REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL No. 619

Introduced by REP. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to grant to the residents of the region where a geothermal power plant is located, a thirty (30) percent discount on the rate of their electric consumption.

The country is the second biggest geothermal energy producer in the world. Since the issuance on June 11, 1978 of Presidential Decree No. 1442, entitled "An Act to Promote the Exploration and Development of Geothermal Resources" which offered incentives for the development of geothermal resources, many geothermal plants have been constructed throughout the country. However, these plants have contributed to the pollution of the areas where they are located. The emissions from the geothermal plants pose risk to health, properties, environment and crops of the residents in the area.

A geothermal plant directly affects the health of the inhabitants of the region where it is located. It likewise, poses grave danger to the environment and ecology of the region, and the government does not have a comprehensive program that will protect the environment and the inhabitants of the place where a geothermal plant is located.

To compensate the threat posed by these plants, this Bill proposes that the residents of the region be given a discounted rate for the use of electricity from the geothermal plant located in their region. When we talk about region, we are referring to the political regions of the Philippines

numbered I to XII including the autonomous regions and the National Capital Region. This is the least government can do for the people of the region who sacrifice so much in the name of progress. Those who are prejudiced would thereby be granted incentives.

Passage of this Bill is earnestly recommended.

FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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AN ACT
GRANTING TO RESIDENTS OF A REGION WHERE A GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PLANT IS LOCATED A THIRTY PERCENT (30%) DISCOUNT ON THEIR POWER RATE CONSUMPTION

Be it enacted by SENATE and HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Residents of the region where geothermal plant is located shall be entitled to Thirty (30%) percent discount on their power rate consumption.

SECTION 2. Definition of Region.— In contemplation of this Act, a region shall correspond to the Numerical Region currently in use including the autonomous regions and the National Capital Region.

SECTION 3. The Energy Regulatory Board shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. All laws, executive orders, decrees, and, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect one month after it is published in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,