

**GUAM COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
ASSESSMENT FORMAT**DATE OF APPLICATION: 11 February 2021NAME OF APPLICANT: John F. Salas, P.E., Environmental Business Line Leader, NAVFAC MarianasADDRESS: NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND MARIANAS, PSC 455 BOX 195, FPO AP 96540-2937TELEPHONE NO.: (671) 349-4420 Fax No. _____ Cell No: _____E-MAIL ADDRESS: john.f.salas@fe.navy.milTITLE OF PROPOSED PROJECT: P-649 JOINT COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE, JOINT REGION MARIANAS, NAVAL BASE GUAM**COMPLETE FOLLOWING PAGES**

FOR BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND PLANS ONLY:

DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED: _____

OCRM NOTIFIED: _____ LIC. AGENCY NOTIFIED: _____

APPLICANT NOTIFIED: _____ PUBLIC NOTICE GIVEN: _____

OTHER AGENCY REVIEW _____

REQUESTED: _____

DETERMINATION:

() CONSISTENT () NON-CONSISTENT () FURTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED

OCRM NOTIFIED: _____ LIC. AGENCY NOTIFIED: _____

APPLICANT NOTIFIED: _____

ACTION LOG:

1. _____

2. _____

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6. _____

DATE REVIEW COMPLETED: _____

DEVELOPMENT POLICIES (DP):**DP 1. Shore Area Development**

Intent: To ensure environmental and aesthetic compatibility of shore area land uses.

Policy: Only those uses shall be located within the Seashore Reserve which:

- enhance, are compatible with or do not generally detract from the surrounding coastal area's aesthetic and environmental quality and beach accessibility; or
- can demonstrate dependence on such a location and the lack of feasible alternative sites.

Discussion:

The project is not located within Guam's Seashore Reserve and does not involve use of shore areas.

DP 2. Urban Development

Intent: To cluster high impact uses such that coherent community design, function, infrastructure support and environmental compatibility are assured.

Policy: Commercial, multi-family, industrial and resort-hotel zone uses and uses requiring high levels of support facilities shall be concentrated within appropriate zone as outlined on the Guam Zoning Code.

Discussion:

The project does not involve uses such as commercial, multi-family, or resort-hotel uses. It will provide facilities and infrastructure to support an existing military use primarily on federally-owned land and within rights-of-way (ROW) along roadways off-installations. There will be electrical transmission infrastructure installed below grade in previously disturbed areas within non-Department of Defense (DoD) controlled roadway ROW Highway Routes 17, 4, 10, and 15. Most of the alignment installation along Route 17 and 15 will be installed along the grass shoulder. Portions of the alignment installation along Route 4 and Route 10 will be in roadway pavement.

DP 3. Rural Development

Intent: To provide a development pattern compatible with environmental and infrastructure support suitability and which can permit traditional lifestyle patterns to continue to the extent practicable.

Policy: Rural districts shall be designated in which only low density residential and agricultural uses will be acceptable. Minimum lot size for these uses should be one-half acre until adequate infrastructure including functional sewerage is provided.

Discussion:

The project does not involve new development in a rural district. Project components are located on a U.S. military installation, with some supporting infrastructure to be installed off-base in public ROWs.

DP 4. Major Facility Siting

- Intent: To include the national interest in analyzing the siting proposals for major utilities, fuel and transport facilities.
- Policy: In evaluating the consistency of proposed major facilities with the goals, policies, and standards of the Comprehensive Development and Coastal Management Plans, Guam shall recognize the national interest in the siting of such facilities, including those associated with electric power production and transmission, petroleum refining and transmission, port and air installations, solid waste disposal, sewage treatment, and major reservoir sites.

Discussion:

The project supports the national interest by improving the defense of the U.S. through providing major upgrades to facilities and infrastructure while expanding the fiber communication pathways to achieve Joint Information Environment Information Processing Node Plus standards, completing the SONET Ring on Guam.

DP 5. Hazardous Areas

- Intent: Development in hazardous areas will be governed by the degree of hazard and the land use regulations.
- Policy: Identified hazardous lands, including flood plains, erosion-prone areas, air installations' crash and sound zones and major fault lines shall be developed only to the extent that such development does not pose unreasonable risks to the health, safety or welfare of the people of Guam, and complies with the land use regulations.

