[DOE Department Circular No. DC 2010-10-0011, October 12, 2010]

MANDATING THE RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE GENERATION CAPACITY IN MINDANAO AND DIRECTING DOE-ATTACHED AGENCIES, THE NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NGCP), AND ALL INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS TO ADDRESS THE POWER SUPPLY SITUATION IN MINDANAO

WHEREAS, pursuant to the declared policy of the State under Republic Act No. 9136, otherwise known as the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 (EPIRA), the Department of Energy (DOE) has been mandated to ensure the quality, reliability, security, and affordability of the supply of electric power and establish and administer programs for, among others, utilization of energy resources in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, based on records, there are adequate generation capacities capable of mieeting the energy requirements of Mindanao;

WHEREAS, despite the available power generating capacities, the Mindanao Grid is currently experiencing rotating brownouts as a portion of these available capacities are allocated to meet the reserve requirements of the Mindanao transmission system pursuant to the standards set under the Philippine Grid Code (PGC);

WHEREAS, after various consultations and meetings with relevant electric power industry participants in Mindanao and all appropriate government agencies, the DOE has determined the urgent need to rationalize the utilization of all available generation capacities in Mindanao, including a provision for the reserve requirements, to meet immediate demand for electricity in the Mindanao region;

NOW THEREFORE, premises considered, the DOE hereby declares as follows:

Section 1. Scope and Application. This Circular shall apply to all agencies and entities named herein and to all electric power industry participants in Mindanao, including generation companies, distribution utilities - both the private investor owned utilities and electric cooperatives.

Section 2. Responsibilities. Pursuant to their respective mandates and functions under the EPIRA and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, PGC and other relevant laws, rules, and issuances, the following are enjoined to extend their full cooperation and action, within the period provided for in this Circular, to address the power supply situation in Mindanao:

Section 2.1. National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP). The NGCP, as the Concessionaire of the National Transmission Corporation (TRANSCO) and in the interest of the general welfare of the public, is hereby directed to perform its obligations of ensuring and maintaining