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PMCJ
Philippine Movement for Climate Justice
@climatejustice.ph @cjmovement_ph
18A Marunong St.,
Brgy. Central , Quezon City 1101
(02) 8292-5935
www.climatejustice.ph
mediacommunications@climatejustice.ph

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Batangas business, communities call for DENR to revoke Pryce Gas LPG project's ECC

Quezon City, Philippines — Association of Lobo Resort Owners and Tourist Accommodation (ALOROTA), Archdiocesan Ministry on Environment (AMEN), Clean and Healthy Air for All Batangueños (CABATANG), Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ), and other organizations, conducted a protest in front of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Central Office in Quezon City on Apr. 29, 2026, to amplify their opposition to Pryce Gases, Inc. (PGI)'s liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) Jetty Receiving Facilities and Industrial Gases Production, Storage, Refilling and Cylinder Maintenance Project.

Residents of Brgy. Banalo in Lobo, take the front lines of the fight as the LPG terminal being constructed in Brgy. Talahib Pandayan in Batangas City lacks public consultation. The project's proximity to residents, including students and school personnel from Banalo Elementary School, poses significant health and safety risks. The Verde Island Passage and the designated Coral Reef Sanctuary of Banalo are also at high risk due to potential waste discharge and oil-spill contamination from shipments to replenish LPG. These, together with other local concerns and violations, warrant the cancellation of the project's Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC).

"In January 2026, the DENR issued a cease and desist order, temporarily halting the LPG terminal's construction. We laud the continued resistance of the people of Batangas. We have long endured the impacts of the fossil-fueled, dirty projects on our land. Now we put an end to that by pushing for the project's full cancellation due to proven violations and harm it will bring to the environment and communities. While we acknowledge the provincial local government unit's (LGU) support for our plea, we demand that this further reflect the genuine concerns of the residents and lead to the project's termination. We won't allow these businesses and corporations to make our lives even more difficult," said Restituto Bobadilla of CABATANG.

On Mar. 2, 2026, a committee hearing was conducted by the Municipality of Lobo through its Committees on Environmental Protection and Natural Resources and on Health and Sanitation in Brgy. Banalo. At the said hearing, PGI committed to ensuring the safety of residents and obtaining the necessary permits to continue construction. However, beyond assurance of compliance and safeguards, residents are seeking full protection from the potential risks associated with LPG facilities.

LPG-related accidents cannot be ignored since they have serious repercussions for property, the environment, and human life. Propane's primary risk is its flammability. As a result, burns and thermal radiation injuries are possible, and suffocation could happen if LPG displaces air,

lowering the concentration of oxygen. LPG burning can generate harmful air pollutants, such as formaldehyde (HCHO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), posing health risks to humans and affecting the atmosphere.

“The LPG terminal is just around 40 meters away from the residents, as it is situated in Batangas City and Lobo’s boundary. These projects must be carefully consulted with the people, as their risks cost lives. In 2025, the people of Batangas garnered two consecutive wins against liquefied natural gas (LNG) as Ayala and VIRES withdrew their fossil gas projects. There is no doubt about Batangas people’s resistance to projects that disrupt their everyday lives. However, we need all the support we can get, as in Batangas, there are six gas-fired power plants, with a total installed capacity of more than 4,000 megawatts (MW), and we are still fighting against,” said Jonathan Biay, PMCJ Batangas province lead on climate and energy transition.

On Apr. 18, 2026, Lobo residents, resort business owners, and church groups held a mass rally to sustain the people’s protest against the LPG terminal. They asserted that the project is a threat to Lobo's rich marine biodiversity, mountains, and forests. ###

#SaveLoboBatangas #NoToPryceGasLPGTerminal #ClimateJusticeNow

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For inquiries, contact:

Sheila Abarra
Senior Media and Communications Officer
Philippine Movement for Climate Justice
mediacommunications@climatejustice.ph
Viber: +63-991-669-2356
WhatsApp: +63-938-089-8327