“Cagbalete Microgrid Project”)

On July 23, 2019, *MERALCO* inaugurated the first phase of its power microgrid in Cagbalete Island, Quezon Province as part of its continuing initiative of rural energization using sustainable energy. The microgrid is a hybrid generating plant that features a 60 kW PV system, 150 kWh battery energy storage system and two (2) units of 30 kW diesel generators, which shall provide 24 x 7 power to the residents of the island.

On May 31, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an application dated May 29, 2019 to implement the proposed *Cagbalete Microgrid Expansion Project* to allow *MERALCO* to serve the rest of the residents in Cagbalete Island. The *Cagbalete Microgrid Expansion Project* with an estimated cost of ₱219 million, will utilize a scaled-up hybrid generation system by similarly using solar photovoltaic (“PV”) panels, diesel generators and lithium-ion battery storage as main components. Hearings have been completed and *MERALCO* filed its *FOE* on August 15, 2019. In an Order dated August 27, 2020, the *ERC* requested additional information regarding the *Cagbalete Microgrid Expansion Project*. *MERALCO* filed its Compliance on October 15, 2020. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting further action by the *ERC*.

Lease Agreement with CDC

On June 23, 2004, *Clark Electric* entered into a lease agreement with *CDC* for the lease of land and structures for the period of 18 years beginning July 2005, renewable for 25 years upon mutual agreement of both parties.

Beginning July 2004, as stated in the lease agreement, *CDC* charges guarantee fees equivalent to ₱0.05 per kWh sold for the first eight (8) years, ₱0.075 per kWh for the next four (4) years, and ₱0.12 per kWh for the succeeding six (6) years.

IMC with PELCO II

On February 12, 2014, *Comstech* entered into an *IMC* with *PELCO II* for a period of 20 years. *PELCO II* is an electric cooperative with franchise to distribute electric power in certain municipalities of Pampanga.

Pursuant to the *IMC*, *Comstech* shall render technical and management services for the operation, maintenance and management and improvement of *PELCO II*’s electric distribution. As consideration for its technical, consultancy and management services, *Comstech* is entitled to a performance-based remuneration and management fee based on a certain percentage of the operating revenues of *PELCO II*.

TSA between PDS Ghana and MPV Limited

On March 1, 2019, *PDS Ghana* and *MPV Limited* entered into a *TSA* to provide expertise and credentials in the technical, commercial, and regulatory areas of the distribution utility operations.

In October 2019, *ECG* issued a notice to terminate the concession agreement for the operation and maintenance of its assets principally due to alleged material breaches in the provision of the Demand Guarantees by *PDS Ghana*. Consequently, the *TSA* between *MPV Limited* and *PDS Ghana* was also terminated.

Agreement and Registration with PEZA

MERALCO has a concession agreement with *PEZA* for 25 years, whereby *MERALCO* has been contracted to operate the distribution system of *CEZ* beginning May 26, 2014.

MERALCO executed a tripartite agreement with *PEZA* and *TLI* for the billing and settlement of the supply of power from *TLI* to *CEZ* and its locators. Said tripartite agreement is from December 26, 2019 until December 25, 2021.

On December 29, 2014, *MERALCO* secured its Certificate of Registration No.10-01-U from *PEZA*, which confirms *MERALCO* as an Ecozone Utilities Enterprise at the *CEZ*.

Joint Venture Agreement with New Clark City

On April 3, 2019, the consortium between *MERALCO*, Marubeni Corporation, The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc. and Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc. signed a Joint Venture Agreement with the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (“*BCDA*”) for the construction, operation and maintenance of the electric distribution system in New Clark City.

MERALCO completed the construction of Phase 1A of the Interim Electrical Distribution facilities, which consists of (i) a 33 MVA, 69 kV-13.8 kV interim substation; (ii) 2.2 kilometers of 13.8 kV overhead lines; and (iii) 1.5 kilometers of 13.8 kV underground line.

30. Earnings Per Share Attributable to Equity Holders of the Parent

Basic and diluted earnings per share are calculated as follows:

	Unaudited			
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30		For the Three Months Ended September 30	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
(Amounts in millions)				
Net income attributable to equity holders of the Parent (a)	₱11,252	₱18,321	₱4,408	₱6,314
Weighted average common shares outstanding (b)	1,127	1,127	1,127	1,127
Per Share Amounts:				
Basic and diluted earnings per share (a/b)	₱9.98	₱16.26	₱3.91	₱5.60

Basic and diluted earnings per share amounts are calculated by dividing net income for the period attributable to common shareholders of the parent by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. There are no potential dilutive common shares in 2020 and 2019.

There are no other transactions involving common shares or potential common shares between the reporting date and the date of completion of these consolidated financial statements.

31. Other Matters

RCOA

The transition period for *RCOA* commenced on December 26, 2012 in accordance with the joint statement released by the *ERC* and the *DOE* on September 27, 2012 and the Transitory Rules for the Implementation of *RCOA* (*ERC* Resolution No. 16, Series of 2012). The commercial operations of *RCOA* started on June 26, 2013.

On March 31, 2014, the *ERC* issued a Resolution on the Withdrawal of the Rules on Customer Switching and the Retention of the Code of Conduct for Competitive Retail Market Participants. On the same date, *ERC* also issued a Resolution adopting the Rules on the Establishment of Customer Information by the Central Registration Body (“*CRB*”) and Reportorial Requirements, mandating all *DUs* to submit to the *ERC* and *CRB* information on end-users with (i) monthly average peak demand of at least one (1) *MW* for the preceding 12 months; and (ii) monthly average peak demand of 750 *kW* but not greater than 999 *kW*. The *ERC* will use these information in issuing the certificates of contestability.

On October 22, 2014, the *ERC* issued a resolution suspending the issuance of *RES* licenses. Under the resolution, the *ERC* resolves to hold in abeyance the evaluation of *RES* license applications and suspend the issuance of such licenses until such time that the amendments to the Rules for the issuance of *RES* licenses have been made by the *ERC*.

On July 1, 2015, the *DOE* published a Department Circular “Providing Policies to Facilitate the Full Implementation of *RCOA* in the Philippine Electric Power Industry”. The Circular essentially provided for mandatory contestability.

On March 8, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 05 Series of 2016 entitled “A Resolution Adopting the 2016 Rules Governing the Issuance of Licenses to Retail Electricity Suppliers (*RES*) and Prescribing the Requirements and Conditions Therefor”. The Resolution removed the term local *RES* as one of the entities that may engage in the business of supplying electricity to the contestable market without need of obtaining a license therefor from the *ERC*. Moreover, while an affiliate of a *DU* is allowed to become a *RES*, the allowance is “subject to restrictions imposed by the *ERC* on market share limits and the conduct of business activities”.

On May 12, 2016, the *ERC* issued Resolutions No. 10 and 11, Series of 2016, which:

1. Provided for mandatory contestability. Failure of a contestable customer to switch to *RES* upon date of mandatory contestability (December 26, 2016 for those with average demand of at least one (1) *MW* and June 26, 2017 for at least 750 *MW*) shall result in the physical disconnection from the *DU* system unless it is served by the supplier of last resort (“*SOLR*”), or, if applicable, procures power from the *WESM*;

2. Prohibits *DUs* from engaging in the supply of electricity to the contestable market except in its capacity as a *SOLR*;
3. Mandates Local *RESs* to wind down their supply businesses within a period of three (3) years;
4. Imposes upon all *RESs*, including *DU*-affiliate *RESs*, a market-share cap of 30% of the total average monthly peak demand of all contestable customers in the competitive retail electricity market; and,
5. Prohibits *RESs* from transacting more than 50% of the total energy transactions of its supply business, with its affiliate contestable customers.

