

Keynote Address of  
**Honorable Secretary Angelo T. Reyes**  
Department of Energy

Unveiling of the 1<sup>st</sup> Philippine Solar Car  
Yuchengco Hall  
De la Salle University, Manila  
8 August 2007

COLLEAGUES IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE) SECTOR, FRIENDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, GOOD MORNING!

WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO WITNESS ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY SOLAR ENERGY.

AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE, WE UTILIZE SOLAR ENERGY IN ENERGIZING THE REMOTE BARANGAYS IN OUR COUNTRY THROUGH THE USE OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SYSTEMS SUCH AS SOLAR HOME SYSTEMS, BATTERY CHARGING STATIONS AND SOLAR LANTERNS. WE ALSO UTILIZE SOLAR PV WATER PUMPING SYSTEM IN PROVIDING POTABLE WATER, PV VACCINE REFRIGERATOR

FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, PV STREETLIGHTS AND PV VIDEO CINEMA FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

WE HAVE BEEN USING PV SOLAR POWER SYSTEMS FOR MINI-GRID AND WE HAVE A ONE (1) MW SOLAR POWER PLANT CONNECTED TO THE GRID PARTICULARLY IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AND IT IS OWNED BY THE CAGAYAN ELECTRIC POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, INC. (CEPALCO).

SOLAR PV IS A RELIABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY. IT IS BEING USED TO POWER SATELLITES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO LAST OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME.

AS AFFIRMED IN THE PHILIPPINE ENERGY PLAN 2007 UPDATE, THE PHILIPPINE ENERGY SECTOR IS GUIDED BY A TWO-FOLD DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: THAT OF ATTAINING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE (OR A SUSTAINED 60% SELF-SUFFICIENCY LEVEL) BY 2010 AND BEYOND, AND IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVELY THE VARIOUS PHASES OF

THE POWER REFORM PROGRAM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY REFORM ACT OF 2001.

IN SUPPORT OF THE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AGENDA, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY THRU ITS RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICY FRAMEWORK (REPF), HAS IDENTIFIED TWO LONG-TERM GOALS FOR RE DEVELOPMENT, NAMELY: (I) INCREASE RE-BASED CAPACITY BY 100 PERCENT WITH IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS (100/10); AND (II) INCREASE NON-POWER CONTRIBUTION OF RE TO THE ENERGY MIX BY 10 MILLION BARRELS OF FUEL OIL EQUIVALENT (MMBFOE) IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS.

IN SUPPORT OF THESE GENERAL GOALS, THE GOVERNMENT SHALL AIM TO (I) BE THE NUMBER ONE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PRODUCER IN THE WORLD; (II) BE THE NUMBER ONE WIND ENERGY PRODUCER IN SOUTHEAST ASIA; (III) DOUBLE HYDRO CAPACITY BY 2013; AND (IV) EXPAND CONTRIBUTION OF BIOMASS, SOLAR AND OCEAN ENERGY BY ABOUT 131 MW. THESE GOALS SERVE

AS CONCRETE BENCHMARKS FOR GOVERNMENT TO ADVANCE ITS VISION OF A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEM, WITH RE TAKING A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE PROCESS.

TODAY, WE ARE GOING TO UNVEIL THE FIRST EVER SOLAR-POWERED CAR DEVELOPED THROUGH THE COLLABORATION OF BUSINESS AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS THAT ADVOCATE THE PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

(THE SECRETARY MAY MENTION THE NAMES OF THESE INSTITUTIONS).

- Ford Group, Philippines
- Motolite
- Philippine Airlines
- San Miguel Corporation
- Shell
- Sunpower
- Ventus
- De La Salle University

THIS “SPECIAL” CAR WE ARE UNVEILING TODAY WOULD BE THE ENTRY OF OUR PHILIPPINE TEAM TO THE

WORLD SOLAR CHALLENGE TO BE HELD IN AUSTRALIA THIS COMING OCTOBER 2007. THIS ENTRY TO THE SAID EVENT WOULD SHOWCASE THE COUNTRY AS AN ADVOCATE OF SOLAR ENERGY AND SURELY WILL BRING PRIDE TO THE NATION AS IT JOINS THE RANKS OF TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF DESIGNING ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY VEHICLES. WE WILL BE FULLY SUPPORTING THE CONTINUOUS PARTICIPATION OF THE COUNTRY IN THIS BIENNIAL EVENT.

