

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session**

House Bill No. 11296



Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines continues to face high and volatile electricity costs. Households, farms, businesses, industries, and local communities remain exposed to imported-fuel price shocks, supply disruptions, natural disasters, and constraints in centralized power systems. Renewable energy technologies—particularly rooftop and on-site solar, battery storage, micro-hydro, biomass, and small wind systems—now allow electricity consumers to produce a substantial part of their own requirements. Yet many willing end-users are still discouraged by fragmented permits, uncertain interconnection rules, duplicative product requirements, limited financing, and delay in the approval and installation of net-metering facilities.

Republic Act No. 9513, or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008, established net metering and other mechanisms for renewable energy development. Republic Act No. 9136, or the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001, likewise recognizes the need for reliable, secure, and affordable electricity. The next step is to make distributed renewable energy practical and accessible not only for households and small businesses, but also for farms, cooperatives, communities, large enterprises, and economic-zone locators that seek to generate electricity primarily for their own use.

This bill establishes a coherent national framework for “Sariling Kuryente.” It recognizes the right of qualified end-users to install and operate renewable energy systems for self-consumption, while preserving legitimate requirements for electrical safety, structural integrity, environmental protection, and grid reliability. The measure replaces an obsolete one-size-fits-all capacity approach with a connected-load framework: up to two hundred percent (200%) of verified connected load for systems without qualifying storage, and up to four hundred percent (400%) for systems with adequate energy storage, subject to technical standards.

The measure also provides a fairer net-metering design. Electricity exported within a billing period offsets an equivalent amount of electricity imported on a one-kilowatt-hour-to-one-kilowatt-hour basis. Exports beyond the consumer's imports are credited at the applicable blended generation charge. Clear billing, carryover, and limited transfer rules are required, while the Energy Regulatory Commission retains authority to prevent double recovery and protect non-participating consumers.

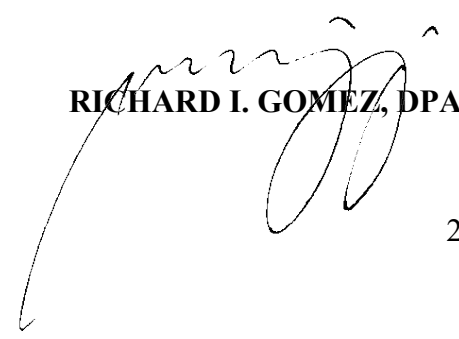
Permitting is simplified through a nationally uniform Unified Solar Permit, a single checklist, consolidated notices of deficiency, time-bound action, and a review pathway when a local office fails to act. The bill recognizes accredited domestic and international product certifications, discourages duplicative testing, establishes stronger post-market surveillance and warranty enforcement, and directs the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority to build a certified renewable-energy workforce. These safeguards are intended to expand deployment without tolerating unsafe equipment or unqualified installers.

The bill further clarifies ownership of renewable energy certificates, creates financing windows subject to applicable fiduciary and public-finance laws, supports solarization of public facilities, and directs distribution utilities and system operators to plan for progressively higher renewable-energy hosting capacity. Ordinary network upgrades needed to meet approved hosting-capacity obligations are treated as utility system investments subject to ERC review, while purely applicant-specific facilities are governed by transparent and uniform cost-allocation rules. Distribution utilities may not use unsupported claims of grid saturation to defeat an application.

Finally, the measure strengthens accountability. It prohibits unjustified delay, discriminatory requirements, unauthorized charges, falsified records, deceptive sales practices, and interference with lawful renewable-energy systems. Affected consumers may claim compensation for demonstrable loss of use caused by delay beyond prescribed periods, subject to fair exceptions and procedures. An inter-agency coordinating council, assisted by consumer, industry, labor, and technical representatives, will address implementation problems and report to Congress.

