

LARC Stream

A quarterly Newsletter providing the latest news, updates, and information in and around LARC

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WORLD WATER DAY

March 22, 2016 is World Water Day, an annual international observance on water-related issues started in 1993 by the United Nations (UN). The event is not just recognized by UN but by the global community... (more on page 2)

IBAYONG SERBISYO

Agarang inayos ng Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation (LARC) ang problema sa tubig ng Brgy. Tranca, Bay, at Tikling St., Rhoda Subdivision sa Brgy. Anos, Los Baños. Matapos ang water service improvement projects doon noong Enero at Pebrero 2016... (more on page 3)

WATER SUPPLY IMPROVES IN PARTS OF LOS BAÑOS AND BAY

Exactly two months after it started operation, Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation or LARC completed its plans to upgrade the water distribution system at Brgy. Tranca, Bay, Laguna and Tikling Street, Rhoda Subdivision, Anos, Los Baños, Laguna. The improvement projects were part of the numerous undertakings lined up in LARC's development projects for its first year.

Brgy. Tranca and Tikling Street had been experiencing water supply shortage during peak hours – in the morning and during weekends. LARC resolved the problem by adding a water storage facility for Brgy. Tranca and directing a distribution line to Tikling Street with the installation of additional control valves.

Engr. John Patrick Robles, LARC's Division Manager of Water Supply Operations, explained that they had to find another water storage facility aside from the existing water pump station being used in Brgy. Tranca. According to Engr. Robles, LARC tapped an elevated water steel tank "to support the water pump station during peak hours." In addition, Engr. Robles stat-



LARC's Non-Revenue Water Team implementing the improvements at Tikling Street, Rhoda Subd., Los Baños

ed that water supply coming from Lopez Heights Pump station, located in Los Baños, now augments the water supply at Tikling Street after the improvement.

These water service improvements are seen to benefit around 600 concessionaires, providing them 24-hour uninterrupted water supply and making their problem of water shortage a thing of the past. 💧

LARC becomes contractor operator and agent of LWD

January 1, 2016 saw a new water service provider for concessionaires of select Laguna areas – Los Banos, Bay, Calauan, and Victoria – as Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation (LARC) became the contractor, operator and agent of the Laguna Water District (LWD). LARC is a joint venture corporation formed by LWD and Equipacific Holdco Inc., a holding company headed by Equi-Parco Construction Company and the Metro Pacific Water Investments Corporation (MWIC).

Since the start of the year, LARC has been handling the operations, finance, rehabilitation, improvement, expansion, and maintenance of the water supply system of LWD. With LARC's plans to implement service efficiency programs, concessionaires can expect more water supply service improvements and a more sustainable operation. The venture will also enable LWD to tap into the resource network and expertise of Equipacific Holdco Inc. and gain a foothold in the use of the latest state-of-the-art technology and equipment. Meanwhile, LARC still operates under the monitoring of LWD. Also, water tariff increases, are still subject to LWD's authority. Concessionaires are assured that LWD will hold public consultation prior to any increase in water tariff in the future. 💧

Straight from GM



GM marks inaugural issue

We present you the inaugural issue of Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation's (LARC's) quarterly newsletter called LARC Stream. Our goal is to provide you information on the plans, events, projects, and programs that are implemented and which will be implemented by the company.

I am pleased to relay that our first issue contains compilation of interviews and news that you will find informative and interesting at the same time. You will read articles regarding LARC's new role as contractor, agent, and operator of Laguna Water District, the various community activities LARC participated in, interviews with several concessionaires and LARC representatives regarding water service improvements, and our Chief Operating Officer's, Engr. Rodrigo O. Yabut, message about our business and operational plans. Information on additional payment centers for your convenience is also provided in this issue.

The launch of LARC Stream is especially exciting for me because I believe that the dissemination of news and information to you as our valued concessionaires is essential to have a better understanding of our comprehensive programs and services. I hope that you will find this first edition of LARC Stream everything that you expected and hoped for in a newsletter.



ABOUT THE GM


GM Mat Wilson B. Ramos boasts of 30 years experience in the water district industry with various consultancy works in water system design and other related fields. He has a Masters Degree in Business Administration and a Licensed Civil Engineer.

LARC celebrates World Water Day

March 22, 2016 is World Water Day, an annual international observance on water-related issues started in 1993 by the United Nations (UN). The event is not just recognized by UN but by the global community as well, to remind us that our world still faces a global water sanitation and hygiene crisis, and that it is our responsibility to do something about this problem. This year's theme is water and jobs which "is focusing on how enough quantity and quality of water can change workers' lives and livelihoods and even transform societies and economies" (UN-Water, 2016).