Discussion:

The project will continue an existing use and not involve new development in hazardous areas. According to Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the area, 99% of the project would be located within Zone X (Areas determined to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain) and <1% would be located within Zone A (Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 6600010025D, Revised September 28, 2007).

The proposed P-649 project is not located in air installations' crash or noise zones, or major fault lines, and would not pose unreasonable risks to the health, safety, or welfare of the people of Guam. Any relevant permits or approvals required for the proposed off-base utilities infrastructure would be obtained, as needed.

DP 6. Housing

Intent: To promote efficient community design placed where the resources can support it.

Policy: The government shall encourage efficient design of residential areas, restrict such development in areas highly susceptible to natural and manmade hazards, and recognize the limitations of the island's resources to support historical patterns of residential development.

Discussion:

The project does not involve housing design or development.

DP 7. Transportation

Intent: To provide transportation systems while protecting potentially impacted resources.

Policy: Guam shall develop an efficient and safe transportation system, while limiting adverse environmental impacts on primary aquifers, beaches, estuaries, coral reefs and other coastal resources.

Discussion:

The project does not involve the construction of new public roadways. It would include construction of new parking lots, services roads, loading zones, and walkways within the project area on Naval Base Guam Main Base and Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Site. There are no surface waters located near the areas proposed for alteration. A Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), site-specific SWPPP, and Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) will be prepared to comply with the project's Clean Water Act (CWA) requirements. These plans require the use of potential construction best management practices (BMPs) to avoid or minimize off-site transport of sediment or other pollutants to receiving waters during project construction. Examples of typical BMPs include diversion dikes and swales, gravel/sandbag berms, and fiber rolls to control erosion and reduce runoff. No construction-associated runoff is expected to reach cliff edges or flow offshore.

The proposed detention basin will be designed based on principles of low impact design (LID) and would not increase stormwater runoff from the project site.

DP 8. Erosion and Siltation

Intent: To control development where erosion and siltation damage is likely to occur.

Policy: Development shall be limited in areas of 15% or greater slope by requiring strict compliance with erosion, sedimentation, and land use regulations, as well as other related land use guidelines for such areas.

Discussion:

The project's construction and operational activities would not be located in areas of 15 percent or greater slope. The surface soil at the project sites has been mapped as Guam-Urban land complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes (U.S.D.A., Natural Resources Conservation Service). Construction activities would result in soil disturbance and the removal of vegetation, which could increase potential for short-term increases in stormwater runoff and erosion. As noted above (see DP.7 Transportation), the project would employ a SWPPP and EPP to avoid and/or minimize erosion and sedimentation resulting from construction activities and comply with the project's CWA requirements. The project will be implemented in compliance with all applicable erosion, sedimentation, and land use regulations. The permanent storm drainage system and stormwater management would be designed in accordance with the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam Stormwater Management Manual and LID features would be provided on-site to filter runoff water.

RESOURCES POLICIES (RP):**RP 1. Air Quality**

Intent: To control activities to insure good air quality.

Policy: All activities and uses shall comply with all local air pollution regulations and all appropriate Federal air quality standards in order to ensure the maintenance of Guam's relatively high air quality.

Discussion:

Short-term, direct and indirect, adverse effects on air quality would occur from the site preparation and construction activities associated with the project. Site preparation and construction activities would generate air pollutant emissions from site-disturbing and the operation of construction equipment. Fugitive dust emissions would result from ground-disturbing activities and from the combustion of fuels in construction equipment. Site improvement activities would incorporate BMPs to minimize fugitive particulate matter emissions. Additionally, work vehicles are assumed to be well-maintained and might use diesel particulate filters to reduce particulate matter emissions. Construction workers commuting daily to and from the job site in their personal vehicles would also generate regulated pollutant air emissions.

