

THE FLOW

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Official Monthly News

Water District



Partnership supports Brigada Eskwela (see page 3)

SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada checking the water quality at the endpoint of Phase I Seabreeze Homes Subdivision, Brgy. Cabid-an last August 18.



SCWD, PrimeWater, AWC clean Seabreeze Homes, Pamurayan pipelines

By: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

SCWD, together with private partners PrimeWater-Sorsogon City and Abejo Waters Corp. (AWC)-Sorsogon Bulk Water Supply cleaned the distribution lines of Brgy. Cabid-an and Brgy. Pamurayan as part of the regular 'Oplan Linis Tubo' initiative for the month of August 2022.

SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada led the massive chlorination and air-scouring activities at Phase I and Phase II, Seabreeze Homes on August 18-19 and from Purok 3 to Purok 7, Brgy. Pamurayan on August 25-26.

A total of 2.44 km and 3.40 km of pipelines were subjected to a series of disinfection and flushing activities at Seabreeze Homes and Brgy. Pamurayan, respectively, to remove deposits which have accumulated on pipe linings over the years.

IGM Tejada, in his courtesy call with Pamurayan Punong Barangay Arles A. Janaban last August 23, reiterated SCWD's commitment to improve water quality through regular OLT activities at least once a month.

PrimeWater-Sorsogon City Branch Manager Engr. Ronel Roger S. Pereyra and AWC Sorsogon Plant Manager Biff D. Bulanon also pledged to sustain the activity as SCWD's partner on systems operations and maintenance and bulk water supply, respectively.

SCWD conducted massive information campaign through house-to-house distribution of advisory, text blast, Facebook page posting and advisory to local radio stations prior the actual pipe cleaning activities.

To mitigate the impact of the activity, PrimeWater provided free water supply to more than 600 concessionaires in the two barangays affected by the 24-hour water service interruption using the 10-cubic meter water tanker (see below).

These two pipe cleaning initiatives were the sixth and seventh OLT activities completed by SCWD and partners since March 2022 as directed by the SCWD Board of Directors through Board Resolution No. 08-2022.



Sergio F. Fortes and George R. Barlongay supplying water at Brgy. Pamurayan during OLT last August 26.

SCWD QMS is now ISO certified

By: Annabelle V. Ancheta

The SCWD Quality Management System is now ISO 9001:2015 Certified under Certificate of Registration No. 120329 issued by certifying body NQA Philippines last August 10.

This certification will hold SCWD to adhere and maintain its QMS within international standards until August 10, 2025.

On August 11, 2022, the SCWD Board of Directors passed Board Resolution No. 17-2022 confirming, approving and adopting the International Organization Standardization (ISO) QMS 9001:2015 for SCWD.

SCWD's ISO journey began last January 14, 2021 when IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada issued Office Order No. 002-2021 which set the establishment and certification of SCWD QMS as one of SCWD's priority projects.

On February 5, 2021, SCWD employees attended an ISO orientation facilitated by the Casiguran Water District ISO Core Team providing them an overview on expectations and challenges in pursuing ISO certification.

On May 18, 2021, the SCWD BOD passed Board Resolution No. 09-2021 approving the development of a QMS certifiable to

ISO 9001:2015 Standards for SCWD.

SCWD forged ahead with its ISO certification despite the COVID-19 pandemic with IGM Tejada creating the SCWD QMS Core Team which prepared the SCWD QMS up to the certification audit, through Office Order No. 011-2021 dated June 4, 2021.

On October 26-29, 2021, SCWD conducted a customer satisfaction survey adhering to ISO 9001:2015 questionnaire and rating system wherein SCWD earned a numerical rating of 78% customer satisfaction, equivalent to "very good."

The effectiveness of the implementation of the SCWD QMS was determined through the internal audit conducted on March 9, 11 and 22, 2022.

On July 1, 2022, SCWD conducted the Management review to ensure that the SCWD QMS planning and review were carried-out and to assess opportunities for changes and continual improvement for suitability, adequacy and effectiveness prior to the conduct of the third-party external audit.