By allowing Filipinos to produce more of the electricity they use, the State can lower exposure to volatile power prices, improve resilience, encourage domestic investment, create skilled green jobs, and reduce pressure on the national grid. Sariling Kuryente is therefore both a consumer-protection measure and a practical national energy-security strategy.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA

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**AN ACT
PROMOTING “SARILING KURYENTE” BY RECOGNIZING AND EMPOWERING
HOUSEHOLDS, COMMUNITIES, FARMS, ENTERPRISES, ECONOMIC-ZONE
LOCATORS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, AND OTHER END-USERS TO
GENERATE, STORE, AND USE ELECTRICITY FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY
SOURCES PRIMARILY FOR SELF-CONSUMPTION; ESTABLISHING SIMPLIFIED
PERMITTING, INTERCONNECTION, NET-METERING, FINANCING,
WORKFORCE-DEVELOPMENT, CONSUMER-PROTECTION, AND GRID-
INTEGRATION MECHANISMS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION 1. *Short Title.*

This Act shall be known as the “Sariling Kuryente Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*

It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and secure electricity; reduce exposure to volatile imported-fuel prices and external supply disruptions; and advance the development and use of indigenous and renewable energy resources.

The State shall empower private citizens, households, communities, farms, cooperatives, enterprises of all sizes, economic-zone locators, local government units, and other end-users to generate, store, and use electricity primarily for their own consumption. It shall remove unnecessary regulatory, bureaucratic, technical, and financial barriers while preserving reasonable standards for public safety, consumer protection, environmental protection, and grid reliability.

SEC. 3. *Objectives.*

The objectives of this Act are to:

- a. reduce electricity costs and exposure to price volatility through lawful self-generation;
- b. expand access to distributed renewable energy and energy storage for residential, agricultural, commercial, industrial, institutional, and public uses;
- c. establish clear, uniform, proportionate, and time-bound permitting and interconnection requirements;
- d. provide fair and transparent compensation for electricity exported to the distribution system;
- e. develop a technically competent and certified Filipino renewable-energy workforce and create green employment and livelihood opportunities;
- f. improve grid resilience and hosting capacity for distributed generation; and
- g. protect consumers against unsafe equipment, unqualified installers, deceptive practices, discriminatory treatment, and unjustified delay.

SEC. 4. *Scope and Application.*

This Act shall apply to qualified end-users and distributed renewable energy systems located within the Philippines, whether grid-connected or off-grid, including systems installed in residences, farms, commercial and industrial premises, economic zones, common areas, public buildings, and community facilities.

This Act covers planning, financing, installation, ownership, leasing, operation, maintenance, upgrading, storage, interconnection, metering, and the lawful export or crediting of surplus electricity. It shall not apply to a generation facility constructed or operated primarily for wholesale commercial sale, participation as a merchant generator in the wholesale electricity spot market, or public-utility service without the franchise, license, or authority required by law.

SEC. 5. *Definition of Terms.*

For purposes of this Act:

- a. ***“Blended generation charge”*** means the distribution utility’s average generation charge for the relevant billing period, calculated under a uniform methodology approved by the

Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), excluding transmission, distribution, system-loss, subsidy, tax, and other non-generation charges.

b. ***“Connected load”*** means the total rated electrical load of the host installation connected or authorized to be connected at the applicable point of connection, as verified under standards prescribed by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the ERC.

c. ***“Dedicated connection facilities”*** means facilities used solely to connect a particular qualified system and which do not provide a material capacity, reliability, or service benefit to other grid users.

d. ***“Distributed renewable energy system”*** means a renewable-energy generation facility, with or without energy storage, installed at or near the point of use and intended primarily to serve the host installation’s own electricity requirements.

e. ***“Distribution utility” or “DU”*** has the meaning assigned under Republic Act No. 9136 and includes an electric cooperative performing distribution functions.

f. ***“Energy storage system”*** means equipment capable of receiving, storing, and subsequently delivering electrical energy, and which complies with applicable safety, performance, and interconnection standards.

g. ***“Hosting capacity”*** means the amount of distributed energy resources that may be interconnected with a feeder, substation, or system without exceeding applicable safety, power-quality, protection, and reliability limits, taking into account feasible operational controls and approved upgrades.