On May 27, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a Petition before *RTC-Pasig*, praying that: (a) a *TRO* and subsequently a Writ of Preliminary Injunction (“*WPI*”) enjoining the *DOE* and *ERC* from implementing the assailed rules be issued; and the assailed rules be declared null and void for being contrary to the *EPIRA* and its *IRR*. In an Order dated June 13, 2016, *RTC-Pasig* granted a 20-day *TRO*, which became effective on June 16, 2016. In an Order dated July 13, 2016, *RTC-Pasig* granted a *WPI*, which became effective on July 14, 2016, and shall be effective for the duration of the pendency of the Petition.

Meanwhile, the *ERC* filed a Petition for Certiorari and Prohibition with prayer for *TRO* and/or *WPI* before the *SC*, which asserted that *RTC-Pasig* has no jurisdiction to take cognizance of *MERALCO*’s Petition, citing Sec. 78 of the *EPIRA*. A similar petition was subsequently filed by the *DOE* before the *SC*.

On October 10, 2016, the *SC*, in relation to the Petition filed by the *DOE*, issued a *TRO* that restrained, *MERALCO*, the *RTC-Pasig*, their representatives, agents or other persons acting on their behalf from continuing the proceedings before the *RTC-Pasig*, and from enforcing all orders, resolutions and decisions rendered in Special Civil Action No. 4149 until the petition before the *SC* is finally resolved. In a Resolution dated November 9, 2016, the *SC* denied *MERALCO*’s *MR*.

On November 2, 2016, in relation to the Petition filed by the *ERC*, the *SC* issued a Resolution dated September 26, 2016, which partially granted the Petition of the *ERC*. While the *SC* allowed the *RTC-Pasig* to proceed with the principal case of declaratory relief, it nonetheless issued a Preliminary Mandatory Injunction (“*PMI*”) against *RTC-Pasig* to vacate the preliminary injunction it previously issued, and Preliminary Injunction (“*PI*”) ordering the *RTC-Pasig* to refrain issuing further orders and resolutions tending to enjoin the implementation of *EPIRA*. On November 14, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration with Very Urgent Motion to lift *PMI/PI*.

On November 24, 2016, the *ERC* promulgated a resolution moving the contestability date of end users with an average monthly peak demand of at least one (1) *MW* from December 31, 2016 to February 26, 2017. On January 17, 2017, *MERALCO*, through its counsel, received an *SC* Resolution dated December 5, 2016, which consolidated the *SC DOE* Petition with the *SC ERC* Petition. The same resolution also denied the Motion for Partial Reconsideration filed by *MERALCO*.

In relation to the *ERC* and *DOE* Petitions, a separate Petition for Certiorari, Prohibition and Injunction was filed by several institutional customers. In said Petition, said customers sought to declare as null and void, as well as to enjoin the *DOE* and *ERC* from implementing *DOE* Circular No. 2015-06-0010 and *ERC* Resolution Nos. 5, 10, 11 and 28, Series of 2016. Acting on the Petition, the *SC en banc* through a Resolution dated February 21, 2017, issued a *TRO* enjoining

the *DOE* and the *ERC* from implementing *DOE* Circular No. 2015-06-0010 and *ERC* Resolution Nos. 5, 10, 11 and 28, Series of 2016. Pursuant to the foregoing, *PEMC* has taken the position that the *TRO* enjoined the voluntary contestability of 750 kW to 999 kW customers and has not allowed them to switch to the contestable market. The *DOE*, in a press release, has advised that it is in the process, together with *PEMC* and *ERC*, of drafting a general advisory for the guidance of *RCOA* stakeholders. The *PCCI* petition was consolidated with two (2) other separate petitions filed by an educational institution and several *DUs*. The *DOE* and *ERC* have also filed a consolidated comment on these petitions.

On November 29, 2017, the *DOE* issued two (2) *DOE* Circulars, namely: DC 2017-12-0013, entitled, Providing Policies on the Implementation of *RCOA* for Contestable Customers in the Philippines Electric Power Industry and DC 2017-12-0014, entitled Providing Policies on the Implementation of *RCOA* for *RES* in the Philippine Electric Power Industry. The *DOE* Circulars became effective on December 24, 2017.

Under the *DOE* Circular No. DC 2017-12-0013, it is provided that voluntary participation for contestable customers under *RCOA*-Phase 2 shall now be allowed upon effectivity of said Circular, while voluntary participation of contestable customers with a monthly average peak demand of 500 kW to 749 kW for the preceding 12 months and demand aggregation for electricity end users within a contiguous area with an aggregate average peak demand of not less than 500 kW for the preceding 12-month period, will also be allowed by June 26, 2018 and December 26, 2018, respectively.

On December 22, 2017, *MERALCO* wrote *ERC* and *DOE* to seek guidance on the impact of the *DOE* Circulars in the light of the *TRO* issued by the *SC*. On January 17, 2018, the *DOE* responded that there is no legal impediment to the implementation of the *DOE* Circulars but it defers to the *OSG* for guidance on the legal aspect of the issuances. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to respond to *MERALCO*'s letter.

In a Notice dated September 23, 2020, the *ERC* released its draft "Resolution Prescribing the Timeline for the Implementation of *RCOA*" for comments of interested parties. *MERALCO* submitted its comments thereto.

Interim Pre-Emptive Mitigating Measure in the WESM

On May 5, 2014, the *ERC* issued Resolution No 8, Series of 2014, setting an interim pre-emptive mitigating measure in the *WESM*, which established a price threshold in the *WESM* applied over a 72-hour period, which is determined through a rolling average generated weighted average price ("GWAP") of ₱8,186 per *MWh*. Also, a secondary cap amounting to ₱6,245 per *MWh* is imposed upon a breach of the threshold, or secondary cap mechanism. Such interim measure aims to mitigate sustained high prices in the *WESM* during the May and June 2014 supply months. On June 16, 2014, the *ERC* issued another resolution extending the effectivity of the pre-emptive mitigating measure for 45 days from expiration or until August 9, 2014. Public consultation and a subsequent focus group discussion were held on July 23 and 25, 2014, respectively. On August 5, 2014, the *ERC* resolved to (i) adopt a permanent pre-emptive mitigating measure that will be applied in the *WESM*; (ii) direct all interested stakeholders to submit their proposed measures within 20 days from effectivity of such resolution; and (iii) extend the effectivity of the secondary cap mechanism for a period of 120 days from August 10, 2014 or until the *ERC* establishes a permanent pre-emptive mitigating measure in the *WESM*, whichever comes earlier.

On September 29, 2014, the *ERC* conducted a public consultation on the proposed permanent pre-emptive mitigating measures in the *WESM*. Parties were then given until October 7, 2014 to file their additional comments, if any.

On October 24, 2014, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee issued a Joint Resolution to further extend the interim offer price cap in the *WESM* for 120 days starting October 24, 2014 to harmonize with the finalization of the permanent pre-emptive mitigating measure which shall be applied in the *WESM*. On February 20, 2015, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee issued a joint resolution which extended further the imposition of the interim *WESM* offer price cap at its current level until September 30, 2015.

