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**MEDIA INTERVIEW BY PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. AT THE INSPECTION
OF THE SIKUIJOR ISLAND POWER CORPORATION (SIPCOR) POWER PLANT**

[Held in Barangay Candanay Sur, Municipality of Siquijor, Province of Siquijor | 11 June 2025]

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Nandito kami dahil napakalaking problema ang dinadanas ng ating mga kababayan dito sa Siquijor dahil nga sa kakulangan ng pag-provide ng kuryente, ng power.

At nagkaroon ng sitwasyon na napakahaba ng blackout. Kung minsan ay ‘yung mga ibang residences, may kuryente sila dalawang oras lang, limang oras lang sa isang araw.

Kaya binago na namin ‘yun so because it is – this situation... The people are – the ones – the victims of this situation are the ordinary people of Siquijor. And they cannot go about their business. Iyon pa naman Siquijor is growing so quickly at nagiging tourist destination ang Siquijor. They are losing that opportunity to develop dahil nga dito sa kakulangan ng kuryente.

Kaya ang ginawa natin, at least in the short term, in the short term nagpapunta tayo rito ng mga genset, na malalaking genset, dalawang genset galing Palawan. Naayos naman ‘yung problema doon kaya puwede nang dalhin dito.

The gensets are arriving tonight and tomorrow. So, pagka naikabit na ‘yun at mapaandar na ‘yun, kumpleto na ang supply.

But this is a temporary – that will be a temporary solution. Kailangan natin makahanap ng permanent solution para ‘yung SIPCOR ay ‘yung kanilang commitment para mag-provide ng kuryente sa tao to the cooperative... The cooperative is paying SIPCOR properly.

At we have to coordinate the different power plants na sa ngayon ay hindi pa nagagawa.

Ito nga kung titingnan natin itong planta, medyo hindi masyadong maganda ang maintenance.

Kaya nakikita natin papaano nangyari ito na hanggang ngayon ay hindi natin – hindi tayo makapaggarantiya ng full service ng ating kuryente.

So, for our short-term solution, iyon na nga ‘yung dalawang genset. Tapos we will – we have given ourselves, doon sa usapan namin, we have given ourselves a deadline of six months for the short-term solution.

By six months from now, we will then impose whatever new arrangements that we have to do so that six months from now, we do not have to resort to the emergency gensets. Now, we have to think about fuel supply. We have to think about the development of even the transmission lines. We also have to make sure that the machines – the generators are working properly. Lahat ito kailangan nating maayos. We have to do this. SIPCOR has to live up to its commitments.

Ang problema mayroon na talagang permanent damage na nangyari sa sistema. Kaya 'yan isa pa 'yan, kailangan nating ayusin. Nagkaroon ng damage dahil hindi umaandar nang mabuti. Kaya kailangan natin iresolba 'yung problemang 'yun.

But that's it. So, for now, we have a solution. We will be able to provide power to the island of Siquijor. And we will be able to do that for the next six months.

In the meantime, in the six months, in the interregnum, pag-uusapan namin nang mabuti. We will be talking very seriously with SIPCOR to make sure that they, as I said, live up to their commitments at maibalik natin sa tamang sistema ang pag-provide ng kuryente rito sa Siquijor.

So, that's the situation that we have right now.

Q: Ano po 'yung assessment natin, sir, base sa ating ginawang inspection po dito, sir, sa SIPCOR, sir?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Iyon. That's – what I just said. That is the assessment.

The assessment is that the SIPCOR has to come up with a – has to live up to their commitments. Maraming kakulangan.

We have to repair the damage that has been caused by the collapse of the power supply. And that is the schedule that we have given ourselves. Six months.

Q: Six months.

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Yeah, six months from now, we will guarantee that there will be a long-term solution.

Hindi na ito patse-patse na ating kailangan – na napilitan nating gawin ngayon.

So, the government will do its part. SIPCOR must do its part as well.

Q: Binigyan natin ng six months target for the short term. Ilang months naman po ang target natin for the long-term solution din po, Mr. President? And then, ilang years kaya or months kaya for the long-term solution 'yung sa SIPCOR?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: The long-term solution is a permanent solution.

Q: Ilan ang target natin sa kanila?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Six months nga.

Q: Six months pa din.

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Hindi. Six months natin paaandarin itong short-term solution, genset. In the six months, tatrabahuhin namin na maayos na na para mayroon na tayong permanent solution na ipapaandar six months from now.

Q: Paano 'pag hindi po maibigay ni SIPCOR 'yung – ?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Hindi. Hindi pupuwedeng paano hindi ibibigay. Hindi puwede. That's just cannot be.

Talk to the people na walang kuryente. Here, the governor has to explain. He has to explain every day to his people kung bakit walang kuryente. Hindi naman nila kasalanan.

Nagbabayad nga ang cooperative. Ang problema 'yung provider. Kaya 'yan ang kailangan natin ayusin.

Q: Lastly, lang siguro, President, may call po kasi 'yung sa mga Siquijudnon po na for another supplier or provider po sana.

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Yeah.

Q: Open kaya? Puwede din po kaya?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Everything is on the table. We just have to examine what is the best solution. We have some very good ideas.

The NEA administrator is here and he has put out at least a framework on what we need to attend to, what will come first, et cetera, et cetera.

We can give you more details after we have the detailed planning for that.

Q: Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT MARCOS: All right? Sige, maraming salamat.

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