

Public Notice

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District

Public Notice No. POH-2005-447 Reply to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Guam Regulatory Branch PSC 455, Box 188 FPO AP 96540-1088

Dated: November 10, 2005 Respond By: December 10, 2005

APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT

1. <u>APPLICANT</u>: Guam Power Authority

APPLICANT'S AGENT: EMPSCO, Inc.

2. <u>APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES</u>: Section 10, River and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

3. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Agfayan Bay, Inarajan, Guam

4. <u>DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY</u>: The applicant proposes to construct a boat ramp, solid fill pier and floating dock in Agfayan Bay, Inarajan, Guam. The ramp would have overall dimensions of 117' by 19.5'. The solid fill pier would be 78' by 12' while the floating dock would have overall dimensions of 60' by 10' and be secured to two anchor lines attached to pre-cast concrete anchor blocks varying from 4' by 4' by 4' to 8' by 5.5' by 4' in size. The applicant's project also includes on-shore parking for twenty cars and boat trailers, which are located on uplands and not within the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers. The purpose of the project is to provide the mitigation required by Department of the Army permit number PODCO-O 1031, issued October 31, 1972, which required the Guam Power Authority to construct a paved public boat launching ramp with parking space for twenty cars with boat trailers above the mewan higher high water line. I consider the proposed project to fulfill the nitigation requirements of the original permit. All work would conform to the attached drawings (6sheets) entitled "Inarajan Boat Ramp".

5. <u>IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION ON THE ENVIRONMENT</u>: The project is not expected to have any impact on the Essential Fish Habitat zone around Guam. The project would replace a reef flat with a solid fill boat ramp. Any non-mobile marine organisms would be killed by the fill. There are no live coral colonies or seagrass beds in the project area. There would be an increase in suspended sediments during construction; however, these could be confined to the project area by silt control structures. There will be an increase in emissions from boats and vehicles using this area that is expected to be dispersed by the ambient winds.

6. <u>IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The latest National Register of Historic Places was consulted. No historical or archaeological sites listed on or considered eligible for inclusion on the National Register are located at the proposed project site. A copy of this notice was sent to the Guam Historic

Preservation Office and the U.S. National Park Service for their review and comment in conformance with Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act.

7. <u>IMPACTS ON ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>: The latest list of threatened and endangered species was consulted. The threatened Green Sea Turtle, (<u>Chelonia</u> <u>mydas</u>), and the Endangered Hawksbill Sea Turtle, (<u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u>), may use this area for feeding, this project should have no affect on these species. A copy of this notice was sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for their review and comment in conformance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

8. <u>OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS</u>: The applicant is required to obtain the following certifications prior to the issuance of the Department of the Army Permit:

a. Federal Coastal Zone Consistency Determination from the Government of Guam, Bureau of Statistics and Plans, Coastal Zone Management Office. The applicant's CZM consistency determination and accompanying data and information are available for public review at the Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans, Coastal Zone Management Office. Comments on the consistency statement should be submitted in writing to the Guam Bureau of Planning no later than 30 days from the date of this notice.

b. Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Guam Environmental Protection Agency.

The Department of the Army permit does not obviate the need for the applicant to obtain other Federal, State or local authorizations required by Federal, State or local laws.

9. <u>EVALUATION FACTORS</u>: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both the protection and the utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The evaluation will apply the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) (1) of the Clean Water Act.

10. <u>COMMENTS AND INQUIRIES</u>: The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for

Public Notice No. POH-2005-447

this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Interested parties may submit in writing any comments that they may have on the proposed activity. Comments should be submitted to this District no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Written inquiries and comments should be mailed to the address indicated in the letterhead and should make reference to this public notice number.

Further information may be obtained from the Guam Regulatory Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PSC 455, Box 188, FPO AP 96540-1088 or by telephone (671) 339-2108, by fax at (671) 339-2306 or by e-mail at:

Francis.M.Dayton@usace.army.mil

It is Corps of Engineers policy that any objections will be forwarded to the applicant for resolution or rebuttal before a final decision is made on the application. If the objecting party so requests, all personal information will be deleted from the forwarded letter or the objections will be paraphrased in summary form.

11. <u>REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Within 30 days from the date of this notice, any person may request, in writing, that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, hold a public hearing to consider this Department of the Army permit application. Requests for public hearings shall state clearly and concisely, the reasons and rationale for wanting to hold a public hearing.

Encl Drawings (6 sheets)