In December 2014, in its Resolution No. 20, Series of 2014, the *ERC* adopted and established a permanent pre-emptive mitigation measure in the *WESM*. The *ERC* set a cumulative price threshold (“*CPT*”) amounting to an average spot price of ₱9,000 per *MWh* over a rolling 7-day period or 168-hour trading interval. Once this *CPT* for said period is breached, it triggers the imposition of a price cap amounting to ₱6,245 per *MWh*. The price cap shall be imposed until after a determination that succeeding *GWAP* rolling average is already below the *CPT*. The pre-emptive measure has taken effect beginning January 9, 2015.

The imposition of the mitigating measure was questioned by the Philippine Independent Power Producers Association (“*PIPPA*”) in the *RTC-Pasig* through a Petition for Declaratory Relief with Application for *TRO* and/or Writ of Preliminary Injunction. The Petition prayed for, among others, that the *ERC* Resolutions pertaining to the secondary cap mechanism be declared void *ab initio*. The original petition was subsequently amended to reflect the promulgation of the subsequent *ERC* resolutions extending the effectivity of the *WESM* price cap. On July 21, 2014, *MERALCO* filed its Motion for Leave to Intervene and to Admit Attached Comment in Intervention. The *RTC-Pasig* admitted *MERALCO*’s intervention and comment in its Order dated October 28, 2014. However, in a Motion for Leave to Admit Supplement Petition, *PIPPA* moved for leave to file a supplemental petition to include *ERC* Resolution No. 20, Series of 2014 which provides for a permanent mitigating measure in the *WESM*. In an Order dated May 5, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* denied the Motion for Leave to File and Admit Supplemental Petition. *PIPPA* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration which was denied by the *RTC-Pasig* in its Resolution dated September 10, 2015. *PIPPA* filed a Petition for Certiorari with the *CA*. The *CA* denied the Petition for Certiorari in its Decision dated June 9, 2017. *PIPPA* filed a *MR* dated July 19, 2017. In a Resolution dated August 16, 2017, the parties were directed to file their comments to the *PIPPA*’s *MR*. *MERALCO* has filed its comment on the *MR*. On April 4, 2018, the *CA* rendered a resolution denying the *MR* filed by *PIPPA*.

On September 29, 2015, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee issued a Joint Resolution further extending the interim offer price cap of ₱32,000 per *MWh* until December 31, 2015. In its Joint Resolution No. 3, Series of 2015, the *WESM* Tripartite Committee resolved to set the *WESM* offer price cap at ₱32,000 per *MWh* and the *WESM* offer price floor of negative ₱10,000 per *MWh* effective January 2016, provided that an annual review shall be undertaken considering the relevant costs assumptions at the time of review.

On December 7, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* rendered a Decision dismissing the Petition for Declaratory Relief. The *MR* filed by *PIPPA* was denied in a Resolution dated June 16, 2016. *PIPPA* appealed the *RTC-Pasig* Decision with the *SC*. *MERALCO* has filed its comment thereto. *PIPPA* filed a Consolidated Reply on July 17, 2017. As at October 26, 2020, the case is pending before the *SC*.

On May 9, 2017, the *ERC* issued Resolution No. 4, Series of 2017, entitled, “A Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Pre-emptive Mitigating Measure in the *WESM*”. They adopted a

recalculated cumulative price threshold level of ₱1,080,000 and a shorter five (5)-day (120-hour) rolling average period. This is equivalent to ₱9,000 per *MWh* over said period.

PEZA – ERC Jurisdiction

On September 13, 2007, *PEZA* issued “Guidelines in the Registration of Electric Power Generation Facilities/Utilities/Entities Operating Inside the Ecozones” and “Guidelines for the Supply of Electric Power in Ecozones” (“*Guidelines*”). Under these Guidelines, *PEZA* effectively bestowed upon itself franchising and regulatory powers in Ecozones operating within the legislative franchise areas of *DUs* which are under the legislatively-authorized regulatory jurisdiction of the *ERC*. The *Guidelines* are the subject of an injunction case filed by the *DUs* in *RTC-Pasig*.

On February 4, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* issued an Order setting a clarificatory hearing on April 15, 2015. During the said hearing, *MERALCO* manifested that it previously filed a Motion to Withdraw as plaintiff on the basis of letter agreements between *MERALCO* and *PEZA*, which is pending before the *RTC-Pasig*. *MERALCO* submitted the Tripartite Agreement among *PEZA*, *PEPOA* and *MERALCO* for approval of the *RTC-Pasig*. In a Decision dated July 3, 2015, the *RTC-Pasig* approved the Compromise Agreement between *PEZA*, *PEPOA* and *MERALCO*. In the hearing on February 10, 2016, the *RTC-Pasig* dismissed the petition upon motion by *PEZA*. The *ERC* filed a *MR* which is pending resolution by the *RTC-Pasig*.

Purchase of Subtransmission Assets (“STAs”)

On April 17, 2012, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* filed a joint application for the approval of the Batch 4 contract to sell with the *ERC*. On April 22, 2013, the *ERC* issued a Decision on *MERALCO*’s joint application for the acquisition of the Batch 4 contract to sell. On June 21, 2013 and July 3, 2013, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration and *MR*, respectively, regarding the exclusion of certain facilities for acquisition.

On May 22, 2014, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* received an *ERC* Order dated May 5, 2014 denying *MERALCO* and *TransCo*’s Motions. On June 5, 2014, *MERALCO* filed a clarificatory motion and a *MR* of the May 5, 2014 *ERC* Order, which was denied by the *ERC* through an Order dated June 16, 2014. On October 10, 2014, *MERALCO* filed a Motion to Reopen Proceedings for the reception of new evidence to support *MERALCO*’s position on the acquisition of excluded *STAs*. The Motion was heard by the *ERC* on October 17, 2014. After the parties have submitted their respective comments and pleadings, the *ERC* conducted another hearing on February 23, 2015.

In an Order dated March 4, 2015, the *ERC* considered but denied the new and substantive allegations in *MERALCO*’s Motion to Reopen Proceedings. *MERALCO* then filed a Petition for Review with the *CA* to question the Orders of the *ERC*. In a Decision dated August 12, 2016, the *CA* dismissed the Petition. On September 17, 2016, *MERALCO* filed a *MR*. In an Amended Decision dated September 15, 2017, the *CA* granted *MERALCO*’s *MR* and approved the sale of the Dasmarinas-Abubot-Rosario 115 kV line and Rosario substation equipment in favor of *MERALCO*. *NGCP* filed a *MR* (of the Amended Decision) dated October 4, 2017. In a Resolution dated May 31, 2018, the *CA* denied the *MR*. *NGCP* filed a Petition for Review with the *SC*.

On March 20, 2015, *MERALCO* filed a case for “Interpleader with Consignation and Specific Performance” against *TransCo* and the Municipality of Labrador, Pangasinan (“*Labrador*”) with the *RTC-Pasig*, praying for the *RTC-Pasig* to (i) accept and approved the consignation of the amount of ₱194.1 million; (ii) declare *MERALCO* to have paid in full the purchase price of the sale of *TransCo*’s assets; (iii) direct *TransCo* to execute the corresponding Deeds of Absolute

Sale; and (iv) direct *Labrador* and *TransCo* to interplead their respective claims. On April 14 and 20, 2015, *Labrador* and *TransCo* filed their respective Motions to Dismiss on the ground of impropriety of the filing of the Interpleader and on the ground of *litis pendentia*. *MERALCO* received an Order from *RTC-Pasig* granting the Motions to Dismiss of both *TransCo* and *Labrador*. *MERALCO* filed a *MR* which was denied by the *RTC-Pasig*. *MERALCO* appealed the Decision with the *CA*, which granted the appeal, and remanded the interpleader case to the trial court for proper disposition. The *CA* decision already attained finality as of May 25, 2018. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* have finalized the contract to sell and the same is for signature of *TransCo*.

