



NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH COTABATO I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.



SOCOTECO-I elects new set of BOD officers, led by President Osiel Alexis Par

The South Cotabato I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SOCOTECO-I) has announced its new set of officers for the Board of Directors, who will serve for the 2025-2026 term. The new leadership officially takes their posts on October 1, 2025, following a smooth transition ceremony.

Dir. Osiel Alexis P. Par of the Tampakan District was elected as the new President, taking the helm of the cooperative. He succeeds outgoing President Engr. Andrade F. Lagos, who extended a welcome and pledged full support to the new leadership, ensuring the cooperative's continued success. Dir. Par expressed optimism about the transition, anticipating it will usher in even greater achievements for SOCOTECO-I.

The new set of BOD Officers

The complete roster of the set of officers is as follows:

- President: Dir. Osiel Alexis P. Par (Tampakan District)
- Vice President: Dir. Harley James P. Octaviano (T'boli District)

Continued on page 2.

EARTHQUAKE SAFETY TIPS

WHAT TO DO DURING THE SHAKING

If you are **INDOORS**

- "Drop, Cover, and Hold On"
- Stay Away from Electrical Sources: Do not touch electrical appliances, switches, or outlets.

If you are **OUTDOORS**

- Stay Away from Structures: Avoid trees, electric poles, power lines, transformers, streetlights, concrete walls, and buildings, as they may collapse or fall.

If you are **DRIVING**

- Pull Over Immediately: Safely pull over to the side of the road and set the parking brake.

 **REPORT TO US IMMEDIATELY THE DOWNED POWER LINES**





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POWER FIT: ECS RECHARGING TOGETHER

SOCOTECO-I kicked off the joint celebration of National Cooperative Month and National Mental Health Awareness Month with a dynamic Zumba dance on October 3, 2025, actively supported by all its employees.

BOD President Dir. Osiel Alexis P. Par called the event “a perfect start to change,” urging everyone to enjoy the dance and get healthy by prioritizing health. He stressed the core values of unity (pagkakaisa) and self-care (pangangalaga sa sarili): “A healthy body is a healthy mind, a healthy

cooperative is a healthy community.” This event is part of a nationwide initiative in collaboration with the Philippine Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc. (PHILRECA) and the 121 electric cooperatives across the country.

It is a way of reinforcing the collective commitment to empowerment, service, and compassion. Upcoming weekly events will include a mental health awareness webinar, a cooperative wellness fair, a creative expression activity, and a video contest.



Continuation...

- Secretary: Dir. Sharon S. Fermalino (Norala District)
- Treasurer: Dir. Richard V. Gamo (Koronadal I A District)
- Auditor: Dir. Myrna G. Langub (Sto. Niño District)

Oath-taking Ceremony

The new officers were sworn into office by Atty. Lorraine Pajarillo, CPA, during a ceremony held on Monday, September 22, 2025, as part of a Monday Convocation. SOCOTECO-I employees were present to witness the official inauguration of their new cooperative leaders.

The new Board is expected to guide SOCOTECO-I in its mission to provide reliable and efficient electric service to its member-consumers (MCOs) across South Cotabato.



SOCOTECO I
 Joins the nation in celebrating the

36TH NATIONAL STATISTICS MONTH
 OCTOBER 2025

Accelerating the SDG Pace of Progress:
 Mobilizing Data for All

Philippine Statistics Authority
 Opening Operations on October 2025

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
 Closing Coverage on October 2025

#2025NSM #StatsForAll

SCAN HERE
 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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FAQ • **Bakit pabago-bago ang presyo ng kuryente kada buwan?**

Sa ilalim ng **RA 9136**, ang presyo ng kuryente ay naka depende sa galaw ng merkado:

Generation Charge
 Ito ay presyo ng kuryente na binili ng SOCOTECO I mula sa mga power suppliers.

Transmission Charge
 Ito ay singil sa paghahatid ng kuryente mula sa planta.

Ibang Mandated Fees
 Ito ay mga bayaring itinakda ng batas tulod ng system loss, universal charges, VAT, atbp.

