



## **NEWS ROUNDUP**

**05 FEBRUARY 2025 [08:00 am]**

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- P12-B Pampanga solar project declared eligible for green lane
- Big bow to the basura busters: DENR fetes 2,600 estero and river rangers
- Top climate scientist declares 2C climate goal 'dead'
- New drainage system in Libertad to reduce flooding, protect health of Pasay residents
- Climate change target of 2C is 'dead', says renowned climate scientist

### **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

- House carbon pricing framework bill approved on 2nd reading

## **BOMBO RADYO**

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By: Everly Rico

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## **BUSINESS WORLD**

### **[P12-B Pampanga solar project declared eligible for green lane](#)**

By: Justine Irish D. Tabile

Tigon Power Corp.'s P12.36-billion ground-mounted solar power plant is set to receive green lane treatment after it was certified by the One-Stop Action Center for Strategic Investments (OSACSI), the Board of Investments (BoI) said.

## **DAILY TRIBUNE**

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## **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER**

### **[Top climate scientist declares 2C climate goal 'dead'](#)**

Holding long-term global warming to two degrees Celsius — the fallback target of the Paris climate accord — is now “impossible,” according to a stark new analysis published by leading scientists.

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### **[New drainage system in Libertad to reduce flooding, protect health of Pasay residents](#)**

By: Jimmyley E. Guzman

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## **THE DAILY GUARDIAN**

### **[Climate change target of 2C is 'dead', says renowned climate scientist](#)**

The pace of global heating has been significantly underestimated, according to renowned climate scientist Prof James Hansen, who said the international 2C target is “dead”.

## **CCC IN THE NEWS:**

### **BUSINESS WORLD**

#### **[House carbon pricing framework bill approved on 2nd reading](#)**

By: Kenneth Christiane L. Basilio

The House of Representatives on Tuesday approved on second reading a bill establishing a carbon pricing framework for Philippine companies in a bid to meet the country's climate targets amid climate change concerns.

**Information and Knowledge Management Division**

## **BOMBO RADYO**

### **[DepEd, tiniyak ang pagtatayo ng disaster resilient buildings](#)**

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Tiniyak ng Department of Education (DepEd) na tutugon sila sa panawagan ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr. na magtayo ng mga gusaling ligtas sa sakuna at maghanap ng karagdagang pondo sa pamamagitan ng Public-Private Partnerships.

Ayon kay Education Sec. Sonny Angara na tututukan nila ang pagpapatayo ng mga pasilidad na may structural integrity upang makayanan ang mas malalakas na bagyo at lindol.

Magsisimula rin ang pagtatayo ng 15,000 na silid-aralan ngayong taon at magtutulungan sa PPP Center upang tugunan ang kakulangan sa silid-aralan.

Dagdag pa rito, itinaguyod ni Angara ang pangangailangan ng dagdag na Quick Response Fund upang mabilisang ayusin at muling itayo ang mga nasirang paaralan.

Ang RA No. 12076 ay nagtatakda ng permanenteng evacuation centers upang maiwasang gamitin ang mga paaralan bilang pansamantalang tirahan at papalakasin ng DepEd ang patakaran sa suspensyon ng klase at trabaho sa panahon ng sakuna at emergencies.

## **BUSINESS WORLD**

### **P12-B Pampanga solar project declared eligible for green lane**

By: Justine Irish D. Tabile

Tigon Power Corp.'s P12.36-billion ground-mounted solar power plant is set to receive green lane treatment after it was certified by the One-Stop Action Center for Strategic Investments (OSACSI), the Board of Investments (BoI) said.

In a statement on Monday, the BoI said that a green lane certificate was awarded to Sapang Balen Solar Sustainable Energy Corp. (SBSSEC) last month.

SBSSEC is a special purpose vehicle registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) created to develop the solar project. It is controlled by Filipino-owned Tigon Power Corp., and the project has a capacity of almost one gigawatt.

The certificate covers one of Tigon Power's solar projects that will rise in Mabalacat and Magalang, Pampanga.

The site for the solar farm is 405.52 hectares.

"The project is also expected to generate up to 5,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities during its stages of construction, commissioning, operations, and maintenance," the BoI said.

"OSACSI will continuously monitor the actions taken by agencies on applications for permits and licenses and shall submit a report accordingly," it added.

Created through Executive Order No. 18 in February 2023, "green lanes" aim to expedite the permit and licensing process for strategic investments.