h. ***“Qualified end-user”*** means a natural or juridical person, household, homeowners’ association, condominium corporation, farm, cooperative, community organization, indigenous cultural community, local institution, enterprise, economic-zone locator, local government unit, or government entity that owns, leases, controls, or intends to use a qualified system primarily for self-consumption.

i. ***“Qualified system”*** means a distributed renewable energy system covered by this Act that satisfies the capacity, equipment, permitting, safety, metering, and interconnection requirements applicable to it.

j. ***“Renewable Energy Certificate” or “REC”*** means the certificate representing the renewable and environmental attributes of renewable electricity, as recognized under Republic Act No. 9513 and applicable rules.

k. ***“Self-powered consumer”*** means a qualified end-user that generates renewable electricity primarily for its own electricity requirements, whether or not connected to a distribution system and whether or not it exports surplus electricity.

l. ***“Unified Solar Permit”*** means the nationally standardized and consolidated local authorization established under Section 11 of this Act for qualified rooftop or on-site solar and associated energy-storage installations.

SEC. 6. *Right to Renewable-Energy Self-Generation.*

A qualified end-user may install, own, lease, operate, maintain, and upgrade a qualified system for self-consumption and may store, export, credit, assign, or otherwise use surplus electricity only in the manner allowed by this Act and other applicable laws and rules. No franchise shall be required solely for self-generation and authorized export under an ERC-approved net-metering or distributed-energy arrangement.

The exercise of this right shall remain subject to lawful requirements concerning electrical and structural safety, professional practice, fire safety, environmental protection, metering, grid interconnection, and reliability. Such requirements shall be proportionate to the size, technology, location, and demonstrated risk of the installation and shall not be used as a disguised prohibition against self-generation.

SEC. 7. *Capacity Thresholds.*

The nameplate capacity of a qualified system shall not exceed:

- a. two hundred percent (200%) of the verified connected load of the host installation where the system is not coupled with a qualifying energy storage system; or
- b. four hundred percent (400%) of the verified connected load of the host installation where the system is coupled with a qualifying energy storage system of sufficient capacity and capability under DOE and ERC standards.

For an off-grid host installation, the connected load shall be determined from the certified as-built load schedule and reasonably anticipated demand. Connected load shall not be inflated for the purpose of evading this Section. The DOE and ERC shall prescribe measurement, documentation, anti-gaming, storage-performance, protection, export-control, and verification requirements.

Export, storage, sharing, crediting, or sale of surplus electricity under an authorized arrangement shall not by itself change the system's self-consumption character. Notwithstanding a lower capacity limit in an administrative issuance, participation in net metering under this Act shall be governed by the thresholds in this Section, subject to technical screening and system-safety requirements.

CHAPTER II

PERMITTING, INTERCONNECTION, AND MARKET PARTICIPATION

SEC. 8. *Simplified Interconnection and Net-Metering Process.*

The ERC, in coordination with the DOE, the National Electrification Administration (NEA), and stakeholders, shall establish a single national interconnection and net-metering

application, a uniform documentary checklist, transparent fees, standardized agreements, risk-based technical screens, and electronic filing and tracking.

Within five (5) working days from receipt, the DU shall either acknowledge completeness or issue one consolidated written notice identifying each deficiency and its legal or technical basis. A complete standard application that passes the applicable technical screen shall be acted upon within fifteen (15) working days. A non-standard application requiring a detailed study shall be finally acted upon within sixty (60) calendar days, unless a longer period is justified by extraordinary technical complexity and approved by the ERC.

A denial or condition of approval shall be written, supported by system-specific data, and accompanied by the least-cost technically feasible corrective option. Unsupported statements of grid saturation, transformer limitation, or hosting-capacity exhaustion shall not constitute sufficient grounds for denial.

SEC. 9. *Fair Net-Metering and Energy Credits.*

A self-powered consumer participating in net metering shall receive a one (1) kilowatt-hour to one (1) kilowatt-hour offset for electricity exported to and electricity imported from the distribution system within the same billing period, up to the quantity imported during that period. Charges that are fixed, non-bypassable, or not avoided by self-generation may continue to be imposed as determined by the ERC.