A certification audit was conducted by NQA Philippines on July 5-6, 2022 which paved the way to SCWD QMS ISO 9001:2015 registration and certification.



PrimeWater operates 1st San Lorenzo well

By: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

PrimeWater-Sorsogon City officially operated the newly commissioned San Lorenzo Well No. 1 at Sitio San Lorenzo, Brgy. Bibincahan through a series of test runs and valve adjustments beginning August 19.

The new deepwell produced an estimated 200 cubic meters of water during the initial 14-hour pump operations from 4 AM to 6 PM using generator set.

PrimeWater, however, expected at least 600 cubic meters per day once San Lorenzo is operated 24/7 using three-phase power supply from Sorsogon II Electric Cooperative.

Adjustments of key valves along distribution lines from Gabao Bridge, Brgy. San Roque to the Our Lady of Peñafrancia Seminary, Brgy. Bibincahan were performed to accommodate the additional supply from San Lorenzo well.

SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada led the water supply and pressure monitoring at SPPVS, OLV and other areas of Brgy. Bibincahan last August 25 to determine the effect of the additional supply coming from the new water source.

Prior the energization, pressure and leakage test, pipeline disinfection and pavement restoration of the new 4-inch diameter, 225-linear meter distribution lines were completed last August 1.



BM Roger Pereyra during the flushing of the new San Lorenzo Well 1 last August 13.

Installation of 3-inch diameter PPR riser pipes, 7.5 hp submersible pump and motor, pump control, variable frequency drive and chlorinator pump were accomplished last August 13, through the supervision of PrimeWater Branch Manager Engr. Ronel Roger S. Pereyra (photo above) and engineering staff.

Water sample taken from the San Lorenzo well for microbiological analysis last August 22 was compliant to the 2017 Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water as tested at the Dr. Fernando B. Duran Sr. Memorial Hospital Water Laboratory.

Bibincahan PS repaired anew

By: Alpha Mae C. Ditan

Bibincahan Pumping Station was repaired by PrimeWater-Sorsogon City by replacing its submersible pump and motor last August 23-24, the second of such maintenance works this year.

The pull-out activity, including the installation of 39 lengths of riser pipes and a new 30-Hp submersible pump and motor, was completed at around 3:30 AM of August 24.

Normal pump operations resumed by dawn with an estimated flow rate of 18 liters per second (lps).

Bibincahan PS temporarily turned off its pump operations in the evening of August 22, affecting concessionaires of barangays Almendras-Cogon, Balogo, Bibincahan, Sampaloc, Sirangan and Sulucan and portions of Brgy. Cabid-an.

By the early morning of August 23, SCWD released an advisory through text blast and the SCWD Facebook page for concessionaires to expect low pressure to no water as a result of the sudden breakdown of one of the deepwells supplying seven barangays of the city's East District.

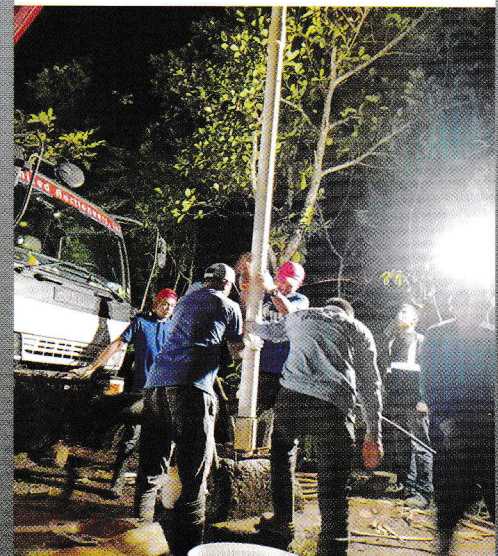
At around the same time, PrimeWater-Sorsogon City maintenance team performed the troubleshooting works, with SCWD's Engineering and Operations Department personnel monitoring the former's repair and maintenance activities.

The team pulled out 36 lengths of 4-inch diameter GI riser pipes, three lengths of 4-inch diameter PPR riser pipes and the defective 30-Hp submersible pump and motor.