The generator plant will provide four (4) interior standby-rated diesel fueled generators with 1,750 KW capacity each. These will be operated as contingencies for storm events. For the proposed construction project, no more than two (2) of the four (4) generators will be operated simultaneously, with no more than 1,500 hours of operation per year, consistent with Guam EPA policy for potential emissions. Based on manufacturer specifications, annual emissions rate for the pollutant (NOx) with the highest rate is 53 tons/year, thus classified as a minor source. Permits will be obtained using the Guam EPA standard form following EPA guidance. The generators will be Tier-2 and labeled to conform to EPA regulations and the Clean Air Act. Hazardous waste permits will also be obtained from the Guam Hazardous Waste Program.

In summary, the project would comply with applicable Federal and Guam air emission regulatory requirements, including Guam's State Implementation Plan, and would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

RP 2. Water Quality

Intent: To control activities that may degrade Guam's drinking, recreational, and ecologically sensitive waters.

Policy: Safe drinking water shall be assured and aquatic recreation sites shall be protected through the regulation of uses and discharges that pose a pollution threat to Guam's waters, particularly in estuaries, reef and aquifer areas.

Discussion:

Drinking Water. The northern component of the project area within Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Site and along northern roadways/routes overlies a portion of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer (NGLA). The NGLA has been designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a Sole Source Aquifer under the Safe Drinking Water Act. It supplies drinking water to at least 50 percent of the area residents. Groundwater is encountered at around sea level, which averages about 500 feet below the ground surface under the limestone plateau upon which lies most of Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Site. Because this project would make significant alterations to the public water system, per GEPA regulations, the Navy is seeking permitting as per the Safe Drinking Water Requirements for Construction DoD Projects (Water Systems Siting Approval or Significant Alteration). Potential impacts to the drinking water from the proposed project are described below.

Potential fuel or hazardous materials leaks originating from construction vehicles, equipment, may have adverse effects on groundwater due to rapid infiltration, given that stormwater has the potential to percolate rapidly into the limestone karst bedrock within portions of the proposed project area. The construction contractor would be required to ensure their vehicles and equipment are in good operating condition and in compliance with BMPs to prevent or minimize accidental releases. Typical BMPs include equipping all vehicles with on-board spill containment kits, parking on paved surfaces where possible, and placing drip pans beneath parked vehicles. Should a spill occur, the contractor would follow the Naval Base Guam Oil and Hazardous Substance Contingency Plan, and implement the Guam EPA Spill Prevention Control Countermeasure Program. The project would be implemented in compliance with the SWPPPs and EPP to address site- and activity-specific water resource protection requirements. Therefore, there would be a reduction in stormwater pollutant loading potential and a corresponding reduction in pollution loading potential to the groundwater basin underlying the project footprint.

Following construction, operations would consist of vehicles moving on paved surfaces within the project footprint, storing and fueling the generators, storage and use of small quantities of hazardous materials, and storage and use of coolant, petroleum, oil, and lubricants. Hazardous materials include flammable and combustible liquids that would be stored in the Hazardous Materials Storage Buildings in accordance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 30 and NFPA 400 with containment systems.

The project will include two fire pump engines, which are classified as Type II insignificant activities under the Guam EPA rules. Additionally, three (3) 25,000 gallon aboveground storage tanks with four (4) diesel-fired standby generators would be located within the project footprint in support of the new infrastructure. Fuel oil piping will be 316 Stainless Steel. Fuel Storage Tanks will be carbon steel-coated per UFGS 09 90 00 and an ISO C5M rated coating system. The fuel storage tanks for the standby generators will be permitted through GEPA per the Aboveground Storage Tank Permit 10 GCA Chapter 76, Article 2. All fuel oil piping is routed in a secondary containment trench system, with level detection for leaks. Leak detection for all fueling systems will be used for the fuel storage and transfer system (UFG 33 01 50.31). Oil-water separation systems will be used to prevent discharges to stormwater.

The paved surfaces and water detention basins would avoid mobilization of soil in runoff into surface and groundwater. All personnel operating vehicles would comply with the Naval Base Guam Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan to avoid and minimize the impacts of accidental releases of fuel from the transport vehicles.