Exports exceeding imports during the billing period shall be recorded as excess energy credits valued at the applicable blended generation charge. Credits shall be carried forward. At the consumer's option and subject to ERC rules, unused credits may be carried into the succeeding calendar year or transferred to another eligible service account of the same consumer or a designated beneficiary within the same DU service area, provided that metering, verification, consumer-protection, and anti-fraud requirements are satisfied.

The electricity bill shall separately state electricity imported, electricity exported, the one-to-one offset, excess exports credited at the blended generation charge, fixed and non-bypassable charges, credits applied, and the remaining credit balance. The ERC shall adopt safeguards against double recovery, hidden cross-subsidies, discriminatory charges, and impairment of valid credits.

SEC. 10. *Ownership of Renewable Energy Certificates.*

The owner of a qualified system shall own the RECs and other separable environmental attributes arising from electricity generated by that system, whether consumed on-site or lawfully exported, unless expressly assigned through a written agreement. A DU shall not acquire such attributes merely by reason of its franchise, interconnection, or the crediting of exported electricity.

The DOE, ERC, and the renewable-energy market operator shall establish accessible registration, aggregation, issuance, transfer, and trading procedures for small and distributed systems. No REC shall be issued, transferred, retired, or claimed more than once, and receipt of a tariff, subsidy, or other benefit shall be disclosed and treated consistently with applicable additionality and market rules.

SEC. 11. *Unified Solar Permit.*

The DOE, jointly with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), ERC, and other relevant agencies, shall establish a nationally uniform Unified Solar Permit for qualified rooftop and on-site solar photovoltaic systems and associated energy storage. The permit shall consolidate local applications, clearances, inspections, and documentary requirements to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The national checklist shall constitute the minimum and maximum local documentary requirements, except for an additional requirement expressly authorized by law and justified in writing by a site-specific structural, electrical, fire-safety, environmental, or other material public-safety concern. A local government unit (LGU) shall not require an applicant to remedy an unrelated historical deficiency in the building or property merely because a renewable-energy system is proposed, unless the deficiency creates a demonstrable material risk directly affected by the installation.

A complete standard application shall be acted upon within fifteen (15) working days. Any deficiency shall be communicated once, in a consolidated written notice, within five (5) working days from receipt. Substantially identical documents shall not be demanded by multiple local offices. Fees shall be reasonable, published, cost-based, and limited to those authorized by law.

SEC. 12. *Failure to Act and Review.*

For a low-risk standard installation that is supported by plans and certifications signed by the professionals required by law, failure of the LGU to issue a decision or a timely deficiency notice within the period prescribed in Section 11 shall constitute deemed approval for local administrative purposes, without waiving electrical, fire-safety, professional, environmental, or DU interconnection requirements imposed by national law.

For any other installation, or where an LGU refuses to recognize deemed approval, the applicant may seek expedited review from a DOE-DILG Renewable Energy Permitting Desk. The Desk shall resolve the matter within ten (10) working days, may direct the LGU to act, and may certify compliance with the national documentary requirements. The DILG shall maintain a complaint and compliance mechanism and may pursue administrative action for repeated imposition of unauthorized requirements.

SEC. 13. *Equipment Standards, Market Access, and Consumer Protection.*

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through the Bureau of Philippine Standards, shall implement a risk-based and technology-neutral conformity-assessment and market-surveillance framework for renewable-energy and energy-storage equipment.

Valid test reports and certificates issued by competent domestic or foreign bodies accredited under internationally recognized arrangements shall be recognized as evidence of compliance with applicable Philippine National Standards or equivalent safety and performance requirements. Duplicative testing shall not be required unless justified by a documented risk assessment, credible evidence of non-compliance, or a mandatory requirement that cannot lawfully be satisfied through recognition of such evidence.

