## Republic of the Philippines **REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL** MIMAROPA Region Calapan City

## EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE THIRD QUARTER RDC FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING

## RDC Resolution No. <u>2021-076-1007</u>

## ENJOINING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS), THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE), AND OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES TO STRICTLY ENFORCE COMPLIANCE WITH THE REVISED RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE BUSINESS OF RETAILING LIQUID FUELS IN THE MIMAROPA REGION

WHEREAS, the Republic Act (RA) 8479, otherwise known as the "Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998", mandates the DOE to promote fair trade practices, monitor the marketing process and quality of liquid fuels, and stop the business operations of those involved in the sale of liquid fuels not complying with the national standards;

WHEREAS, under the DOE Circular No. 2017-11-0011 or the "Revised Rules and Regulations Governing the Business of Retailing Liquid Fuels", retailing of liquid fuels is allowed subject to acquisition of pertinent permits and licenses issued by government authorities including but not limited to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Bureau of Fire Protection, Bureau of Internal Revenue, and the local government units (LGUs);

WHEREAS, Rule IV of the said Circular cites other types of retail outlets such as the technology solution retail outlet (TSRO) with its own specific requirements for operation;

WHEREAS, the fuel vending machine (FVM) is one of the retail outlets under TSRO which aims to provide solution to address the use of illegal and unsafe sale of liquid fuels (i.e., gasoline, diesel) in recycled bottles that is rampant in remote areas;

WHEREAS, despite the existence of guidelines and regulations on fuel retail outlets, a fire incidence happened in Calapan City sometime in June 2021 involving one of the liquid fuel vending machine outlets while refiling fuel from a tanker that caused damage to the retail station and a residential house and fortunately no fatalities or injuries were recorded;

WHEREAS, the DOE-Oil Industry Management Bureau, during the Economic Development Committee (EDC) special meeting held on July 05, 2021, presented the documentary requirements for the establishment and operation of TSROs;

WHEREAS, during the said meeting, EDC recommended RDC approval of a resolution enjoining the concerned agencies to strictly enforce compliance with the existing rules and regulations governing the business of retailing liquid fuels;

WHEREAS, the RDC recognizes the importance of strict enforcement of the existing laws, policies, and required permits in the establishment and operation of TSROs or FVMs to avoid accidents and to safeguard the welfare of consumers and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to enjoin the local government units (LGUs), the DOE and other concerned agencies to strictly enforce compliance with the revised rules and regulations governing the business of retailing liquid fuels in the MIMAROPA region;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that technology and funding assistance be provided to small liquid fuel retailers (e.g. MSMEs) by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

BERNARDINO A. ATIENZA, JR. Acting RDC Secretary

ATTESTED: GOV. JOSE R. RIANO RDC Chairperson