On December 15, 2016, *MERALCO* and *TransCo* filed a joint application for the approval of the Batch 3 contract to sell with the *ERC*. Hearings were conducted on August 10, 2018 and October 15, 2018. The *ERC* has yet to set the next scheduled hearing of the case.

FiT

Pursuant to *RA* No. 9513, or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 (“*RE Act*”), the *ERC* issued Resolution No. 16, Series of 2010, Adopting the *FiT* Rules, on July 23, 2010. As defined under the *FiT* Rules, the *FiT* system is a renewable energy policy that offers guaranteed payments on a fixed rate per *kWh* for electricity from wind, solar, ocean, hydropower and biomass energy sources, excluding any generation for own use.

To fund the *FiT* payments to eligible *RE* developers, a *FiT-All* charge shall be imposed on all end-users. The *FiT-All* will be established by the *ERC* upon petition by *TransCo*, which had been designated as the *FiT* Fund Administrator.

On February 5, 2014, the *ERC* released the *FiT-All* disbursement and Collection Guidelines (“*FiT Guidelines*”) to supplement the *FiT* Rules. This set of guidelines will govern how the *FiT-All* will be calculated using the formulae provided. It will also outline the process of billing and collecting the *FiT-All* from the electricity consumers, the remittance to a specified fund, the disbursement from the *FiT-All* fund and the payment to eligible *RE* developers.

Starting 2014, *TransCo* applied for the following *FiT-All* rates with the *ERC*, and *ERC* rendered a Decision approving the following *FiT-All* rates for the respective years:

Year	Applied Rate per <i>kWh</i>	Approved Rate per <i>kWh</i>	Date Approved
2014-2015	₱0.0406	₱0.0406	December 10, 2015
2016	0.1025	0.1830	May 9, 2017
2017	0.2291	0.2563	February 27, 2018
2018	0.2932	0.2226	March 12, 2019
2019	0.2780	0.0495	October 28, 2019
2020	0.2278	—	Pending <i>ERC</i> Decision

On December 23, 2014, *MERALCO* received a copy of a Petition for Prohibition and Certiorari filed with the *SC* against the *ERC*, *DOE*, *TransCo*, *NREB* and *MERALCO*. The Petition seeks (i) the issuance of a *TRO* and/or *WPI*, and after giving due course to the Petition, a Writ of Prohibition to enjoin the respondents from implementing the *FiT-All*, the *FiT* Rules and *FiT* Guidelines; and (ii) the annulment of the *FiT* Rules and *FiT* Guidelines. With the parties’ submission of their respective memoranda, the case is now pending decision.

In a Decision dated October 6, 2015, the *ERC* set the Wind *FiT* at ₱7.40 per *kWh*. *MERALCO* filed a *MR* on the Decision. As at October 26, 2020, the *MR* is pending further action of the *ERC*.

On September 29, 2016, Alternergy Wind One Corporation, Petrowind Energy, Inc. and Trans-Asia Renewable Energy Corporation filed a Petition to Initiate Rule-Making to adjust the Wind *FIT* rate of ₱7.40 per *kWh* to ₱7.93 per *kWh*. *MERALCO* filed an intervention in the case. The hearing on the Petition was set on January 6, 2017. *MERALCO*'s motion on the propriety of the petition has been submitted for the resolution of the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the said petition is ongoing and remains pending with the *ERC*.

Recovery of National Power Corporation's ("NPC") Stranded Contract Costs

In an Order dated May 22, 2018, the *ERC* approved *PSALM*'s petition for the recovery of *NPC*'s stranded contract costs portion of the universal charge ("*UC-SCC*"). Accordingly, *PSALM* is hereby authorized to recover the stranded contract costs for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao grids totaling ₱8,547 million with a monthly rate of ₱0.1938 per *kWh* starting May 2018 billing period until the full amount has been recovered.

On January 14, 2019, *MERALCO* received a letter dated December 28, 2018 from *PSALM* advising *MERALCO* to cease the implementation of the collection of the ₱0.1938 per *kWh* for the recovery of the additional *SCC* effective January 2019 as it already recovered the full amount of the stranded contract costs. This was after *MERALCO* had already completed the billing program for January 2019. Accordingly, on February 6, 2019, *MERALCO* wrote *ERC* proposing to reverse the said collections of the additional *UC-SCC*. On February 7, 2019, *MERALCO* received a letter from the *ERC* which allowed the full reversal of the subject *UC-SCC* in its February billing equivalent to ₱0.3876 per *kWh*, without prejudice to further validation by the *ERC* as to the final amounts due.

In its letter dated January 15, 2020, *MERALCO* informed the *ERC* that it accumulated additional total excess *UC-SCC* collections in the amount of ₱545 million and proposed to implement another reversal to its customers in the amount of ₱0.1453 per *kWh* for the month of February 2020. In its letter dated February 6, 2020, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to implement the refund, subject to post-validation. *MERALCO* was then directed to provide additional information as well as status report to the *ERC* with respect to the implementation of refund. In a letter dated April 15, 2020, *MERALCO* informed the *ERC* that it implemented the refund starting its March 2020 billing but requested for additional time to provide the additional information requested in the light of the *ECQ*.

On March 4, 2020, *MERALCO* received a letter dated March 3, 2020, directing it to comment on a petition filed by a consumer group which sought to stop the collection of *UC-SCC* and stranded debts portion of the universal charge ("*UC-SD*") from consumers because of the Murang Kuryente Act. *MERALCO* filed its comment on March 16, 2020.

In a Decision dated April 10, 2019, the *ERC* approved with modification *PSALM*'s petition for the availment of the *NPC*'s stranded contract costs portion of the universal charge for calendar year 2014. *PSALM* is hereby authorized to recover the *UC-SCC* for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao grids totaling ₱5,117 million with a monthly rate of ₱0.0543 per *kWh* within a period of 12 months.

Net Metering Program

The *RE Act* mandates the *DUs* to provide the mechanism for the “physical connection and commercial arrangements necessary to ensure the success of the *RE* programs”, specifically the Net Metering Program. The *RE Act* defines Net Metering as “a system, appropriate for distributed generation, in which a distribution grid user has a two-way connection to the grid and is only charged for his net electricity consumption and is credited for any overall contribution to the electricity grid”. By their nature, net metering installations will be small (less than 100 kW) and will likely be adopted by households and small business end-users of *DUs*.

After consultations with stakeholders, the *ERC* issued on July 3, 2013 its Resolution No. 09, Series of 2013, entitled, “A Resolution Adopting the Rules enabling the Net Metering Program for Renewable Energy”. The Rules will govern the *DUs*’ implementation of the Net Metering Program. Included in the Rules are the interconnection standards that shall provide technical guidance to address engineering, electric system reliability, and safety concerns for net metering interconnections. However, the final pricing methodology to determine the rate at which energy exported back to the distribution system by Net Metering Program participants will be addressed in another set of rules by the *ERC* in due course. In the meantime, the *DUs*’ blended generation cost equivalent to the generation charge shall be used as the preliminary reference price in the net metering agreement. The Rules took effect on July 24, 2013. Under *ERC* Resolution No. 6, Series of 2019, entitled, “A Resolution Adopting the Amendments to the Rules enabling the Net Metering Program for Renewable Energy”, the *ERC* adopted amendments to the Net Metering Rules. As at September 30, 2020, *MERALCO* has already installed 3,113 meters and energized 2,957 net metering customers.