Recreational and Ecologically Sensitive Waters. The scope of P-649 also includes the addition of a 288-strand fiber path between NGB B3012 and Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB) South, adding communications route diversity (completing the fiber ring backbone) for the island. The fiber cable will be routed through existing ducts on NGB and AAFB South and through new concrete-encased duct bank for the balance of the route. There are three bridge crossings where the fiber optic line will be mounted to the side of the bridge: Aplacho River Bridge along Route 17; Yigo River Bridge along Route 4; and Pago River Bridge along Route 4. For all of these bridge crossings, the fiber optic line will be affixed to the bridges, not impacting recreational or ecologically sensitive waters. No other aspects of the proposed project will be in proximity to recreational or ecologically sensitive waters.

The Construction activities associated with the project would involve vegetation removal and soil disturbance. Through implementation of the BMPs required in the SWPPP and EPP (e.g., diversion dikes and swales, gravel/sandbag berms, and fiber rolls to control erosion and reduce runoff), off-site transport of stormwater runoff, sediment, or other pollutants would be unlikely. Construction-associated runoff is not expected to reach waterways or to flow offshore.

Given the use of stormwater protection measures and BMPs to minimize soil transport and accidental release of hazardous materials during construction, the incorporation of stormwater management in project design and construction, and compliance with the NGB Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan during operations, the project would not result in significant impacts to water resources.

RP 3. Fragile Areas

Intent: To protect significant cultural areas, and natural marine and terrestrial wildlife and plant habitats.

Policy: Development in the following types of fragile areas including Guam's Marine Protected Areas (MPA) shall be regulated to protect their unique character.

- historical and archeological sites
- wildlife habitats
- pristine marine and terrestrial communities
- limestone forests
- mangrove stands and other wetlands
- coral reefs

Discussion:

Historical and Archaeological Sites.

On 11 January 2021, the US Navy submitted a Section 106 determination letter to the Guam State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to initiate consultation on the P-649 project. The Navy has completed background research and surveys in and around much of the Area of Potential Effects (APE), and has previously requested information on historic property identification from the Guam Department of Parks and Recreation (September 11, 2019) for the off-installation portion of the APE where the fiber optic line will run along roadways.

Two historic properties have been identified within the APE: Site 66-09-0159 and Site 66-03-1327. Site 66-09-0159 is the Ylig Bay Habitation, described by Reith and Morrison (2017) as covering an area of approximately 62 acres (25 hectares) and comprised of 11 features, seven of which were documented by inventory survey (Yee 2014) and preconstruction testing (Cochrane and Rieth 2015). The site is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria C and D.

Site 66-03-1327 is the Tipalao Marsh. Phase I and II survey of portions of North and South Tipalao were conducted by Carucci (1993), yielding 12 NRHP-eligible sites including the marsh with radiocarbon dated paleo-environmental deposits. Surveys of the Tipalao area (Athens 2009) included six backhoe trenches at Tipalao Beach. Site 66-03-1327 is eligible to the NRHP under Criteria D.

The Navy has proposed to employ archaeological monitoring in the areas of the APE where historic properties have been identified to prevent any potential adverse effects to historic properties. Additionally, archaeological monitoring will occur in the possible location of Orote Village in order to advance efforts to confirm its location, should cultural deposits be encountered. The likelihood of intact cultural deposits is considered low, as most of the earth-moving work in these locations would occur in previously modified areas (i.e., easements).

Wetlands and Marine Resources. The project does not include development directly in wetlands, mangrove stands, coral reefs, or pristine marine communities. Impacts of the construction and operation of the proposed facilities have very low potential to impact wetlands, mangrove stand, coral reef, or coastline due to the implementation of the SWPPP and EPP. The proposed south warehouse on Naval Base Guam Main Base will be in proximity (within 100 feet) of a designated wetland area, but development will not take place within this area and implementation of the BMPs will help prevent negative impacts to the wetland areas. A Wetland Permit will be obtained from GLUC prior to commencement of construction since there are Wetland Areas in the vicinity of the project.

Vegetation and Wildlife Habitats. The project does not include development of areas designated as Critical Habitat for federally-protected species. Pedestrian surveys were conducted for threatened and endangered species throughout the project footprint during the months of February and March of 2020. Surveys were conducted within a 40-foot wide corridor along the entire length of the proposed alignment for the fiber optic utility (approximately 131 acres). These surveys were conducted to detect any potential federally-listed species or their host plants (for listed butterflies) that may potentially exist within the project footprint. Intensive visual surveys meandering throughout the project footprint failed to detect any listed species or their concomitant host plants. The lack of any detections of threatened or endangered species throughout the project footprint resulted in a determination of “no effect” to federally-listed plants and animals or their Critical Habitat due to the proposed project.

