

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. **1024**



Introduced by Representative CAMILLE A. VILLAR

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND OTHER APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEES TO LOOK INTO POSSIBLE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTIONS IN THE LIGHT OF THE IMPENDING RETURN OF EL NINO IN 2023 THAT THREATENS TO IMPACT THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR, AFFECT ESSENTIAL AND NON-ESSENTIAL INDUSTRIES, AND STROKE INFLATION, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF MITIGATING ITS EFFECTS, DELIVERING STABLE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY, AND PROVIDING THE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE TO AFFECTED FARMERS

Whereas, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

Whereas, the state weather bureau predicts that the Philippines will start to experience warmer days ahead and below normal rainfall or an "El Nino" episode in mid-2023 or the latter part of the year¹;

Whereas, previous experience from El Nino phenomenon points to a decline in agricultural output, affecting the farming and fishing subsectors due to prolonged drought, affecting the livelihood in the agricultural sector and threatening food security;

¹ Antonio, J. "Warmer days ahead: El Niño to develop in second half of 2023, says PAGASA." 21 March 2023.
<https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/03/21/23/el-nio-to-develop-in-second-half-of-2023-pagasa>.
<https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1951789/davao/local-news/el-nino-to-affect-several-essential-food-crops>

Whereas, the impending El Nino threatens to affect corn, vegetables and other high-value crops², thus possibly stoking the already elevated inflation levels;

Whereas, in previous years, the lingering effects of El Nino added to inflation woes;

Whereas, apart from agriculture, water resources, power generation, health and sanitation and other sectors are likely to be impacted by El Nino, and concerned state agencies must prepare to mitigate the impacts of severe weather conditions;

Whereas, according to the National Grid Corp. of the Philippines, peak demand was 8,710 MW in Luzon, 1,584 MW in the Visayas and 1,692 MW in Mindanao as of Feb. 18³, operating margins were so far stable with 12,338 MW, 2,106 MW and 3,078 MW total generating capacity in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao, respectively;

Whereas, although no power interruptions loom in the horizon in 2023, industry stakeholders predict thin power reserves and possible power supply woes for the rest of the year⁴—even rotating brownouts especially during the summer months, which may affect certain sectors;

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Committee on Agriculture and Food, Committee on Energy, and other appropriate House committees look into possible government interventions in the light of the impending return of El Nino in 2023 that threatens to impact the agriculture sector, affect essential and non-essential industries, and stoke inflation, with the end in view of mitigating its effects, delivering stable and reliable electricity, and providing the necessary assistance to affected farmers.

Adopted,


CAMILLE A. VILLAR

² *ibid.*

³ <https://www.ngcp.ph>

⁴ Lagare, J. "Philippine power reserves thin in 2023; but no red alert just yet." 20 Feb. 2023. www.inquirer.net.
<https://business.inquirer.net/387331/philippine-power-reserves-thin-in-2023-but-no-red-alert-just-yet>