Interruptible Load Program (“ILP”)

In an *ERC* Order dated April 11, 2014, the *ERC* approved with modification *MERALCO*’s request that it be allowed to adopt and implement the *ILP*. *ILP* protocols, compensation and recovery mechanism are governed by *ERC* Resolution No. 5, Series of 2015 “A Resolution Adopting the Amended Rules to Govern the Interruptible Load Program”, *DOE* Circular No. DC2015-06-0003 “Providing the Interim Manner for Declaring Bilateral Contract Quantities in the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market and Directing the Philippine Electricity Market Corporation to Establish Necessary Protocols to Complement the Interruptible Load Program” and *ERC* Resolution No. 3, Series of 2019 “A Resolution Clarifying Section 3, Article III of the Amended Interruptible Load Program Rules”.

As at September 30, 2020, there are 129 companies with a total committed de-loading capacity of 425 MW that have signed up with *MERALCO*, *MPOWER* and with other retail electricity suppliers as *ILP* participants.

Long-Term Indebtedness Application

On June 25, 2015, *MERALCO* filed an application, with prayer for provisional authority, for continuing authority to (a) issue bonds or other evidence of indebtedness for as long as it maintains 50:50 long-term debt to equity ratio; and (b) whenever necessary, to mortgage, pledge or encumber any of its property to any creditor in connection with its authority to issue bonds or any other evidence of long-term indebtedness. The hearing on the application was conducted on October 6, 2015. In an Order dated October 12, 2015, the *ERC* directed *MERALCO* to submit additional documents in support of its application which *MERALCO* complied with. However, due to changes in the financial climate which may affect the terms and conditions of any financial borrowings, *MERALCO* has filed a Motion to withdraw the application without prejudice to its

refiling at a later date. In an Order dated March 22, 2016, the *ERC* granted *MERALCO*'s Motion to Withdraw but still required *MERALCO* to submit certain documents. *MERALCO* filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration questioning the requirement which is pending before the *ERC*. As at October 26, 2020, the *ERC* has yet to resolve *MERALCO*'s Motion for Partial Reconsideration.

On October 29, 2019, *MERALCO* filed an application, with prayer for provisional authority, for continuing authority to (a) issue bonds or other evidence of indebtedness; and (b) whenever necessary, to mortgage, pledge or encumber any of its property to any creditor in connection with its authority to issue bonds or any other evidence of long-term indebtedness. As at October 26, 2020, hearings on the case are ongoing.

Prepaid Retail Electricity Service ("PRES")

On December 12, 2014, *MERALCO* filed an application for authority to offer and provide *PRES* to its customers as well as the applicable rules to govern *PRES*. In a Decision dated April 27, 2015, the *ERC* approved the application with modification. As at September 30, 2020, there are 102,136 customers availing of *PRES*.

CSP for PSAs

As early as February 2013, the *ERC* posted the first draft of rules on *PSA* approval, solicited comments from stakeholders thereon and conducted various focused group discussions. Said draft required *DUs* to undergo *CSP* in their supply procurement, required a specific procedure for such and prescribed a *PSA* template.

Meanwhile, in October 2014, the *DOE* issued for comments its draft Circular on Demand Aggregation and Supply Auctioning Policy ("*DASAP*"). This was likewise subjected to public consultations.

In June 2015, *DOE* promulgated *DOE* Circular No. 2015-06-0008, "Providing Policies for Further Enhancement of the *WESM* Design and Operations" ("*2015 DOE Circular*"), prescribing *DUs* to procure all its uncontracted demand through *CSP*, through the participation of a third party and which may be done by *DUs* on an aggregated basis. The *2015 DOE Circular* gave *DOE* and *ERC* 120 days to issue the necessary Implementing Guidelines ("*IG*"). Instead of issuing an *IG*, in a Joint Resolution dated October 20, 2015, it was agreed by *DOE* and the *ERC* that the latter shall be the one to issue the relevant *CSP* regulations. On the same date, the *ERC* promulgated Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015.

ERC Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015 included the following provisions:

- All *DUs* are required to undergo *CSP*. Pending the *ERC*'s issuance of a prescribed process, *DUs* may adopt any accepted form of *CSP*, provided that the terms of reference shall include, among others, the following – (a) contract capacity or energy volume, (b) generation source, (c) method of fuel procurement, (d) contract period, (e) tariff structure, (f) Philippine peso or foreign currency denominated payment, (g) penalties, (h) applicable transmission projects, and (i) other key parameters.
- A *CSP* is successful if there are at least two (2) qualified bids. Should there be at least two (2) failed bids, then a *DU* can proceed with direct negotiation.
- The *CSP* requirement shall apply to *PSAs* that although executed, have not yet been filed for approval before the *ERC*.

On March 15, 2016, the *ERC* released Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016 entitled, "A Resolution Clarifying the Effectivity of *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015". In this new Resolution, the *ERC* clarified that, after judicious study and due consideration of views raised by different industry stakeholders, it has resolved that:

- The effectivity of *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015 is hereby restated on April 30, 2016.
- On the other forms of *CSP* referred to in Section 2 of the *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015, these should likewise comply with the minimum terms of reference and the requirement of at least two (2) qualified bids for the *CSP* to be considered successful.

In reference to *PSAs* with provisions allowing the automatic renewal or extension of their term, *PSAs* that were previously approved by the *ERC* or filed with the *ERC* before the effectivity of this Resolution may have one (1) automatic renewal or extension for a period not exceeding one (1) year from the end of their respective terms. Upon effectivity of this Resolution, automatic renewal clauses or extension of *PSAs* shall no longer be permitted.

On November 18, 2016, *MERALCO* received a copy of the Petition dated April 28, 2016 filed by a consumer group, *Alyansa Para sa Bagong Pilipinas, Inc. ("ABP")* in the *SC* against the *ERC*, *DOE*, *MERALCO*, *Central Luzon Power*, *St. Raphael*, *PEDC*, *Mariveles Power*, *A1E*, *RP Energy* and the *PCC* which sought to declare as void Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016 and to mandate the *ERC* to disapprove all *PSA* applications for failing to comply with the *CSP* requirement (the "*ABP Case*").

In the meantime, on February 9, 2018, the *DOE* published a *DOE* Circular entitled, "Adopting and Prescribing the Policy for the Competitive Selection Process in the Procurement by Distribution Utilities of Power Supply Agreements for the Captive Market" ("*2018 DOE Circular*"). Upon effectivity of the Circular, all prospective *PSAs* in grid and off-grid areas shall be procured through *CSP*. The *CSP* under the *2018 DOE Circular* involves publication of invitation to bid, pre-bid conference, bid evaluation, and pre-/post-qualification of winning bidder. Exemption from *CSP* may be granted by the *DOE* in the following instances:

- i. Generation project owned by the *DU* funded by grant or donations
- ii. Negotiated procurement of emergency supply
- iii. Provision of supply in off-grid areas prior to the entry of new power providers
- iv. Provision of supply by *PSALM* through bilateral contracts for power produced from undisposed generating assets and *IPP* contracts sanctioned by *EPIRA*.

