

P3-B solar power farm launched in Zambales

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BOTOLAN, Zambales

-- A consortium of investors from Thailand and solar power developers from the Philippines has launched here a \$68-million (P3.06 billion), 40-megawatt solar farm in this first-class municipality, the first-ever solar-powered renewable energy facility in the province.

Executives from Chow International (CI), Chow Energy (CE) and Premier Solution Company Limited (PSCL) of Thailand, along with counterparts from the Solar Power Utilities Generator (SPUG) Corporation and the Schema Konsult, Inc. (SKI) led the ground-breaking rites for the solar farm in Bgy. San Juan, this town.

Spearheading the rites were CI managing director Tanachart Poudpoonpaiboon, CI Vice Chairman Narongyoothanom, CE Chief Executive Officer Anavin Jiratomsiri, Chief Operations officer Alex Ko and Chairman Narongsak Kamales.

Also on hand were SKI president/chairman Vitaliano Sabalo Jr. and SPUG chairman Dr. Sirinnont Prasan. They were welcomed here by municipal officials led by Botolan Mayor Doris Maniquiz-Jeresano.

Renato Relampagos, SKI executive vice president, said the project is not only significant because it involves renewable energy but also because this involves a partnership involving companies of two countries, referring to Thailand and the Philippines.

"This bilateral partnership has made this project possible," he said.

SKI, under the leadership of its president Vitaliano Sabalo Jr., and senior vice president Manolo Dador, who are known pioneers in solar power in the country, has ventured into solar power.

Its recent successful completion of two solar plants including that of San Carlos Solar in Negros Oriental, and its ongoing installation of two others elsewhere has made SKI a leader in the solar power industry in the country.