Ano ang RA 9136 o EPIRA Law?
 Isinabatas upang i-reorma ang industriya ng kuryente sa bansa.
 Isa sa mga layunin nito ay ang pagbigay ng mas bukas na kumpetisyon sa mga sector ng enerhiya kabilang ang generation - kung saan ang presyo ng kuryente ay nakabatay sa galaw ng merkado

SOCOTECO-I Prioritizing Safety

Our continuing commitment to *Preparedness & Resilience*
(Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 Activities)



Fire Safety Seminar and Drills

The Area 1 (Koronadal), Area 2 (Surallah) and HQ/Main Offices successfully conducted the Fire Safety Seminar and Drill on October 9 and 20 2025 consequently. This crucial exercise equipped employees with essential knowledge on fire prevention, the proper use of fire extinguishers, and emergency evacuation procedures. The drill emphasized quick and orderly response to ensure the safety of all personnel and assets within the offices.



Emergency Drill Team Orientation

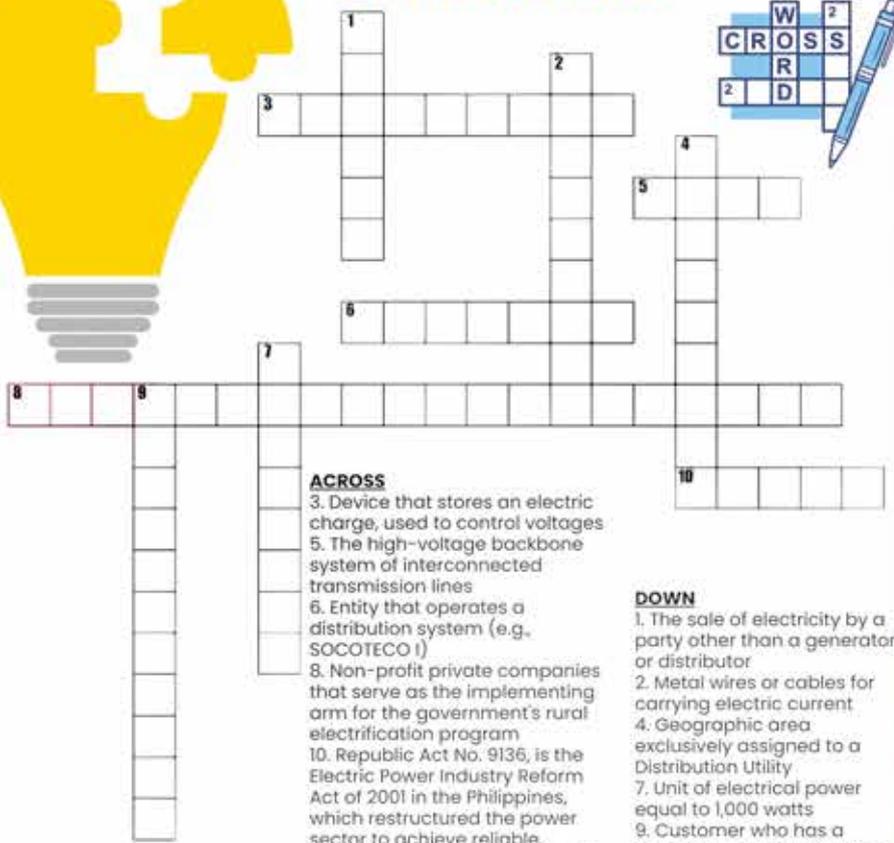
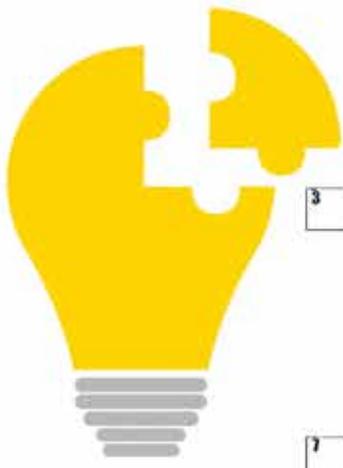
An Emergency Drill Team Orientation was held at the HQ/Main Office on September 10, 2025. This session formally briefed the designated Emergency Drill Team members of the Cooperative on their specific roles and responsibilities during various emergency scenarios, including fire, earthquake, and medical incidents. The orientation focused on coordination, communication protocols, and establishing clear command structures to ensure an effective response during a crisis.