PSAs that were granted exemption from *CSP* shall be implemented by the *DU* immediately without prejudice to the evaluation and final decision of the *ERC*.

The *DU*'s *CSP* may be managed by a Third Party Bids and Awards Committee ("*TPBAC*") or a Third Party Administrator ("*TPA*"). The *DU*'s *TPBAC* shall be composed of the following (a) one (1) *DU* officer or employee knowledgeable in the technical operations of the *DU*; (b) One (1) *DU* officer or employee with knowledge and/or experience with any local or international competitive bidding procedures; (c) one (1) lawyer; (d) one (1) finance officer or accountant that has knowledge on electricity pricing; and (e) one (1) technical person, or a person with knowledge and/or experience with any local or international competitive bidding procedures. Any two of the last three (3) members shall be captive customer representatives. The selection process of the representatives of the captive customers to the *DU*'s *TPBAC* shall be submitted to the *DOE* for

approval. The *DOE* has already approved the selection process of *MERALCO*'s *TPBAC* captive customer representatives.

Each *CSP* shall be completed within five (5) months from the time of the publication of the Invitation to Bid until submission of the *PSA* to the *ERC*.

Direct negotiations may be made by the *DUs* after at least two (2) failed *CSPs* and there is no outstanding dispute on the conducted *CSP*. A *CSP* is considered failed when during its conduct:

- i. No proposal was received by the *DU*
- ii. Only one (1) generator submitted an offer
- iii. Competitive offers of prospective generators failed to meet the requirements prescribed in the bid document

Within 60 days upon effectivity of the *2018 DOE Circular*, the *ERC* shall develop rules and procedures to: (i) support the Circular, including guidelines for *TPA* accreditation and a *PSA* template, and (ii) address disputes arising from the conduct of the *CSP*. On April 26, 2018, the *ERC* posted in its website the draft "Rules Governing the Execution, Review and Evaluation of *PSA* Entered into by Distribution Utilities for the Supply of their Captive Market". *ERC* has conducted a public consultation and received comments thereon. On September 28, 2018, the *ERC* posted on its website the second draft of the said Rules. *ERC* has conducted another round of public consultations and received comments thereon. On March 14, 2019, the *ERC* posted on its website the third draft of the said Rules. The *ERC* received comments thereon. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting the rules and procedures to be promulgated by the *ERC*.

On May 17, 2019, *MERALCO* received a copy of the *SC*'s Decision dated May 3, 2019 in the *ABP Case*. The Decision declared the first paragraph of Section 4 of *ERC* Resolution No. 13, Series of 2015 (*CSP* Guidelines), and *ERC* Resolution No. 1, Series of 2016 (*ERC* Clarificatory Resolution), as void. As such, all *PSA* applications submitted by *DUs* to the *ERC* on or after June 30, 2015 shall comply with the Competitive Selection Process and the purchased power cost resulting from such compliance shall retroact to the date of effectivity of the complying *PSA*, but in no case earlier than June 30, 2015, for purposes of passing on the purchased power cost to consumers. The Decision highlighted that the *ERC* does not have statutory authority to postpone effectivity date of *CSP*, and thereby cannot amend the 2015 *DOE Circular*. Consequently, the 90 *PSAs* submitted to the *ERC* after effectivity of *CSP* on or after June 30, 2015 cannot serve as basis to pass on purchased power cost to consumers; and the *ERC* must require *CSP* for all *PSA* applications submitted on or after June 30, 2015. Moreover, the Decision pronounced that, by virtue of *DOE*'s issuance of the *2018 DOE Circular* in February 2018, which contained the *DOE*'s guidelines on the implementation of *CSP*, the *DOE* revoked the authority it delegated to *ERC* to issue supplemental guidelines to implement *CSP*. *MERALCO* did not file a motion for reconsideration of the Decision.

In compliance with the *SC* Decision of the *ABP Case*, *MERALCO* constituted its *TPBAC* to conduct *CSP* in accordance with the *2018 DOE Circular* and its submitted Power Supply Procurement Plan for 2019. Three (3) Invitations to Bid inviting interested and qualified parties to participate in *MERALCO*'s *CSP* for 3 sets of *PSAs* involving (i) 1,200 MW baseload capacity by December 26, 2019, (ii) 500 MW mid-merit capacity by December 26, 2019, and (iii) 1,200 MW baseload capacity from greenfield power plant by 2024, were published on July 12, 15, and 16, 2019, respectively. On September 13, 2019, *MERALCO* signed 3 *PSAs* for baseload capacity with *AC Energy* for 200 MW, *SMEC* for 330 MW, and *SPPC* for 670 MW. On September 16, 2019, *MERALCO* signed 3 *PSAs* for mid-merit capacity with First Gen Hydro Power Corporation ("*First Gen Hydro*") for 100 MW, *AC Energy* for 110 MW, and *SPPC* for

290 MW. On October 22, 2019, the joint applications for approval of these 6 PSAs were filed before the ERC. Certain consumer groups intervened in the joint applications. In its letters to MERALCO, all dated December 23, 2019, the ERC granted provisional authority to implement MERALCO's 3 PSAs for baseload capacity with AC Energy, SPPC and SMEC. On January 16, 2020, SPPC and SMEC filed Urgent Ex-Parte Motions for Clarification with the ERC. On January 30, 2020, MERALCO received the orders of the ERC granting provisional authority to implement MERALCO's 2 PSAs for baseload and mid-merit capacity with AC Energy. On February 3, 2020, AC Energy wrote letters to ERC requesting for the urgent re-evaluation and reconsideration of the provisional authority rate for its PSAs with baseload and mid-merit capacity with MERALCO. On March 16, 2020, MERALCO received the orders of the ERC granting provisional authority to implement MERALCO's other four (4) PSAs for baseload capacity, with SPPC and SMEC, and mid-merit capacity, with FGHPC and SPPC. On March 31, 2020, MERALCO received the Motions for Reconsideration filed by SPPC and SMEC with the ERC. On June 1, 2020, MERALCO received the Orders of the ERC granting the Motions for Reconsideration filed by AC Energy, SPPC and SMEC. As at October 26, 2020, the six (6) PSA applications are submitted for resolution by the ERC.

With regard to the 1,200 MW baseload capacity from greenfield power plant by 2024, the CSP resulted in a failed bidding. After a series of consultations with the DOE for approval of the terms of reference, MERALCO updated its Distribution Development Plan ("DDP") and Power Supply Procurement Plan ("PSPP"), terminated the said CSP, and consolidated its baseload capacity requirements from greenfield power plants for 2024 and 2025. Thus, after approval of the DOE, on October 1, 2020, MERALCO instead published an Invitation to Bid for interested and qualified parties to participate in MERALCO's CSP for 1,800 MW baseload capacity from greenfield power plant by December 2024 and May 2025. As at October 26, 2020, the said CSP is on-going.

Meanwhile, after MERALCO announced or published its CSPs or Invitations to Bid for a total of 2,900 MW supply requirement last July 2019, representatives of the Bayan Muna partylist filed a petition with the SC on September 5, 2019 claiming that the 2018 DOE Circular, which repealed portions of the 2015 CSP Circular, is void for violating policies/provisions intended to protect consumers under EPIRA and the Constitution (the "*Bayan Muna Petition*"). The *Bayan Muna Petition* also sought for the issuance of TRO and/or writ of preliminary injunction to prevent continuation of the on-going CSPs of MERALCO and some electric cooperatives. On December 17, 2019, MERALCO filed its Comment to the *Bayan Muna Petition*.