As of Jan. 17, the BoI OSACSI has endorsed 179 projects worth P4.55 trillion for green lane treatment.

Of the total, 144 are RE projects worth P4.15 trillion, comprising 80.45% of the certified projects.

Investment in RE projects increased after the government allowed full foreign ownership in the sector, which was previously capped at 40%.

The other projects were activities related to food security, digital infrastructure, and manufacturing.

## DAILY TRIBUNE

### [Big bow to the basura busters: DENR fetes 2,600 estero and river rangers](#)

A total 29.6 million kilograms of waste were clogging various creeks and rivers in Metro Manila in 2024. Some 3.3 million kilos of trash also were floating in different waterways in Region IV-A, while many esterros of Region III were mired in 1.58 million kilos of garbage last year. But thanks to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) army of estero and river rangers (ERR), the whole 34.5 million kilos of waste were removed. It's a dirty job but someone's got to do it, as the saying goes.

Their efforts go beyond statistics.

"Each kilogram of waste they remove translates to cleaner rivers, reduced flooding and safer communities," DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga said during the ceremony honoring 2,600 ERRs from the National Capital Region, Region III and Region IV-A at the "DEAR (Dedication, Empowerment, Appreciation and Recognition) Estero and River Rangers" at the SM Mall of Asia in Pasay City on 31 January.

In recognition of the ERRs invaluable service and to inspire a culture of shared responsibility in ensuring cleaner and more sustainable waterways for future generations, 11 ERRs were bestowed the Sikap Aral Award for their academic achievements while balancing their environmental work.

Another 19 ERRs were given the Leadership Excellence Award for their innovation and leadership in waterway protection and 110 others received the Exemplary Service Award for their outstanding work in maintaining and rehabilitating Manila Bay's waterways.

Meanwhile, 20 ERRs with disabilities received the PWD Empowerment Award, honoring their resilience and dedication to environmental advocacy.

"This day is for you. We temporarily stop our work to reflect and celebrate the extraordinary work you do every day to restore and protect what gives life to our urban and regional ecosystems," Loyzaga said in Filipino.

The DENR chief acknowledged the estero and river rangers as the first line of defense in waste management and for working in the toughest conditions to prevent pollution and mitigate the risks of flooding.

During storms and floods, the rangers clear debris to help floodwaters subside and ensure the protection of countless communities, work that is often unseen but its impact is undeniable, she said.

Beyond their tasks, the rangers play a vital role in fostering environmental stewardship within their communities by serving as advocates, educators and role models in promoting sustainable practices at the grassroots.

“Your work is more than just removing trash and encouraging the community to properly manage waste. It is a powerful declaration of hope and determination — a signal that conservation is not just a job but a responsibility woven into our community and culture,” the secretary said.

She vowed to continue equipping estero and river rangers with the necessary resources, training and institutional support to enhance their capabilities.

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

### [Top climate scientist declares 2C climate goal 'dead'](#)

Holding long-term global warming to two degrees Celsius — the fallback target of the Paris climate accord — is now “impossible,” according to a stark new analysis published by leading scientists.

Led by renowned climatologist James Hansen, the paper appears in the journal “Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development” and concludes that Earth’s climate is more sensitive to rising greenhouse gas emissions than previously thought.

Compounding the crisis, Hansen and colleagues argued, is a recent decline in sunlight-blocking aerosol pollution from the shipping industry, which had been mitigating some of the warming.

An ambitious climate change scenario outlined by the UN’s climate panel, which gives the planet a 50 percent chance of keeping warming under 2C by the year 2100, “is an implausible scenario,” Hansen told a briefing Tuesday.

“That scenario is now impossible,” said Hansen, formerly a top NASA climate scientist who famously announced to the US Congress in 1988 that global warming was underway.

“The two degree target is dead.”

Instead, he and co-authors argued, the amount of greenhouse gases already pumped into the atmosphere by burning fossil fuels meant increased warming is now guaranteed.

Temperatures will stay at or above 1.5C in the coming years — devastating coral reefs and fueling more intense storms — before rising to around 2.0C by 2045, they forecast.

They estimated polar ice melt and freshwater injection into the North Atlantic will trigger the shutdown of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) within the next 20–30 years.

The current brings warmth to various parts of the globe and also carries nutrients necessary to sustain ocean life.

Its end “will lock in major problems including sea level rise of several meters — thus, we describe AMOC shutdown as the ‘point of no return,’” the paper argued.