(from left) Exhibit at Anos, Los Baños office and a concessionaire receiving her freebie umbrella from a LARC personnel

Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation (LARC) supported the event by putting up World Water Day posters in several of its offices and water pump stations. Concessionaires who paid their monthly dues on the said day received LARC's World Water Day giveaways like umbrellas, mugs, and fans. LARC also put together a World Water Day Exhibit in its office in Anos, Los Baños, Laguna where most of the concessionaires go for their water concerns. The exhibit, which ran from March 22 to 31, aims to raise awareness on water sustainability and to value the billions of people working around the world in water-related sectors. 



We, at **LARC Stream** appreciate your comments and feedbacks. Please let us know what you think about this issue, e-mail us at larc.main@larc.online


Brgy. Masiit to drink LARC water soon

Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation (LARC) is expanding its service coverage to reach Masiit, a barangay in Calauan, Laguna near the poblacion. Residents currently resort to shallow and dug-up wells for water in spite of being aware of its negative environmental consequences and the low quality of water these wells produce due to easy contamination by foreign matter like bacteria. For the



LARC pipeline will be installed from this area going to Brgy. Masiit

past ten years, the community has been doing their own initiatives to acquire safe water services without any success. It was only when Barangay Chairman Ernesto Carpio and his constituents met with LARC last March 2016 that they were able to get a water service provider. In the said meeting, LARC, headed by General Manager Mat Wilson B. Ramos, committed to provide the barangay the much needed water service. LARC is set to move ahead with the water service expansion project in the area very soon.

“The Masiit transmission line will be interconnected with the existing waterline at Brgy. Silangan and will traverse along the Bay-Calauan Highway. This will supply clean, safe and potable water in the area, and will serve a potential of 522 households,” explains Mr. Emil Q. Puerto, LARC’s Operations Group Head. 

From the COO's desk Plans for 2016

On January 1, 2016, Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation or LARC became the operator, contractor and/or agent of the Laguna Water District (LWD). LARC evolved from the joint venture of LWD and Equipacific Holdco Inc (EHI).

While LARC is still a new company, the companies behind it are not. EHI is headed by Equi-Parco Construction Company, a category AAA construction firm which has successfully spearheaded various infrastructure projects with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and Metro Pacific Water Investment Corporation (MWIC), whose general business is to operate, maintain, rehabilitate and expand waterworks, sewerage, and sanitation systems and services. This partnership strengthens EHI’s expertise in providing water supply solutions in various fields in the water industry throughout the Philippines, which includes collaboration with various water districts, local government units, and water utilities in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. We assure you that the joint venture of LWD and EHI will work hard to improve the current operations so that you are provided only the best services.

We understand the

ABOUT THE COO

Engr. Rodrigo O. Yabut is a former Executive of Maynilad and Manager of MWSS. He is also a consultant and expert in the field of water supply operations, non-revenue water reduction and control, and technical audit and regulations of water concessions.




importance of water to our customers and how challenging inadequate water supply can be since this has a direct and immediate effect on customers’ quality of life. This is why we believe that we need to work constantly to improve the services we provide and address current problems.

Our plan is to improve customer service by automating and updating the current system. Through this upgrade, Bayad Centers and other online payment options will be made available for your convenience and for timely completion of payments. The upgraded system will also be able to provide faster and better handling of customer requests such as applications, maintenance, orders and complaints. Renovation of the Años Office will also be implemented in the coming months to provide you a more conducive place to transact business. Our Facebook account: [Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation – LARC](#) and website [www.larc.online](#) are now operational, and can be easily viewed by concessionaires.

Several operational strategies are already lined up to equitably distribute

water and satisfy the water demand of our customers. LARC plans to establish hydraulic areas, and implement water supply and pressure management to ensure reliability, sustainability and delivery of continuous and potable water supply to existing and future customers. To minimize loss of precious water resources, production meters and customer meters will be calibrated, leak detection and repair will be accelerated, and pilferage and illegal use will be discouraged. There are also plans for water service expansions to bring service to unserved population.

LARC believes that our responsibilities are not just limited to our employees, concessionaires and shareholders; we are also responsible for our community. This is the reason why we strive to design Corporate Social Responsibility programs that could extend contribution to the community. LARC will be putting up drinking stations in selected public schools within the community. To help promote the love of learning, LARC will hold a Science and Math Contest in the latter part of the year. We will also extend community assistance to selected barangays through medical missions and back-to-school programs.

We are committed to serve you the best way we can. With our capable and outstanding management team and dedicated staff, we are confident that we can deliver our goals and objectives. 