Nothing in this Act shall automatically exempt a product from a PS Mark, Import Commodity Clearance, or other certification validly made mandatory by law. The DTI shall, however, simplify and expedite compliance, recognize appropriate international standards where a current Philippine standard is unavailable, and establish a Green Lane for complete applications.

Manufacturers, importers, distributors, dealers, and sellers shall honor warranties and truthful performance representations. The DTI shall maintain complaint, recall, corrective-action, and enforcement mechanisms and shall strengthen post-market inspection and testing of unsafe, defective, falsely represented, or materially non-compliant products.

SEC. 14. *Customs Facilitation.*

The Bureau of Customs (BOC), in coordination with the DOE and DTI, shall establish Green Lanes and risk-based expedited procedures for renewable-energy and energy-storage equipment supported by complete import and conformity documents. Facilitation under this Section shall not exempt payment of lawful duties and taxes or compliance with customs, safety, consumer-protection, and anti-smuggling laws.

CHAPTER III INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT, FINANCING, AND GRID DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 15. *Renewable-Energy Workforce Development.*

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in consultation with the DOE, Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Board of Electrical Engineering, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), industry, labor, training institutions, LGUs, and consumer organizations, shall establish and regularly update nationwide competency standards and training regulations for distributed renewable-energy and storage-system installation, commissioning, inspection, testing, operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and occupational safety.

A person performing regulated electrical or engineering work shall possess the license required by law. For work not reserved exclusively to a licensed professional, the installer or technician shall hold the applicable TESDA National Certificate or Certificate of Competency. Nothing in this Act authorizes a person to perform an act reserved by law to a licensed professional.

TESDA shall provide recognition-of-prior-learning pathways, regional and mobile training, scholarships and assessment support, industry apprenticeships, and employment or livelihood linkages, with priority for out-of-school youth, unemployed and underemployed persons, returning overseas Filipino workers, displaced workers, rural communities, and island communities. It shall establish or integrate a publicly accessible registry of certified renewable-energy installers and technicians, subject to data-privacy laws.

SEC. 16. *Financing and Lawful Incentives.*

Subject to their respective charters, fiduciary duties, actuarial requirements, credit standards, applicable laws, and availability of funds:

- a. the DOE may use legally available portions of the Renewable Energy Trust Fund for technical assistance, capacity building, project preparation, guarantees, or grants for eligible LGU and community renewable-energy projects consistent with Republic Act No. 9513;
- b. the Social Security System (SSS) and Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) may establish affordable green-loan programs for qualified members;
- c. the Land Bank of the Philippines and Development Bank of the Philippines shall establish or expand financing windows, guarantees, credit enhancements, and technical-assistance facilities for households, farms, cooperatives, communities, enterprises, economic-zone locators, LGUs, and public institutions; and
- d. programs may receive appropriations, grants, concessional finance, official development assistance, climate finance, green bonds, carbon finance, and other lawful sources.

A self-generation installation shall not, by itself, cause the reclassification of a residential, agricultural, commercial, or industrial property or the imposition of a new local tax, fee, or surcharge not otherwise authorized by law. Existing tax treatment and renewable-energy incentives under Republic Act No. 9513, the Local Government Code, and other laws shall continue to apply.

SEC. 17. *Public, Community, Agricultural, and Indigenous Energy Projects.*

LGUs and national government agencies may solarize or install other qualified systems in public schools, markets, transport terminals, health facilities, hospitals, evacuation centers, government offices, water systems, irrigation and post-harvest facilities, and other public or community infrastructure, subject to procurement, budgeting, accounting, auditing, and technical-safety laws.

The DOE, Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Department of Human Settlements and Development (DHSUD), Department of Agriculture (DA), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and other relevant agencies shall develop model governance, financing, metering, benefit-sharing, operation, and maintenance arrangements for homeowners' associations, condominiums, cooperatives, farmers' organizations, community projects, and indigenous cultural communities. Projects affecting indigenous peoples shall comply with Republic Act No. 8371 and respect customary governance and free, prior, and informed consent where required.

