The Office of the City Mayor yesterday facilitated a meeting between officials from the Zamboanga City Electric Cooperative (ZAMCELCO) and groups to pursue preparations to ensure early implementation of the Interruptible Load Program-Time of Use (ILP-TOU).

Top agenda for the meeting held at the Zamcelco Conference Room in Putik were the finalization of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the stakeholders and the technical details of the ILP-TOU intended to help mitigate power supply deficit in the city.

The ILP is a demand-side management solution regarded as one of the countermeasures meant to help mitigate the projected power supply strain in the summer months of 2015. It works by calling on consumers with loads of at least 1MW to run their own generator sets during peak hours instead of drawing power from the grid.

With the ILP-TOU scheme, roughly 18 megawatts will be produced and will sufficiently reduce the current deficit of 24 megawatts thereby lessening the number of hours of power curtailment.

Mayor Climaco earlier issued Executive Order BC 113-2015 enjoining the Zamboanga City Electric Cooperative (ZAMCELCO) to exhaust all means to implement the ILP in a bid to reduce the six-hour daily rotational power interruptions in the City.

It further directed the Investment and Promotions division of the City Government to study and recommend incentives that could be extended to consumers who will participate in the ILP.

Last week, the mayor has declared a proposed ordinance that will grant incentives to
businessmen who will enrol in the ILP program as urgent to pave way for the swift approval of the same by the City Council. — Sheila Covarrubias