

### Energy & Resources

## DOE Introduces Policy and Framework for Hydrogen Utilisation in the Philippines

On 12 January 2024, the Department of Energy ("**DOE**") issued Department Circular No. DC2024-01-001, also known as the Hydrogen Energy Guidelines ("**Guidelines**"), to establish a comprehensive framework for the development and utilisation of hydrogen energy in the Philippines. The Guidelines outline the national policy, roadmap, and regulatory framework to support the country's transition to cleaner and more sustainable energy sources. They cover all aspects of hydrogen energy activities, including application, operation, maintenance, decommissioning, and disposal of hydrogen projects and facilities.

Under the Guidelines, individuals or entities intending to participate in any hydrogen energy industry activity are required to file a notice of activity with the DOE's Energy Utilisation Management Bureau before commencing operations. To incentivise the adoption and proliferation of hydrogen projects, the Guidelines provide access to various fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. These include tax benefits, streamlined permitting processes, and potential grants or subsidies, designed to encourage both local and foreign investments in the hydrogen energy sector.

The Guidelines were formulated to achieve four primary objectives: (i) energy security, by diversifying the country's energy mix; (ii) environmental sustainability, by promoting cleaner energy sources to reduce carbon emissions; (iii) research and technological development, by fostering innovation in hydrogen technologies; and (iii) access to financing and investments, by creating a conducive environment for private sector participation. With these cornerstones, DOE aims to position hydrogen as a key element in the Philippines' energy transition strategy, driving economic growth while addressing pressing energy and environmental challenges.

If you have any queries on the above, please feel free to contact our team members below who will be happy to assist.

# Client Update: Philippines

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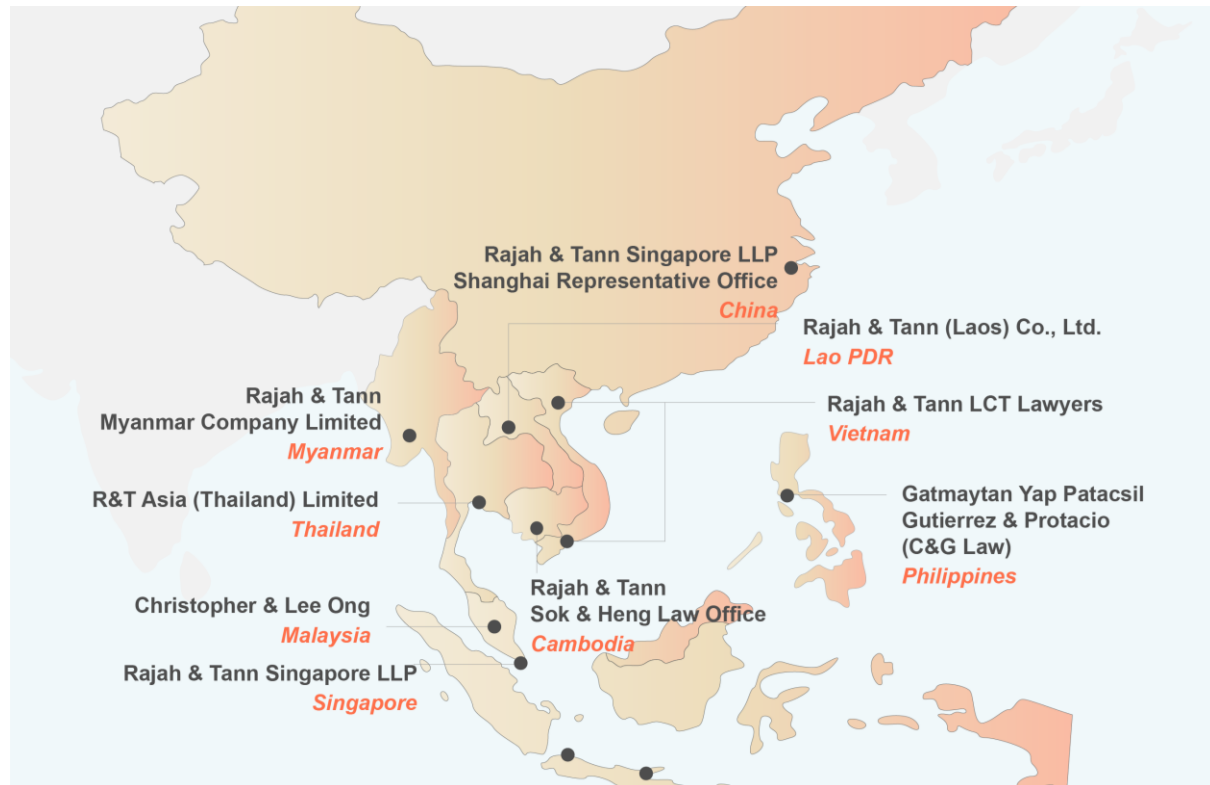
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