

Marubeni, MOEJ ink JV deal for HFC facility



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB) met with Marubeni Corporation on February 21, 2022 to discuss the establishment of a destruction facility for Fluorocarbon gas (F-Gas) in the Philippines.

The joint venture aims to reduce or remove greenhouse-gas emission in a quantitative manner contributing to the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This project will be implemented with the assistance of the Ministry of Environment, Government of Japan (MOEJ) using the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) established by Japan.

F-Gas or Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) are chemicals used to replace the harmful Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS), such as Hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) under the Montreal Protocol to protect and preserve the ozone layer. But HFCs are considered as potent greenhouse gas with exponential value of carbon dioxide equivalent ranging from 50-14,800 compared to 1 CO₂. Because of this, the members of the Montreal Protocol agreed to include the control of HFCs in the protocol by adopting the Kigali Amendment on October 15, 2016, establishing a legally binding agreement designed to create rights and obligations in international law to all its members to phase-down HFCs with the purpose of avoiding 0.5 degree Celsius increase in global warming while protecting the ozone layer.

“As we know, HFCs are hundreds to tens of thousands of times more potent than carbon dioxide, yet the average atmospheric lifetime for most commercially used HFCs is less than 15 years. As the lead agency that controls and monitors the emission and destruction of HFCs, we welcome this venture between Marubeni Corporation and Ministry of Environment, Government of Japan and give our full commitment and engagement for this upcoming project,” said EMB Asst. Dir. Vizmindia Osorio.

The proposed HFC destruction facility will be the first in the country. Marubeni in collaboration with Holcim, Philippines will install the equipment on the cement kiln of Holcim in Norzagaray, Bulacan. EMB as the lead agency that controls and monitors the emission and destruction of HFCs has welcomed this program and are in full anticipation on the success of this project.

Also, EMB will launch a campaign to capture the inventory of F-Gas collection in the service provider sector for RAC and MAC and encourage this sector to send their collected F-Gas to the facility for its proper disposal.###