The world’s nations agreed during the landmark Paris climate accord of 2015 to try to hold end-of-century warming to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels.



Scientists identified the threshold as critical to preventing the breakdown of major ocean circulation systems, the abrupt thawing of boreal permafrost, and the collapse of tropical coral reefs.

The 1.5C target has already been breached over the past two years, according to data from the EU's climate monitoring system Copernicus, though the Paris Agreement referred to a long-term trend over decades.

At 2C, the impacts would be even greater, including irreversible loss to Earth's ice sheets, mountain glaciers and snow, sea ice and permafrost.

The authors acknowledged the findings appeared grim, but argued that honesty is a necessary ingredient for change.

"Failure to be realistic in climate assessment and failure to call out the fecklessness of current policies to stem global warming is not helpful to young people," they said.

"Today, with rising crises including global climate change, we have reached a point where we must address the problem of special interests," they added, stressing they were "optimistic" for the future.

## PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY

### [New drainage system in Libertad to reduce flooding, protect health of Pasay residents](#)

By: Jimmyley E. Guzman

To ensure safety and protect the health of residents of Libertad, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) – South Manila District Engineering Office successfully completed the drainage system at various parts of Pasay City.

According to DPWH, the new drainage system will not only minimize flooding concerns in the area but also ensure the health and well-being of residents.

This assures the community free from illnesses such as dengue and malaria, leptospirosis, cholera, and amoebiasis. Moreover, the new drainage system ensures the roadway free from flood waters especially during the rainy season.

Likewise, the project helps restore roadways along Libertad for a smoother and safer road for motorists and commuters.

## THE DAILY GUARDIAN

### [Climate change target of 2C is 'dead', says renowned climate scientist](#)

The pace of global heating has been significantly underestimated, according to renowned climate scientist Prof James Hansen, who said the international 2C target is “dead”.

A new analysis by Hansen and colleagues concludes that both the impact of recent cuts in sun-blocking shipping pollution, which has raised temperatures, and the sensitivity of the climate to increasing fossil fuels emissions are greater than thought.

The group’s results are at the high end of estimates from mainstream climate science but cannot be ruled out, independent experts said. If correct, they mean even worse extreme weather will come sooner and there is a greater risk of passing global tipping points, such as the collapse of the critical Atlantic ocean currents.

Hansen, at Columbia University in the US, sounded the alarm to the general public about climate breakdown in testimony he gave to a UN congressional committee in 1988.

“The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) defined a scenario which gives a 50% chance to keep warming under 2C – that scenario is now impossible,” he said. “The 2C target is dead, because the global energy use is rising, and it will continue to rise.”

The new analysis said global heating is likely to reach 2C by 2045, unless solar geoengineering is deployed.

The world’s nations pledged in Paris in 2015 to keep global temperature rise below 2C above preindustrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5C. The climate crisis has already supercharged extreme weather across the world with just 1.3C of heating on average in recent years destroying lives and livelihoods – 2C would be far worse.

Prof Jeffrey Sachs, also at Columbia University, said: “A shocking rise of warming has been exposed by, ironically, a reduction of pollutants, but we now have a new baseline and trajectory for where we are.”

Climate scientist Dr Zeke Hausfather, who was not part of the study, said it was a useful contribution. “It’s important to emphasise that both of these issues – [pollution cuts] and climate sensitivity – are areas of deep scientific uncertainty,” he said.

“While Hansen et al are on the high end of available estimates, we cannot say with any confidence that they are wrong, rather that they just represent something closer to a worst-case outcome.”

In the new study, published in the journal *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development*, Hansen's team said: "Failure to be realistic in climate assessment and failure to call out the fecklessness of current policies to stem global warming is not helpful to young people."

They said the IPCC analysis was heavily reliant on computer models and that the complementary approach they took of making more use of observations and climate analogues from the distant past was needed.

The world has seen extraordinary temperatures over the last two years. The primary cause is the relentless rise in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the burning of fossil fuels. The peak of the El Niño climate cycle in 2024 added an extra temperature boost.

However, these two factors do not fully explain the extreme temperatures, or their persistence after the El Niño ended in mid-2024. This left puzzled climate scientists asking if there was a worrying new factor not previously accounted for, or if the extra heat was an unusual but temporary natural variation.

A key focus has been on emissions from shipping. For decades, the sulphate particles produced by ships burning fuel have blocked some sunlight from reaching the Earth's surface, suppressing temperatures.