SEC. 18. *Grid Hosting Capacity and Modernization.*

The DOE and ERC shall establish staged national and system-specific targets toward the capability to accommodate variable renewable-energy penetration of up to seventy percent (70%), where technically and economically feasible. The target is a planning and modernization objective and shall not be construed as authority to compromise public safety, power quality, protection coordination, or reliability.

DUs, National Transmission Corporation (TransCo), and the system operator, as applicable, shall regularly conduct and publish appropriately aggregated hosting-capacity studies and shall include cost-effective smart-grid systems, protection upgrades, voltage control, bidirectional metering, energy storage, and other enabling investments in their development and capital-expenditure plans. The ERC shall adopt performance standards and require transparent, system-specific evidence for any interconnection restriction.

SEC. 19. *Allocation of Interconnection and Upgrade Costs.*

A qualified end-user shall not be charged for an ordinary network reinforcement, transformer upgrade, protection modernization, or other improvement that is required to meet a DU's approved hosting-capacity obligation or that materially benefits other grid users. Such investment may be included in an ERC-approved capital-expenditure program only upon proof of prudence, necessity, least cost, and consumer benefit.

The applicant may be charged for dedicated connection facilities and the reasonable incremental cost caused solely by the particular installation, pursuant to a uniform ERC-approved methodology and published schedule. The DU shall disclose the engineering basis, itemized cost, ownership, useful life, and any future reimbursement or cost-sharing mechanism. No upgrade charge shall be imposed on the basis of an unsupported or generalized assertion of transformer or feeder limitation.

SEC. 20. *Inter-Agency Coordinating Council.*

There is hereby created an Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Sariling Kuryente chaired by the Secretary of Energy, with representatives from the ERC, DTI, DILG, DPWH, BFP, BOC, TESDA, PRC, DOLE, Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Budget and

Management (DBM), NEA, CDA, DHSUD, DA, NCIP, Board of Investments, Philippine Economic Zone Authority, Land Bank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, and other agencies necessary to implement this Act.

The Council shall include, as non-voting advisory members selected through transparent criteria, representatives of residential and business consumers, electric cooperatives and other DUs, renewable-energy developers and installers, professional and labor organizations, financing institutions, academe, environmental and civil-society organizations, indigenous peoples, and other affected sectors. No specific private organization shall be guaranteed a permanent seat.

The Council shall coordinate policy, resolve implementation bottlenecks, monitor agency and LGU compliance, publish annual performance data, and submit an annual report to the President and Congress.

SEC. 21. *Education, Technical Assistance, and Consumer Protection.*

The DOE, in coordination with relevant agencies and stakeholders, shall provide plain-language information on system selection, safety, warranties, financing, permits, interconnection, billing, credits, RECs, complaints, and dispute resolution. Programs shall be accessible to households, Homeowners Associations (HOAs), farms, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), large enterprises, economic-zone locators, LGUs, public institutions, indigenous communities, and other qualified end-users.

No seller, installer, financier, lessor, aggregator, DU, or other person shall engage in deceptive, fraudulent, coercive, or materially misleading advertising, pricing, performance claims, financing terms, billing, or contractual practices. Standard contracts shall clearly disclose total cost, expected performance assumptions, warranties, maintenance obligations, financing charges, ownership of equipment and RECs, interconnection risks, and complaint mechanisms.

CHAPTER IV PROHIBITED ACTS, ENFORCEMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

SEC. 22. *Prohibited Acts.*

The following acts are prohibited:

- a. unreasonably refusing, delaying, obstructing, or imposing an unsupported condition upon a qualified permit, interconnection, inspection, meter, or net-metering application;
- b. imposing discriminatory, duplicative, unpublished, or unauthorized requirements, charges, standby fees, minimum-consumption requirements, or penalties;
- c. using anti-competitive conduct to restrict lawful self-generation, authorized aggregation, energy sharing, or export;

- d. tampering with, damaging, disconnecting, or interfering with an authorized system, meter, storage facility, or associated equipment without lawful authority;
- e. falsifying applications, permits, certifications, metering data, production records, billing records, or conformity documents;
- f. misappropriating RECs, credits, grants, tax incentives, or other benefits;
- g. selling, installing, or representing equipment or services through a materially false, fraudulent, unsafe, or deceptive claim; and
- h. retaliating against an applicant or consumer for filing a lawful complaint or asserting a right under this Act.

