

Cebu mayor: Power plant ‘outrageous’

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Cebu City — Mayor Tomas Osmeña said he is opposed to the construction of a 300-megawatt coal-fired power plant in Barangay Sawang Calero.

“Three hundred megawatt is outrageous. It’s too much,” he told reporters. He said he is against having a power plant in a densely-populated barangay such as Sawang Calero.

Osmeña made his stand clear even as over a hundred residents from Sawang Calero and four neighboring barangays marched in the city Tuesday to dramatize their support for the project.

The residents believed the plant can provide jobs to residents and ensure a constant supply of electricity.

Joining the rally were residents of Barangays Sawang Calero, Pasil, Suba, San Nicolas Proper, and Pahina San Nicolas. They marched to the area where another plant is located.

Last week, the Cebu City Council officially endorsed the proposed Sawang Calero plant to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other concerned national agencies.

The council voted 10-5 to endorse the Ludo and Luym Coal Power Plant project.

In April last year, the council rejected the proposal to build the plant citing the risks it could bring to the environment.

The council changed its mind when the project proponent, Ludo Power Corporation, reintroduced its proposal in December.

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