True-up Adjustments of Fuel and Purchased Power Costs ("TAFPPC") and Foreign Exchange-Related Costs ("TAFxA")

On June 20, 2017, the ERC issued a Decision, a copy of which was received by MERALCO on December 29, 2017, authorizing PSALM to recover, within a 60-month period, the amount of ₱3,592 million in the Luzon grid, among others, as part of the TAFPPC and TAFxA; and directed all distribution utilities to comply with the directive.

On January 1, 2018, MERALCO filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration praying for the suspension of the Order and requesting that MERALCO be allowed to charge the recovery to all types of customers, regardless of whether they were covered or not during the relevant test periods. As at October 26, 2020, the ERC has yet to act on the Motion.

ECQ/MECQ due to Covid-19 Pandemic

On March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020, which declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to *Covid-19*. All citizens, residents, tourists and establishment owners were urged to act within the bounds of law and to comply with the lawful directives and advisories to be issued by appropriate government agencies to prevent further transmission of *Covid-19* and to ensure the safety and well-being of all.

On March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Proclamation No. 929, series of 2020, which: (a) declared a state of emergency throughout the Philippines for a period of six (6) months; and (b) imposed an *ECQ* on the entire Luzon island, which includes *MERALCO*'s franchise area, beginning March 16, 2020 until April 12, 2020.

In response thereto, the *ERC* issued an Advisory dated March 17, 2020 directing Generation Companies (*GenCos*) with *PSAs* with Luzon *DUs* and contracts with the *NGCP*; the Market Operator and the *NGCP* for the Transmission Charges to extend the period of payments of the Luzon *DUs* for thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020, without interest and penalties.

Similarly, the *ERC* directed *DUs* within Luzon to provide a one (1) month extension of payments for customer bills falling due on March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020. On March 16, 2020, *MERALCO* announced that it would provide a 30-day payment extension for bills due from March 1 to April 14, 2020.

On March 18, 2020, the *DOE* issued its own advisory, which provided:

- a. The *DOE* enjoined the fuel/resource suppliers of generating facilities throughout the country to extend the deadline of payment for a period of thirty (30) days.
- b. Extending the payments due to *PSALM*, *NPC*, *TransCo* and the *IEMOP* for a period of thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020, for the following:
 - i. *IPPA* Payments to *PSALM*, for both capacity and energy payments in the entire country;
 - ii. Universal Charges such as Stranded Contract Costs, Stranded Debt, Missionary Electrification (*NPC-SPUG* and Cash Incentive for RE Developers) and Environmental Charge for Watershed Rehabilitation and Management as administered by *PSALM* for the entire country;
 - iii. Payment of *DUs* to *NPC/PSALM* for deferred *GRAM* and *ICERA* in the entire country;
 - iv. *FIT* Allowance remittance to the *TransCo* of *DUs*, *RES* and Generators in the entire country;
 - v. Payments to the *IEMOP* from the generators, *RES* and *DUs* of their total trading amount and other charges.
- c. The immediate remittance of the *DOE* and the *GenCos* of their respective financial assistance to host beneficiaries (shares from electricity sales or the ER 1-94 Funds).
- d. Enjoined lessors of land of energy facilities in the entire country to extend payment of rentals for a period of thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020.

- e. Encouraged *LGUs* where energy facilities are located to extend the deadline for payment of the applicable local taxes, fees or charges; and
- f. Enjoined *DUs* throughout the country to give their electricity consumers a period of thirty (30) days extension of payment for bills falling due for the period of March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020.

In an Advisory dated March 26, 2020, the *ERC* issued the following directives in line with the *DOE's* Memorandum dated March 18, 2020:

1. All *DUs* and *RES* are directed to provide a 30-day extension of payments for customer electricity bills falling due on March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020, however, payments received during the said period are still required to be immediately remitted proportionately to the concerned entities;
2. Payment of all fees due to the generation companies, *PSALM*, *NPC*, *TransCo*, *NGCP* and the Market Operator (“*MO*”) from March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020 are extended for thirty (30) days from April 14, 2020, without interest and penalties;
3. For the safety of the meter readers and to comply with the physical distancing directive for the containment of *Covid-19*, Section 3.5.4 of the *DSOAR* on the utilization of estimated billing may be applied, provided that the word “*ESTIMATE*” be clearly written on the consumer bill and that corresponding adjustments be made as soon as practicable;
4. All *DUs* are reminded of their obligation to procure their power requirements in the least cost manner, taking into consideration all attendant circumstances, including the approved contract's minimum contracted capacity and fixed costs, and to ensure efficient and equitable utilization of their approved power supply contracts; and
5. All *DUs* are required to submit their power supply contract utilization report covering the period March 15, 2020 to April 14, 2020 not later than April 30, 2020.

On April 7, 2020, the Office of the President of the Republic of the Philippines through the Office of Executive Secretary issued a Memorandum extending the *ECQ* until April 30, 2020. The Memorandum directed “all concerned agencies” “to continue implementing existing guidelines relative to the *ECQ* during the period of extension, without prejudice to the President's discretion “on the relaxation of the implementation of the *ECQ* in certain areas” and to “grant exemptions in favor of certain sectors, as public health and food security considerations may warrant.”

On April 15, 2020, the *ERC* issued additional guidelines to electric power industry stakeholders, which include the following:

1. All applications, pleadings, compliances falling due on or before May 31, 2020 may submitted sixty (60) days from April 30, 2020.
2. The provisions of the *DSOAR* and the *Magna Carta* for the adjustment of bill deposits are suspended until further notice.
3. For the safety of the meter readers and to comply with the physical distancing directive for the containment of *Covid-19*, Section 3.5.4 of the *DSOAR* on the utilization of estimated billing may be applied, provided that the word “*ESTIMATE*” be clearly written on the consumer bill and that corresponding adjustments be made as soon as practicable.

4. Implementation of the *ERC* Orders dated December 5, 2019 relating to the confirmation of pass-through charges may be deferred until July 31, 2020.
5. All *DUs* and *RES* are directed to provide a grace period to all captive and contestable customers through the deferment of their electricity bill falling due within the period of the *ECQ* or from March 16, 2020 to April 30, 2020 without interest, penalties, fees and other charges. The cumulative amount of electricity bills that was supposed to have fallen due within the *ECQ* shall be amortized in four (4) equal monthly installments, payable in four (4) succeeding billing months following the end of the *ECQ*. Actual payments received by the *DU* during the *ECQ* period are still required to be immediately remitted proportionately to the concerned entities.
6. Generators, *PSALM*, *NPC*, *PSALM*, *TransCo*, *NGCP*, *IPPs*, *IPPAs* and the *MO* shall extend the same payment scheme to the *RES*, *DU* and other customers. Availment of Prompt Payment Discount (“*PPD*”) will be in accordance with the parties’ approved *PSA*.
7. The collection of the *FIT-All* from electricity customers is suspended for another billing period to be implemented on the next electricity bill to be issued by the collection agents.
8. All *DUs* are reminded of their obligation to procure their power requirements in the least cost manner, taking into consideration all attendant circumstances.
9. All *DUs* are required to submit power supply contract utilization report, record of payments received from customers, and record of payments made to suppliers covering the period March 16, 2020 to April 30, 2020 by May 31, 2020.