SEC. 23. *Enforcement and Administrative Penalties.*

The ERC shall have jurisdiction over violations by DUs, retail electricity suppliers, metering service providers, and other entities within its regulatory authority. The DOE, DTI, DILG, PRC, TESDA, BOC, and other agencies shall enforce matters within their respective mandates. Proceedings shall observe notice and opportunity to be heard.

A responsible regulated entity or juridical person may be ordered to cease and desist, process or correct an application, refund or credit an unlawful charge, restore a right or service, replace or recall unsafe equipment, submit to compliance monitoring, and pay an administrative fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) for each violation. A continuing violation after receipt of a final lawful compliance order may be fined up to Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) for each day, subject to an aggregate administrative cap of Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00) for the same continuing act.

The responsible officers of a juridical entity shall be administratively liable only upon proof of their direct participation, authorization, gross negligence, or knowing failure to prevent or correct the violation. A public officer or employee who willfully violates this Act shall be subject to applicable civil-service, administrative, anti-graft, and other laws. Fraud, falsification, theft, tampering, smuggling, and other criminal acts shall be prosecuted under applicable penal laws. Remedies under this Section are without prejudice to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies, but double recovery for the same injury shall not be allowed.

SEC. 24. *Compensation for Loss of Use Due to Unjustified Delay.*

When a DU, LGU, permitting authority, or other responsible entity unjustifiably fails to act on a complete application within the period prescribed by this Act, and final action has not been taken within sixty (60) calendar days from receipt of the complete application, the affected consumer may claim compensation beginning on the sixty-first (61st) day for the demonstrable loss of use attributable to the delay.

Compensation shall equal the reasonable value of electricity that the qualified system would have produced and the consumer would have used to avoid electricity purchases, plus the value of exports that would have qualified for credit, during the compensable period. Avoided consumption shall be valued at the ERC-determined avoidable retail rate; eligible exports shall be valued under the applicable net-metering or crediting mechanism. Estimated production shall use the approved or as-built capacity, location, orientation, equipment specifications, publicly available resource data, and standardized system-loss assumptions. The ERC shall prescribe a simplified method for residential and small systems and shall prevent double recovery.

No compensation shall accrue for a period directly and materially caused by an incomplete application timely identified in writing, the applicant's act or requested material modification, force majeure, a documented and bona fide safety or reliability threat, or a lawful court or agency order. Administrative backlog, internal routing, lack of coordination, or failure to schedule an inspection shall not by itself excuse delay. Payment shall be made within thirty (30) calendar days after final determination and may be credited to the consumer's bill when the liable entity is a DU.

SEC. 25. Reports and Congressional Oversight.

The DOE and ERC shall maintain public dashboards showing application volumes, processing times, approvals and denials, reasons for denial, installed capacity, exports, credits, complaints, enforcement, workforce certifications, hosting-capacity indicators, and consumer impacts, while protecting personal and commercially sensitive information.

The Joint Congressional Energy Commission created under Republic Act No. 9136 shall exercise oversight over implementation of this Act. The Inter-Agency Coordinating Council shall submit its first report within one (1) year from effectivity and annually thereafter.

CHAPTER V FINAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 26. Appropriations.

The amounts necessary for initial implementation shall be charged against the current appropriations of the concerned agencies, subject to existing budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 27. Implementing Rules and Regulations.

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOE, in coordination with the ERC and all concerned agencies, and after public consultation, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations. Failure to issue the rules within the prescribed period shall not suspend provisions of this Act that are complete and capable of implementation without such rules.

SEC. 28. *Separability Clause.*

If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 29. *Repealing Clause.*

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

SEC. 30. *Effectivity.*

This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,