However, despite the emergency repair and maintenance activity at the Bibincahan PS, normal water supply was monitored by SCWD at Brgy. Bibincahan and adjacent areas during the two-day period, mainly due to the additional water supply coming from the newly-operated San Lorenzo Well No. 1 at Sitio San Lorenzo, also at Brgy. Bibincahan.

Under normal operating conditions, preventive repair and maintenance works of electro-mechanical components at water resource facilities must be conducted at least twice a year.

The most recent repair and maintenance work of Bibincahan PS was done last March 2 when PrimeWater-Sorsogon city replaced its submersible pump and motor due to sand pumping issues.



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SCWD, PrimeWater update 8th City Council on water supply situation

By: Renee Rose T. Anagon



IGM Tejada addressing the Sangguniang Panlungsod last August 16.

SCWD and its joint venture partner PrimeWater-Sorsogon City once again appeared before the regular session of the 8th City Council held last August 16.

SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada, together with Engineering and Operations Department Division Manager Engr. Alejandro L. Alama, and PrimeWater Sorsogon City Branch Manager Engr. Ronel Roger S. Pereyra, together with Operations and Maintenance Engr. Jerome J. Buen and Water Resources Engr. Florenz Marc G. Bermundo, were present during the session and discussed water supply situation, provided updates on the catch-up plan and other projects and activities of the partnership for and in the City of Sorsogon.

IGM Tejada informed the council that SCWD, together with PrimeWater-Sorsogon City and bulk water supplier Abejo Waters Corp., has an on-going "Oplan Linis Tubo" or massive chlorination of the mainlines to address the water quality issues within the SCWD water system, of which the next target location is Brgy. Pamurayan.

BM Pereyra said that while the catch-up period is

nearing its end on February 2023, they have conducted continuous flushing of the new San Lorenzo Well No. 1 as part of the projects under the catch-up plan and that the new source, once injected into the existing distribution line at Brgy. Bibincahan, is expected to augment water supply by at least 6 liters per second.

On the water supply situation at the Sorsogon City Hall Building as experienced by city councilors, Engr. Buen articulated that there is enough water supply from their 2-inch diameter water source near DepEd-Sorsogon City, Brgy. Cabid-an where the building is situated.

The problem might be with the building's in-house plumbing, to which Engr. Buen assured that they are willing to extend technical assistance to the local government in its repair or rehabilitation.

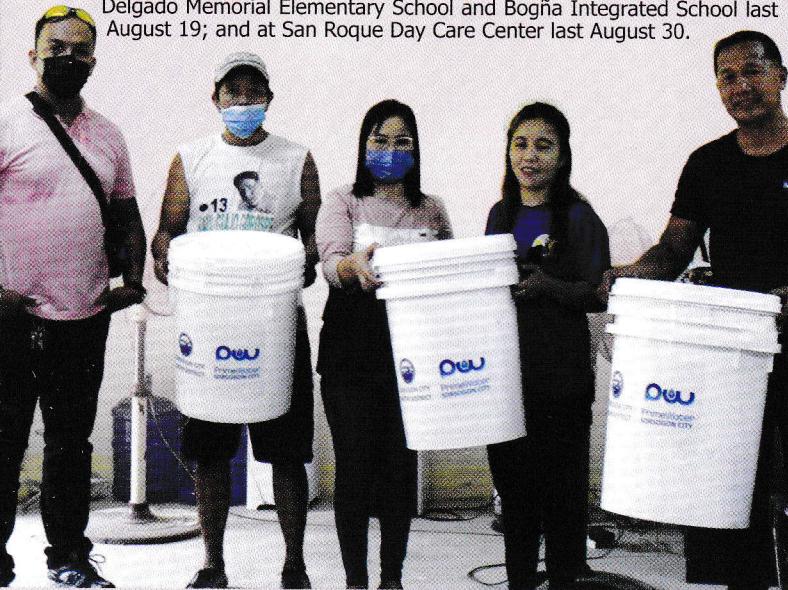
The 8th City Council said that they expect SCWD and PrimeWater to continuously improve and address the water supply situation in Sorsogon City and provide updates through a strengthened information dissemination that would reach not only concessionaires and stakeholders, but other agencies and the general public as well.

