

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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S E N A T E

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION
URGING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED
POSSIBLE WATER SHORTAGE IN METRO MANILA IN ORDER TO FORMULATE
AND PREPARE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS INCLUDING IMMEDIATE MEASURES
TO HALT ITS OCCURRENCE

Whereas, Section 16 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that, “The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature”;

Whereas, the Angat Dam is a multipurpose reservoir that provides ninety-seven percent (97%) of the domestic water supply of Metro Manila, irrigates twenty-seven thousand (27,000) hectares of farm lands in Central Luzon and supplies two hundred eighteen (218) megawatts of power as a hydropower plant¹;

Whereas, failure of the cloud-seeding operations conducted by the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) from January 20 to March 3 over the watershed area of Angat Dam may lead to a water shortage in Metro Manila²;

Whereas, the water level is just eighteen (18) meters above the critical level of one-hundred eighty (180) meters³;

Whereas, if the water level reaches one-hundred eighty (180) meters, the irrigation supply to farmers in Bulacan and some parts of Pampanga will be cut off to give way to the water supply demands of Metro Manila, which in effect may possibly lead to food and crop shortage;

Whereas, concerned agencies should implement and conduct methods similar but not limited to cloud-seeding operations and desalination in order to curb possible water shortage;

Whereas, the State consistent with its mandate to preserve the environment while providing basic natural resources to its people, should provide for methods and policies which can reduce the effect of a possible water shortage; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

¹ http://en.wikipilipinas.org/index.php?title=Angat_Dam

² ‘Metro may be headed for water shortage’ by Orlan Mauricio, Manila Standard Today, March 7, 2011

³ *Ibid.*

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported possible water shortage in Metro Manila in order to formulate and prepare policies and programs including immediate measures to halt its occurrence.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR
Senator