Under Executive Order No. 112, Series of 2020, President Duterte extended the *ECQ* in high risk areas, including National Capital Region (“*NCR*”) from May 1, 2020 to May 15, 2020. Thereafter, *Modified ECQ* (“*MECQ*”) was declared in high risk areas, including *NCR*, from May 15, 2020 until May 30, 2020.

On May 5, 2020, the *ERC* issued additional guidelines to electric power industry stakeholders, which include the following:

1. *DUs* and *RES* operating in areas that continue to be under the *ECQ* are directed to further extend the grace period for the payment of their consumers’ electricity bills falling due within the *ECQ* period of March 16 to May 15, 2020, without interest, penalties, fees and other charges. The directive on the amortization of payments in four (4) equal monthly installments, payable in the four (4) succeeding billing months following the end of the *ECQ* shall continue to be observed, but payments thereof by customers in areas covered by *ECQ* extension until May 15, 2020 shall commence no earlier than May 30, 2020;
2. *DUs* and *RES* that are operating in areas under the General Community Quarantine (“*GCQ*”) shall retain the grace period on the due date of their consumers’ electricity bills not earlier than May 15, 2020, without interest, penalties, fees and other charges. Similarly, the directive on the amortization of payments in four (4) equal monthly installments, payable in the four (4) succeeding billing months is hereby reiterated;
3. Actual payments received by the *DU* during the said period are still required to be immediately remitted proportionately to the concerned entities. Consequently, *DUs* are

authorized to adopt incentive schemes to encourage early payment of the deferred amount by customers who are able to settle ahead of the four (4) months;

4. The use of estimated billing pursuant to Section 3.5.4 of the Distribution Services and Open Access Rules ("*DSOAR*") to ensure the safety of meter readers and to comply with the physical distancing directive for the containment of *COVID-19* is being reiterated, provided that the word "*ESTIMATE*" be clearly written on the consumer bill and that corresponding adjustments be made as soon as practicable. The bill estimate should be based on the average of the consumers' billing of three months immediately preceding the *ECQ*;
5. Government entities that are contestable customers shall observe the regular payment schedule of their electricity bills starting May 16, 2020;
6. The Generators/Suppliers, *PSALM*, *NPC*, *TransCo*, *NGCP*, *IPPs* and *IPPAs* and the *MO* shall extend the same payment scheme as provided in the preceding paragraph, to the *RES*, *DU* and other customers, depending on whether such customer is operating under an *ECQ* or *GCQ*. Availment of *PPD* will still be in accordance with the parties' approved supply contract; and
7. The suspension of the *FIT-ALL* collection from electricity customers is applicable for March and April billing periods to be implemented on the next electricity bill to be issued by the Collection Agents.

On May 22, 2020, the *ERC* issued additional guidelines to electric power industry stakeholders, which include the following:

1. The collection of the Universal Charge-Environmental Charge ("*UC-EC*") equivalent to ₱0.0025 per *kWh* is hereby suspended until further notice;
2. *DUs* are directed to conduct actual meter readings and thereafter issue a new billing reflecting the actual consumption and the corresponding amount due, not later than June 8, 2020, except when actual reading is not possible due to the implementation of community quarantine;
3. *DUs* are directed to allow their electricity customers with monthly consumption of 200 *kWh* and below in February 2020, a staggered payment of up to six (6) equal monthly installments for their electricity bills falling due within the *ECQ* and *MECQ* periods, the first monthly amortization to be made not earlier than June 15, 2020, without penalties, interests and other fees;
4. For electricity customers with monthly consumption of 201 *kWh* and above in February 2020, *DUs* shall allow a staggered payment of up to four (4) equal monthly installments for their electricity bills falling due within the *ECQ* and *MECQ* periods, the first monthly amortization to be made not earlier than June 15, 2020, without penalties, interest and other fees;
5. Subsequent installments for bills referred to in No. 3 and 4 will be due every 15th of the month starting July 2020 until fully settled. For this purpose, the *DUs* shall notify their consumers of the monthly installment falling due; and

Electricity bills falling due in June 2020 shall be paid not earlier than June 30, 2020, without penalties, interest and other fees.

Meanwhile, on various dates beginning as early as March 16, 2020, *MERALCO* sent out notices of event of force majeure to power suppliers for its *ERC*-approved *PSAs* currently being implemented. These notices explained that based on the respective *PSAs* entered into by *MERALCO* and its power suppliers, *MERALCO* is entitled to claim relief by reason of an event of force majeure given the prevailing circumstances.

In the said letters, *MERALCO* pointed out to its power suppliers that the continued effect of the aforementioned Presidential Proclamations was a drastic and sudden drop in commercial and industrial demand, shaving typical captive peak demand, and as such, *MERALCO*'s captive customers cannot possibly absorb all available supply from its current *PSAs*. In various agreements, *MERALCO*'s power suppliers recognized that it would not be able to accept and/or purchase [a portion] of energy deliveries (and to make corresponding payments) on account of the continued effects of the event of force majeure.

On June 2, 2020, *MERALCO* received a copy of the Show Cause Order issued by the *ERC* directing it to submit its explanation on why it should not be held liable for alleged violations of the *ERC*'s directives under some of its advisories. *MERALCO* filed its Compliance and Explanation last June 29, 2020. In a Decision dated August 20, 2020, the *ERC* ordered *MERALCO* to pay a fine of ₱19 million and directed that the Distribution, Supply and Metering ("*DSM*") charges be set to zero for lifeline customers. On September 11, 2020, *MERALCO* paid the ₱19 million fine and filed a Motion for Partial Reconsideration with respect to the directive to set the *DSM* charges to zero for lifeline customers. As at October 26, 2020, the Motion for Partial Reconsideration is pending with the *ERC*. *MERALCO* implemented the directive to set the *DSM* charges to zero for lifeline customers in its October 2020 billing to customers subject to the resolution of its Motion for Partial Reconsideration.

On September 11, 2020, President Duterte signed into law Republic Act No. 11494, the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act ("*Bayanihan 2*") which serves as the government's second coronavirus pandemic relief measure. In an Advisory dated September 23, 2020, the *DOE* directed power sector entities to observe the grace period and staggered payment for unpaid bills provided under the *Bayanihan 2*. The *DOE* also requested the *ERC* to issue necessary procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the Advisory in line with the policies and purpose of the *Bayanihan 2*. As at October 26, 2020, *MERALCO* is awaiting the guidelines of the *ERC* on the implementation of *Bayanihan 2* for the electric power industry sector.

32. Notes to Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	September 30, 2020 (Unaudited)			December 31, 2019 (Audited)		
	Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	Notes payable	Dividends payable	Interest-bearing long-term financial liabilities	Notes payable	Dividends payable
	<i>(Amounts in millions)</i>					
Beginning balance	₱17,860	₱23,393	₱1,037	₱26,588	₱13,428	₱1,247
Payments	(471)	(98)	(16,745)	(8,712)	(283)	(18,008)
Availments	—	78	—	28	10,179	—
Dividend declarations	—	—	17,010	—	—	18,099
Preferred stock redemption	(5)	—	—	(8)	—	—
Reclassifications	—	—	—	(69)	69	—
Interest accretion	21	—	—	27	—	—
Others	—	—	—	6	—	(301)
Ending balance	₱17,405	₱23,373	₱1,302	₱17,860	₱23,393	₱1,037