SCWD, PrimeWater donate water jugs, provide assistance to 6 city schools

by: Riza A. de Jesus

SCWD and PrimeWater-Sorsogon City donated water jugs and provided plumbing works assistance to six public schools in the City of Sorsogon as support to the Brigada Eskwela initiative in preparation for the opening of classes for School Year 2022-2023 this August.

Donation of water jugs was led by SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada and PrimeWater-Sorsogon City Branch Manager Engr. Ronel Roger S. Pereyra at Buhatan Integrated National School and Buhatan Day Care Centers 1 & 2 last August 17; Balogo Elementary School (background photo), Patricia Jesalva Delgado Memorial Elementary School and Bogña Integrated School last August 19; and at San Roque Day Care Center last August 30.



Inspection of plumbing installation for the school's water system was also conducted at Sorsogon National High School and Buhatan Integrated National School last August 5 and August 12, respectively. These were to ensure water availability for students once the school year started.

School representatives present during the activity for Buhatan Integrated National School were Brigada Eskwela coordinators Lyndon J. Herrero and Jennifer M. Rabaca; Buhatan Barangay Captain of Edwin A. Divina and Barangay Councilor Nenita Alpas of the Committee on Education; and school heads Sonny Mataverde (Balogo ES), Armand Engay (PJDMS) and Evelyn G. Fortuno (Bogña IS).

In response to the request of SNHS OIC Michael M. Uy and as part of its support to Brigada Eskwela, SCWD also prepared a program of work, cost estimates and plans for the proposed solar powered water system for SNHS, which is the city's largest public school in terms of student population.



COVID-19 support kits for SCWD officers, staff continued in Q3

By: Annabelle V. Ancheta

SCWD continued the provision of COVID-19 health support kit to its officers and employees even while the nation is slowly transitioning into the new normal.

"Sustaining the provision of health support kit is one of the many supports that we at SCWD is providing our officers and employees as we all transition into to the new normal of water service delivery. We want to make sure that our employees can always connect and rely on SCWD in ensuring their health and safety as well as that of their families," said SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada.

The distribution of the 3rd quarter health kits which was led by IGM Tejada was done on August 11 for the SCWD Board of Directors and on August 5 for the SCWD employees.

He added that they the provision of health support kit to employees shall be institutionalized and enhanced as part of the health and wellness program of SCWD.

TEDITORIAL



QUALITY, QUANTITY, EFFICIENCY

by: ENGR. EDUARDO P. TEJADA
Interim General Manager

The operation of a water system necessitates major requirements – quality and quantity of water and efficiency of the system. The lack of even one of these requirements is detrimental to the interest and welfare of water concessionaires; it will cause dissatisfactions expressed nowadays in social media.

The Sorsogon City Water District (SCWD) thru Primewater Infrastructure Corp. has instituted major reforms to address the issues. The improvements done were validated by water consumers themselves thru the dramatic increase of satisfaction ratings.

This paper intends to discuss the said requirements one by one. For this issue, the discussion will dwell on the present quality of water in the city.

There are three (3) water tests being conducted to assure the quality of water, namely – Chlorine Residual Test, Bacteriological Test and Physical/Chemical Test which is being done daily, monthly and semi-annually, respectively. The results of these tests should and must comply with Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water (PNSDW).

For the daily Chlorine Residual Tests, the results should be between 0.30 ppm to 1.5 ppm at any given point in the system. It is good to note that from a measly 30% compliant for year 2019, the figures now reach as high as 80% compliant.

This was attained thru the institution of an hourly and definite adjustments of chlorinators at water sources. The sustainability, consistency and improvements of these figures, however, remains a challenge. The infusion of chlorine was made to vary depending on the volume of water being extracted and pressure at the pipeline. Diligence on the part of pump operators is vital.

