

Presentation Script: Updates on Removal of Obstructions (December 2025)

Slide 1: Title Slide

- **Speaker:** "Good day. I am Engr. Rafael E. Alarcon, presenting the Department of Public Works and Highways Region IV-A updates on the removal of obstructions for the month of December 2025."

Slide 2: Overall Regional Summary

- **Speaker:** "As of December 2025, we are tracking a total of **60,285 obstructions** across the region. To date, **1,591** have been removed, representing a **2.64%** accomplishment rate. Priority 1 obstructions, those within the carriageway and shoulder, remain our critical focus with over 18,000 still to be cleared."

Slide 3: Summary of Poles & Trees

- **Speaker:** "Breaking this down by type:
 - **Poles:** We have removed **1,467** out of **41,664** identified poles.
 - **Trees:** Out of **18,621** trees, **124** have been removed.

Slide 4: Utility Company Commitments

District Accomplishments and Commitments

Batangas Province

- **Batangas 1st:** Removed **24 poles** (5.74% accomplishment) and **3 trees** (15% accomplishment). Companies like **Globe, PLDT, and DITO** have each removed one pole as part of their commitment following joint inspections.
- **Batangas 2nd:** Removed **22 poles** (0.48%) and **11 trees** (0.35%). **Meralco** relocated 4–5 poles on the Batangas Port Diversion Road and conducted a major inventory of over 100 poles on the Palico-Balayan-Batangas Road.
- **Batangas 3rd:** Removed **58 poles** (1.58%) but **0 trees**. **Converge** has committed to 12 poles by January 2026. **PLDT** is currently mapping poles in Tanauan and Sto. Tomas but has not provided a firm relocation schedule.
- **Batangas 4th:** Removed **394 poles** (12.12%) and **52 trees** (20.63%). **Converge** committed to 76 poles by the end of 2025, and **Globe** committed to removing all poles by the same deadline.

Cavite Province

- **Cavite 1st:** Removed **131 poles** (1.96%) and **0 trees**. **DITO** committed to 3 poles per quarter, while **Meralco** is currently conducting site verifications.

- **Cavite 2nd:** Removed **154 poles** (10.22%) and **1 tree** (0.12%). **DITO** completed their 2025 commitments, and **PLDT** has scheduled removals for this quarter following earlier contractor delays.
- **Cavite 3rd:** Removed **59 poles** (2.27%) and **0 trees**. **Meralco** is actively relocating poles along the Bacoor-Dasmariñas National Road.

Laguna Province

- **Laguna 1st:** Removed **94 poles** (1.65%) and **0 trees**. **Meralco** committed to 10 poles per quarter, and **PLDT/Digitel** will present their programs of work in January 2026.
- **Laguna 2nd:** Removed **140 poles** (13.65%) and **0 trees**. **Meralco** removed 46 poles as of December 2025, and **PT&T** removed 35 poles. **Globe, PLDT, and Digitel** each committed to 5 poles per quarter.
- **Laguna 3rd:** Removed **94 poles** (3.61%) and **0 trees**. **Meralco** is working on clearing 85 poles along CSCFJCT, while **DITO** committed to relocating 3 poles along Maharlika Highway.

Quezon Province

- **Quezon 1st:** Removed **28 poles** (12.12%) and **0 trees**. **Converge** has a commitment for the first quarter of 2026.
- **Quezon 2nd:** Removed **25 poles** (1.91%) and **0 trees**. **Globe and Telic Phil** each committed to 33 poles for the current quarter, while **PLDT, Smart, and Digitel** each committed to 7 poles.
- **Quezon 3rd:** Removed **2 poles** (0.37%) and **16 trees** (5.32%). **Quezelco 1** noted they cannot commit to a target due to a lack of funds.
- **Quezon 4th:** Removed **31 poles** (1.79%) and **40 trees** (0.37%). **Converge** is currently consulting with management regarding a commitment for a large number of poles.

Rizal Province

- **Rizal 1st:** Removed **161 poles** (9.85%) and **1 tree** (0.75%). **Globe** committed to 30 poles, but over 100 abandoned poles cannot be removed until ownership is identified.
- **Rizal 2nd:** Removed **50 poles** (1.18%) and **0 trees**. **Globe** committed to 30 poles by the end of 2025, while **Meralco, PLDT, and Converge** each committed to 25 poles.
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Slide 5: QGIS Implementation (Detailed)

- **Speaker:** "Now, let's discuss our technical approach using **Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS)** software.

QGIS is a powerful, open-source GIS platform that allows us to visualize, analyze, and edit spatial data without the high cost of proprietary software licenses. For this project, we utilize QGIS to create digital 'heat maps' and plots of all identified obstructions.

By plotting GPS coordinates of every pole and tree, we can identify which road sections have the highest density of obstructions to prioritize deployment, dynamically update the map as obstructions are removed, providing a real-time spatial view of our accomplishment rate, and we provide utility companies with precise spatial data to avoid confusion during relocation. This data-driven approach ensures that our field teams are working where they are needed most, backed by accurate spatial analysis."

However, we are currently in a trial phase as we work to improve our precision and efficiency. The primary technical challenge we face is collecting the exact latitude and longitude for every individual pole and tree in our massive inventory. Developing a workflow to capture these precise coordinates is essential for creating a reliable master list that utility companies can use for their relocation operations without further field validation delays.

Slide 6: Conclusion & Moving Forward

- **Speaker:** "In conclusion, while progress is steady, the relocation of poles remains a challenge. We will continue to leverage QGIS for better monitoring and maintain strict coordination to meet our targets. Thank you."