Ibayong serbisyo ikinasaya ng konsesyonaryo ng LARC

Agarang inayos ng Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation (LARC) ang problema sa tubig ng Brgy. Tranca, Bay, at Tikling St., Rhoda Subdivision sa Brgy. Anos, Los Baños. Matapos ang *water service improvement projects* doon noong Enero at Pebrero 2016, minarapat ng LARC Stream na kapanayamin ang ilang konsesyonaryo ng LARC sa naturang mga lugar upang malaman ang kanilang komentaryo at reaksiyon sa natapos na mga proyekto.

Gng. Jovita Pamulaklakin

34 na taon ng nakatira sa Tikling St., Rhoda Subd. Nagsisimulang humina ang kanilang tubig bandang 5:00 ng umaga at ito ay nawawala hanggang bandang 11:00 ng umaga.

Ngayon: “Tuloy-tuloy na ang daloy ng tubig. Ngayon ay nakakapaligo na ang mga bata sa tamang oras.”



G. Rogelio Evmino

May limang buwan ng nakatira sa Tikling Street, Rhoda Subd. Nawawalan sila ng tubig bandang 5:30 ng umaga hanggang 8:00 ng umaga tuwing Lunes hanggang



Biyernes, at bandang 10:00 ng umaga naman hanggang 12:00 ng tanghali tuwing Sabado’t Linggo.

Ngayon: “Maalwan na. Nakakaligo na kami sa tamang oras. Hindi na kami nawawalan ng tubig.”

G. Dionisio Lat

Mahigit 50 na taon nang nakatira sa Brgy. Tranca, Bay. Nagkakaroon lamang ng tubig sa kanila bandang 9:00 ng gabi hanggang 6:30 ng umaga.

Ngayon: “Hindi na namin kailangang iwan na nakabukas ang gripo para hintayin ang pagpatak ng tubig. Maari na kaming maligo o maglaba anumang oras namin gustuhin. Nadidiligan ko na ang aking mga halaman. Maraming nagpapasalamat sa LARC sa aming lugar dahil hindi na kami nawawalan ng tubig!”



Kon. Gener Lanip

May 42 na taon ng nakatira sa Brgy. Tranca, Bay. May mga panahong nawawalan sila ng supply ng tubig kapag 7:00 ng umaga hanggang bandang 12:00 ng tanghali.

Ngayon: “Sa ngayon ay ayos na ang serbisyo ng tubig. Hindi na kami nawawalan ng tubig kahit marami ang gumagamit nito. Hindi na namin kailangang maghintay ng oras para mag-ipon ng tubig, at hindi na rin kami nag-aalala na humina o mawalan ng tubig.”



Payment centers ng LARC dinagdagan

Upang makapagdulot ng ibayong serbisyo sa mga nasasakupan ng LARC, simula sa taong ito, ang mga sumusunod na bangko o *payment centers* ay maari nang tumanggap ng bayad sa tubig mula sa kani-kanilang lugar na nasasakupan nang mas maaga hanggang sa *due date*.

- Country Bank Builders, Inc– Los Baños
- Ormon Bank– Los Baños
- Planbank– Los Baños
- Planbank– Bay
- Rural Bank of Bay, Inc.
- Rural Bank of Calauan, Inc.

Samantala, kung ang *water bill/s* ay lampas na sa *due date*, maari itong bayaran sa LARC Office, Anos, National Highway, Los Banos at sa LARC Extension Office, Marfori Ave., Calauan. Makakaasa ang mga konsesyonaryo na madagdagan pa ang mga *payment centers* para sa kanilang water bills sa mga susunod na buwan.

Buwan ni Juana, ginunita



2,000 bote ng tubig mula sa LARC tinanggap ng munisipyo ng Los Baños

"Kapakanan ni Juana, Isama sa Agenda!" Ito ang tema sa pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Kababaihan para sa taong 2016. Nagsagawa ang lokal na gobyerno ng Los Baños, Laguna, sa pangunguna ng Municipal Gender and Development

Council, ng isang parada noong ika-8 ng Marso, 2016, kung saan nakiisa ang Laguna Water District Aquatech Resources Corporation (LARC).

Naniniwala ang LARC na dapat itaguyod ang *gender equality* sa publiko at pribadong sektor. Kaya naman ipinadama ng LARC ang kanilang maigting na pakiisa sa nasabing selebrasyon sa pamamagitan ng pagkakabit ng mga *tar paulins* ukol sa pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Kababaihan, pagbibigay ng tulong pinansyal, at pagbibigay ng 2,000 *bottled water* para sa mga sumali sa parada.