THE SOLAR-POWERED CAR WILL SHOWCASE THE TECHNICAL VIABILITY OF SOLAR TECHNOLOGY IN OUR TRANSPORT SECTOR. THIS WILL EVENTUALLY ERASE THE “SEEING IS BELIEVING” ATTITUDE OF THE FILIPINOS ON THE CAPABILITY OF SOLAR AND ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRANSPORT PURPOSES.

WE HOPE THAT THIS BUSINESS-ACADEME PARTNERSHIP WILL FLOURISH AND SPUR THE

DEVELOPMENT OF A SOLAR-POWERED CAR MODEL THAT SUITS THE FINANCIAL CAPACITY OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE AS WELL AS OUR ASIAN NEIGHBORS.

OUR SUCCESS TODAY WILL NOT BE COMPLETE WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE PHILIPPINE SOLAR CAR CHALLENGE SOCIETY; THEY HAVE MADE HEADWAYS IN LEADING US TO RE VEHICLES. VINCE PEREZ, ED CHUA, HENRY CO, BOBBY KANAPI, TAMMY LIPANA, AND GREG REICHOW AND THE COUNTLESS INDIVIDUALS WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIETY IS INVALUABLE. OUR OTHER SPONSORS IN THIS ENDEAVOUR SUCH AS AURORA, CABRERA LAVADIA AND ASSOCIATES, JWT, CREASIA, MERRITT PARTNERS, TUASON TRAINING SCHOOL, GOCHERMANN SOLAR TECHNOLOGY, AND STRATWORKS, MAKE THIS UNVEILING VERY MEANINGFUL IN LIGHT OF THE POOLED EFFORTS FROM THE DIFFERENT SECTORS OF SOCIETY.

A TECHNICALLY VIABLE AND FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE SOLAR-POWERED CARS COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY GOAL. IT WOULD GENERATE FOREIGN SAVINGS FROM ITS DISPLACED IMPORTED FOSSIL FUELS THEREBY REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THAT HARM THE ENVIRONMENT. MOREOVER, WE FORESEE THE IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY THRU THE BENEFITS IT WOULD GENERATE THRU THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM (CDM) OF THE KYOTO PROTOCOL.

WE COMMEND TEAM SINAG FOR THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS IN COMPLETING THE FIRST SOLAR POWERED CAR. THE PHILIPPINES HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHING MUCH IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA, AND IT IS HIGH TIME FOR US TO ACHIEVE IN TECHNOLOGY. WE NEED TO RAISE THE AWARENESS OF THE FILIPINOS THAT PV CAN BE UTILIZED IN POWERING AUTOMOTIVES. THIS CAR IS A PROOF OF THE FACT THAT FILIPINOS CAN WORK

TOGETHER IN HARMONY AND PRODUCING A  
MASTERPIECE IN BOTH DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY.

WE ARE HOPING THAT THE FIRST SOLAR-POWERED  
CAR IN THE PHILIPPINES WOULD BE THE BEGINNING AND A  
“WAKE-UP CALL” FOR OTHER PLAYERS TO JOIN, FOR THE  
CONTINUOUS QUEST ON THE VIABLE ADOPTION OF THE  
TECHNOLOGY AS SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL  
GOVERNMENT’S THRUST OF ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY  
AND ENERGY INDEPENDENCE.

REST ASSURED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
IS FULLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORT THIS KIND OF  
ENDEAVOUR.

FINALLY, LET ME EXTEND MY SINCEREST GRATITUDE  
TO THE PRIME MOVERS TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE FIRST SOLAR-POWERED CAR THAT USES THE SOLAR  
WAFERS MANUFACTURED IN THE COUNTRY BY

SUNPOWER. THE CAR USES THE MOST EFFICIENT SOLAR  
CELLS IN THE WORLD.

MARAMING SALAMAT AT MABUHAY PO TAYONG  
LAHAT!