SCWD also gave directives for the installation of additional chlorinators at strategic locations to fully satisfy the requirements for chlorine residual. Primewater, having installed two (2) additional in-line chlorinators, has yet to fully comply with this directive. Installation of additional filters to arrest primarily excessive content of iron and manganese, considered to be a long-term solution, still remains to be implemented.

For the requirements on turbidity of water, the results stand at 80% to 100% compliant.

The monthly Bacteriological Tests are very encouraging. Latest figures reveal that samples taken were 70% to 90% compliant.

The latest Physical and Chemical tests of water in the city were found to be compliant. The parameters considered are Thermotolerant Coliform, E. Coli, Arsenic (As), Cadmium (Cd), Lead (Pb), Nitrate (NO₃), Color (Apparent), Turbidity, pH, Total Dissolve Solids and Disinfectant Residual. The tests were conducted in a LWUA accredited laboratory in Quezon City, Manila.

The SCWD also institutionalized the conduct of Oplan Linis Tubo. This activity aims to clean the internal portion of pipelines from bio-films that have been accumulated for years that causes water discoloration especially after low-pressure episodes. As of this writing SCWD, Primewater and Abejo Water Corporation have successfully conducted Oplan in nine (9) areas in the city. The positive comments and appreciation of concessionaires have added reasons for us to conduct the activity whole year-round with at least one area cleaned every month.

SCWD thru Primewater and Abejo Water Corporation will relentlessly pursue towards full compliant with PNSDW.

PrimeWater tweaks Sirangan water system

by: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

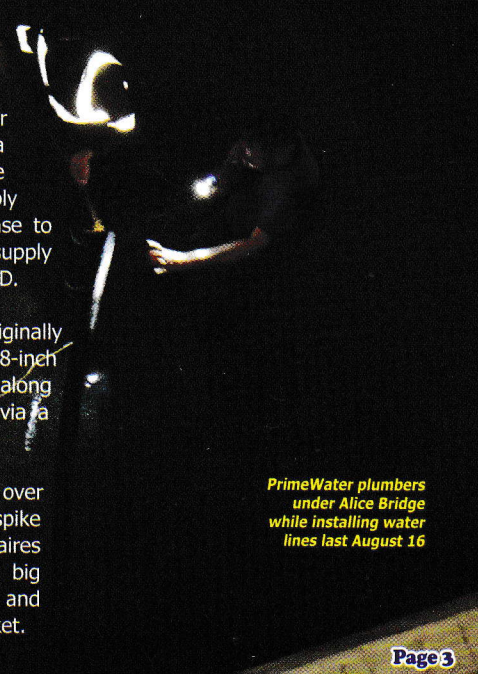
PrimeWater-Sorsogon City plumbers led by Operations and Maintenance Engr. Jerome J. Buen improved the water supply for Brgy. Sirangan by providing a new pipeline coming from the 12-inch diameter mainline along Alice Bridge of the city proper.

Pipelaying and interconnection of two rolls of 2-inch diameter x 60 m length or a total of 120 linear meters of PE pipes along Villamil Street was completed by dawn of August 16.

SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada, in a coordination meeting with PrimeWater staff led by Branch Manager Engr. Ronel Roger S. Pereyra last August 15, requested the installation of additional supply for Brgy. Sirangan in response to concerns on water supply insufficiency reported to SCWD.

Brgy. Sirangan was originally supplied mainly by the 8-inch diameter old water mains along Rizal Street near Chowking via a 3-inch mainline.

Demand for water increased over the years with the recent spike in the number of concessionaires at Brgy. Sirangan, including big commercial establishments and the Sorsogon City Public Market.