But in 2020, new anti-pollution regulations came into force, sharply cutting the level of the aerosol particles. This led to more heat from the sun reaching the surface, which scientists measure as watts per square metre (W/m<sup>2</sup>).

Hansen's team's estimate of the impact of this – 0.5W/m<sup>2</sup> – is significantly higher than five other recent studies, which ranged from 0.07 to 0.15 W/m<sup>2</sup>, but would explain the anomalous heat. Hansen's team used a top-down approach, looking at the change in the reflectivity over key parts of the ocean and ascribing that to the reductions in shipping emissions. The other studies used bottom-up approaches to estimate the increase in heat.

"Both approaches are useful and often complementary," said Dr Gavin Schmidt, director of Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies. "But I think in this case, Hansen's approach is too simple and doesn't factor in changes in Chinese emissions, or internal variability."

The new study also argues that the planet's climate sensitivity to rising carbon emissions has been underestimated, partly because of the underestimation of the impact of reduced shipping emissions.

Climate sensitivity is defined by scientists as the temperature rise that would result from a doubling of CO<sub>2</sub> levels in the atmosphere. Again, Hansen's team have used a different method to most scientists and come up with a higher estimate.

The IPCC, a collaboration of the world's climate scientists, found that the computer models that best reproduce past temperatures have a climate sensitivity of 2.5C to 4C.

Hansen's team took a simpler approach, calculating the potential range in temperature rises for a doubling of CO<sub>2</sub> and then using data on how much heat the Earth has trapped to estimate the most likely climate sensitivity. Their estimate is 4.5C. Cloud formation, which is affected by global heating and aerosol pollution, is a key source of the uncertainties.

Anomalously high temperatures have continued in January 2025, which set a new record for the month and confounded expectations that temperatures would drop with the current La Niña, the cooler part of the El Niño cycle. "This unexpected record may presage higher temperatures this year than many of us thought," said Hausfather.

Hansen's group also argues that the accelerated global heating they predict will increase ice melting in the Arctic.

"As a result, shutdown of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (Amoc) is likely within the next 20-30 years, unless actions are taken to reduce global warming – in contradiction to conclusions of IPCC.

"If Amoc is allowed to shut down, it will lock in major problems including sea level rise of several metres – thus, we describe Amoc shutdown as the 'point of no return'."

The central estimate of another recent study on the timing of an Amoc collapse was 2050.

However, Hansen said the point of no return could be avoided, based on the growing conviction of young people that they should follow the science. He called for a carbon fee and dividend policy, where all fossil fuels are taxed and the revenue returned to the public.

"The basic problem is that the waste products of fossil fuels are still dumped in the air free of charge," he said. He also backed the rapid development of nuclear power.

Hansen also supported research on cooling the Earth using controversial geoengineering techniques to block sunlight, which he prefers to call "purposeful global cooling".

He said: "We do not recommend implementing climate interventions, but we suggest that young people not be prohibited from having knowledge of the potential and limitations of purposeful global cooling in their toolbox."

Political change is needed to achieve all these measures, Hansen said: "Special interests have assumed far too much power in our political systems. In democratic

countries the power should be with the voter, not with the people who have the money. That requires fixing some of our democracies, including the US.”

## CCC IN THE NEWS:

### BUSINESS WORLD

#### [House carbon pricing framework bill approved on 2nd reading](#)

By: Kenneth Christiane L. Basilio

The House of Representatives on Tuesday approved on second reading a bill establishing a carbon pricing framework for Philippine companies in a bid to meet the country's climate targets amid climate change concerns.

In a voice vote, lawmakers approved House Bill No. 11375, which mandates Philippine enterprises to offset its operational carbon footprint by reducing its carbon emissions, investing in low-carbon ventures or through carbon credits.

"The measure creates a carbon pricing framework that requires companies exceeding government-set emission targets to spend or invest in environmental sustainability projects to offset their carbon footprint," Bohol Rep. Edgar M. Chatto, who heads the House climate change committee, told the House floor.

The Philippines ratified in 2017 a United Nations agreement to keep global temperatures rise below 2°C this century.

Medium and large-sized enterprises would be required to partake in the government's decarbonization efforts, complying with a carbon threshold to be set by the Climate Change Commission.

Covered companies are required to submit a yearly compliance report to the Environment department's, which should contain greenhouse gases emission levels and its "reduction activities" to lessen their carbon footprint

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