Mandatory Eight-hour Safety and Health (MESH) Training

The Cooperative successfully held its Mandatory Eight-hour Safety and Health (MESH) Training on September 18-19, 2025, at the Viajera Hotel, City of Koronadal. This two-day mandatory training covered key topics such as Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) standards, workplace hazard identification, and risk assessment techniques. The MESH Training is vital for promoting a culture of safety and health, ensuring a secure working environment for all employees.

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION



ACROSS

3. Device that stores an electric charge, used to control voltages
5. The high-voltage backbone system of interconnected transmission lines
6. Entity that operates a distribution system (e.g., SOCOTECO I)
8. Non-profit private companies that serve as the implementing arm for the government's rural electrification program
10. Republic Act No. 9136, is the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 in the Philippines, which restructured the power sector to achieve reliable, affordable, and secure electricity supply

DOWN

1. The sale of electricity by a party other than a generator or distributor
2. Metal wires or cables for carrying electric current
4. Geographic area exclusively assigned to a Distribution Utility
7. Unit of electrical power equal to 1,000 watts
9. Customer who has a choice of electricity supplier

SIFI facilitated turnover of DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program to 47 beneficiaries



"Malaking bagay ang programang ito para sa amin. Sa pagpapalago ng aming garden na malaking tulong sa aming komunidad bilang pinagkukunan ng pagkain, ito ang simula upang maipagpatuloy at mapalago pa ang aming community vegetable garden," shared Mariam Divinagracla, one of the program beneficiaries.

Through the DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program (DILP), forty-seven (47) beneficiaries received livelihood assistance, tools, and jigs on October 7, 2025 at the SOCOTECO-I Main Office, Brgy. Morales, City of Koronadal. The activity also included a Financial Literacy Training and Orientation to equip participants with the knowledge to manage and sustain their livelihood projects.

SIFI remains a key partner of DOLE in empowering marginalized families and supporting the informal sector through sustainable livelihood programs—giving life from light.



PRESS CONFERENCE, IDINAOS NG SOCOTECO-I

KORONADAL CITY, 22 Oktubre 2025 – Idinaos ng South Cotabato I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SOCOTECO-I) ang isang Press Conference/Kapehan. Dinaluhan ito ng dalawampu't limang (25) kinatawan ng media mula sa iba't ibang himpilan, kasama ang mga stakeholder, upang pormal na ipaliwanag at talakayin sa publiko ang mga detalye ng pagtaas ng singil na makikita sa electric bill ng mga member-consumer-owners (MCOs) para sa buwan ng Setyembre 2025.

Tinalakay rin sa pagpupulong ang kasalukuyang sitwasyon ng power supply, na ipinisinta nina Mr. Ariel Cabinbin, CPA Finance Manager, at Engr. Darrel Sultan, CPD Manager.

Binigyang-diin sa Press Conference na ang pangunahing dahilan ng pagtaas ay dulot ng paglobo ng Generation Charge. Ipinaliwanag na ang Generation Charge ay isang pass-through charge—nangangahulugan na ito ay direktang halaga na binabayaran ng kooperatiba sa mga power supplier nito at hindi napupunta sa operasyon o kita ng SOCOTECO-I.

Nagkaroon ng makabuluhang open forum, na naging isa sa mahalagang bahagi ng pagtitipon.

Ang mga katanungan ay umikot sa pagtaas ng power rates, sitwasyon ng supply, at operasyon ng Kooperatiba. Nagkaroon din ng mga mahalagang suhestyon na ipinaabot ang mga dumalo.

Update sa power supply scenario

"Nauunawaan namin ang bigat ng dagdag-singil na ito sa ating mga konsyumer, lalo na sa panahong ito. Gayunpaman, tinitiyak ng pamunuan na ang lahat ng sinisingil ay nakabatay at aprubado ng Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) na siyang nagpapatupad ng regulasyon sa ating electricity rates," pahayag ni GM Epistola ng SOCOTECO-I.

Kaugnay nito, muling nanawagan ang SOCOTECO-I sa lahat ng MCOs na maging responsable at matalino sa paggamit ng kuryente. Ang bawat pagtitipid ay makakatulong upang mapababa ang pangkalahatang demand at maging ang inyong buwanang singil.