PrimeWater plumbers under Alice Bridge while installing water lines last August 16

PrimeWater sets up 19 payment partners in 15 SCWD served barangays

By: Ma. Katherine V. Deblais

To make the collections channel readily accessible to its concessionaires, Primewater-Sorsogon City established 19 local payment partners (LPP) located at 15 barangays where concessionaires can pay their water bills beginning the August 2022 billing schedule:

For the West District, PrimeWater's LPP were: (1) Hita Store at Purok 2, Brgy. Gimaloto; (2) Liezel Residence at GK Village, Brgy. Guinlajon, Sorsogon City; (3) Gwen and Gab Store at Brgy. Pamurayan; (4) Bubbletastic Laundry Express at 7th St., OLV Pangpang; (5) Lacao Store at Imperial Homes, Brgy. Pangpang; and (6) RS Aninipot Store, Purok 5, Brgy. Peñafrancia.

For the East District, PrimeWater's LPP were: (1) GM Lagata Store at Central 2, Brgy. Abuyog; (2) MRN Gen. Merchandise at Magsaysay St., Brgy. Bibinchan; (3) EF Remittance Center at Gate 3, Diversion Rd., Brgy. Bibinchan; (4) Discaya Store at OLV Bibinchan;

(5) Godino Store at Purok Roxas, Brgy. Buhatan; (6) Bobby Store at Arellano Street, Brgy. Salog; and (7) Nikki's Bakery and Food Products at Brgy. San Juan Roro.

For the Bacon District, PrimeWater's LPP were: (1) Guemo Store at Purok 2, Brgy. Bogña; (2) JJ's Food Kiosk at Purok 1, Brgy. Caricaran; (3) Diolata Store at Purok 7, Brgy. Caricaran; (4) LJ Water Refilling Station at Brgy. San Isidro; (5) Buboy Store at Sitio Bancal, Brgy. San Roque, Bacon; and (5) Welcome Store at Purok 3, Brgy. San Vicente.

Establishment of LPPs was part of PrimeWater's Lingap Kabuhayan under its Daloy ng Paglingap Corporate Social Responsibility program for concessionaires and community partners.



Lingap Kabuhayan

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AWC completes water clarifier system for Guinlajon treatment plant

By: Carl Bruce M. Guantero

Abejo Waters Corp. (AWC)-Sorsogon Bulk Water Supply completed the installation of the water clarifier system for its settling pond located within the AWC Ultra-Filtration and Treatment Plant at Sitio Rangas, Brgy. Guinlajon last August 31.

The installation of the water clarifier system was one of three engineering interventions requested by SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada from the AWC Management led by President and CEO Gabino M. Abejo Jr. to ensure full bulk water supply operations during turbid conditions of their surface water source, a supply distributed by PrimeWater-Sorsogon City mainly to the city's West District.

The clarifier system was designed and installed to reduce the turbidity of water collected from AWC's Cawayan River surface water source to allowable levels of less than 5 NTU as set by the 2017 Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water prior to filtration and treatment.

IGM Tejada inspected the

fabrication and installation of the system components by AWC's Cebu City office technical personnel under the supervision of AWC Plant Manager Biff D. Bulanon last August 18 and 22.

SCWD also released Advisory No. 52-08192022 of AWC's maintenance activity last August 19-20 to concessionaires of barangays Basud, Barayong, Gimaloto, Guinlajon, Pangpang, Tugos, Cambulaga, Piot, Bitan-o/Dalipay, Talisay and Sirangan via text blast and the SCWD Facebook page.

Test run of the new clarifier system and its coagulant, poly aluminum chloride, to minimize the level of turbidity of raw water source from Cawayan River were also conducted prior its operationalization.

Aside from the water clarifier, IGM Tejada requested AWC to provide an additional back-up generator set for the AWC Guinlajon plant and to develop an additional surface water source at Brgy. Guinlajon.

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MONITORING ACTIVITIES

BELOW ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF SCWD'S DAILY WATER QUALITY AND MONTHLY PRESSURE MONITORING ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2022, PURSUANT TO THE SCWD-PRIMEWATER JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT:

Compliance to Chlorine Residual (0.3 - 1.5 ppm)

47%

Compliance to Turbidity (at most 5 NTU)

85%

Compliance to Microbiological Quality (Total coliform, Thermotolerant coliform, Heterotrophic plate count)

71%

Average systems pressure

11.73 PSI

Compliance to Pressure (at least 7.0 psi)

55%

