



National Association of Electricity Consumers for Reforms, Inc.
No. 10 Bayside Court Compound, 680 Quirino Ave., Tambo,
Parañaque City 1700 Philippines
Phone No.: +63.2.8530731
TeleFax No.: +63.2.8530732
<http://www.nasecore.org>
eMail: nasecore2003@yahoo.com

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THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS
Energy Regulatory Commission
16th Floor, Pacific Center Building
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City



Attention: ERC Chairperson Zenaida Cruz-Ducut

Dear ERC Commissioners:

Greetings!

This pertains to our study of Central Negros Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CENECO) financial statements showing an over collection of P154,870,893.00 from 2007 to 2009.

Our finding is based on this Honorable Commission's *Unbundling Decision* dated 04 February 2004 under ERC Case No. 2001-786 granting CENECO's annual revenue requirement of P255,556,103 (net of purchased power cost).

To determine if CENECO was getting its ERC-approved annual revenue requirement, NASECORE studied CENECO's 2007-2009 annual reports and compared its ERC-approved annual revenue requirements against its actual annual revenues as shown in the table below:

ERC Approved vs Actual Distribution Revenue

Year	Total Revenue (A)	Cost of Power (B)	Actual Distribution Revenue (C=A-B)	Approved Revenue- Unbundling (D)	Over/ (under) (E=C-D)
2006	2,275,660,152.00	2,027,334,407.00	248,325,745.00	255,556,103.00	(7,230,358.00)
2007	2,387,880,688.00	2,065,599,059.00	322,281,629.00	255,556,103.00	66,725,526.00
2008	2,332,914,251.00	2,039,812,029.00	293,102,222.00	255,556,103.00	37,546,119.00
2009	2,847,644,208.00	2,534,258,499.00	313,385,709.00	255,556,103.00	57,829,606.00
				Total Over/(Under)	154,870,893.00

The table above clearly shows that CENECO has an over-collection in the amount of P154,870,893.00 (net of purchased power cost) from 2007-2009. We still need to look into the 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 annual reports of CENECO to find out if there are also over collections in these years.

We find these over-collections alarming because we take this as an abuse of market power when CENECO decided to deliberately keep to itself this over-collection instead of disclosing this by way of a petition to reduce its current rates but maintaining its approved annual revenues, especially that CENECO is a *non-stock, non-profit organization*. It is a common industry knowledge that this increase in its annual revenues is attributable to the increase in its annual sales in kilowatt-hours and kilowatt from its captive customers owing to the increasing consumption of its customers and the reduction in its system loss. (emphasis supplied)

We also find this alarming because this CENECO over-collections show that the Honorable Commission blatantly failed to closely monitor and review the operations of CENECO to determine whether the annual revenue it granted CENECO is what is actually being collected only from the consumers based on its approved annual cost of service including its system loss percentage which should be reflected if the utility is operating efficiently or not.

Had ERC done its primary duty of reviewing the annual revenues it granted CENECO, it would have easily discovered this over-collection which NASECORE, on its own initiative, have discovered. It appears that ERC needs some reminding on its legal mandate of ensuring adequate promotion of consumer interests which basically revolves on determining just and reasonable rates.

Further, this ERC failure lamentably renders its approved annual revenues for CENECO (the result of its exhaustive study to ensure the viable operations of the electric utility) inutile as it failed to use this to serve as its way of ensuring that the CENECO rates it granted are just and reasonable.

In this regard, we urge ERC to immediately conduct a regulatory audit of CENECO and reduce its rates so as to stop this over-collection and to immediately direct a refund of this over-collection.

We fervently hope ERC will swiftly act on this request based on its mandate to protect consumers from unjust and unreasonable rates.

Thank you so much.

Very truly yours,



PETE L. ILAGAN
President

Cc: Hon. Gwendolin Garcia, Governor of Cebu
Hon. Michael P. Bell, Mayor-Toledo City
Hon. Pablo John Garcia, Representative-3rd District, Cebu
Hon. Jose Rene Almendras, DOE secretary
Hon. Sergio R. Osmena III, Chair-Committee on Energy, Senate of the Philippines
Hon. Henedina R. Abad, Chair-Committee on Energy, House of Representatives
Hon. Jose R. Ping-ay, Chair, Committee on Cooperative Development
Hon. Ponciano D Payuyo, APEC Partylist Representative
Hon. Benjo Benaldo, Vice-Chair, Committee on Energy, House of Representatives
Hon. Isidro Q. Lico, Ating Koop Party List