RP 4. Living Marine Resources

Intent: To protect marine resources in Guam's waters.

Policy: All living resources within the waters of Guam, particularly fish, shall be protected from over harvesting and, in the case of corals, sea turtles and marine mammals, from any taking whatsoever.

Discussion:

The project does not involve harvesting any living marine resources in Guam's waters, and would not directly impact living marine resources such as fish, corals, sea turtles, and marine mammals. Along with the distance from the project area to any coastline or surface water resources, employment of BMPs, and compliance with the SWPPP and EPP would avoid or minimize the potential for pollutants or sediments generated by the construction or operation of the project to reach marine waters surrounding AAFB.

RP 5. Visual Quality

Intent: To protect the quality of Guam's natural scenic beauty

Policy: Preservation and enhancement of, and respect for the island's scenic resources shall be encouraged through increased enforcement of and compliance with sign, litter, zoning, subdivision, building and related land-use laws. Visually objectionable uses shall be located to the maximum extent practicable so as not to degrade significant views from scenic overlooks, highways and trails.

Discussion:

With the exception of the process of trenching and laying the fiber optic line within the right-of-ways along the highways/routes identified above, the areas affected by the project are not visible from any public roadway and none of the above-ground improvements would impact Guam's scenic resources. The proposed off-base utilities infrastructure (i.e., fiber optic cable) would be located below grade and would not impact any significant viewsheds or visual resources.

RP6. Recreation Areas

Intent: To encourage environmentally compatible recreational development.

Policy: The Government of Guam shall encourage development of varied types of recreational facilities located and maintained so as to be compatible with the surrounding environment and land uses, adequately serve community centers and urban areas and protect beaches and such passive recreational areas as wildlife, marine conservation and marine protected areas, scenic overlooks, parks, and historical sites.

Developments, activities and uses shall comply with the Guam Recreational Water Use Management Plan (RWUMP).

Discussion:

The project does not involve development of recreational facilities. It would not impede or otherwise affect Guam's existing recreational areas or facilities.

RP 7. Public Access

Intent: To ensure the right of public access.

Policy: The public's right of unrestricted access shall be ensured to all non-federally owned beach areas and all Guam recreation areas, parks, scenic overlooks, designated conservation areas and their public lands. Agreements shall be encouraged with the owners of private and federal property for the provision of releasable access to and use of resources of public nature located on such land.

Discussion:

With the exception of proposed off-installation utility line along the roadway, the project area is located in a secured area within operational military installations. Implementation of the project would not affect public access to public beaches or other recreation areas.

RP 8. Agricultural Lands

Intent: To stop urban types of development on agricultural land.

Policy: Critical agricultural land shall be preserved and maintained for agricultural use.

Discussion:

The project is not located on agricultural lands.

**FEDERAL CONSISTENCY
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FORM**

Date: 11 February 2021

Project/Activity Title or Description: P-649 JOINT COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE, JOINT REGION
MARIANAS, NAVAL BASE GUAM

Location: Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Site and Main Base; Andersen Air Force Base South,
Andersen Air Force Base; and within existing rights-of-ways along highways/routes on Guam.

Other applicable area(s) affected, if appropriate: _____

Est. Start Date: August 2021 Est. Duration: Thirty-four (34) months for construction

APPLICANT

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AGENT

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CATEGORY OF APPLICATION (check one only)

- ☒ I - Federal Agency Activity
☐ II - Federal Permit or License
☐ III - Federal Grants & Assistance

TYPE OF STATEMENT (check one only) (x)

- ☒ Consistency
☐ General Consistency (Category I only)
☐ Negative Determination (Category I only) ()
 Non-Consistency (Category I only)

APPROVING FEDERAL AGENCY (Categories II & III only)

Agency _____

Contact Person _____

Telephone No. during business hours:

Area Code () _____

Area Code () _____

FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR ACTIVITY

Title of Law _____

Section _____

OTHER GUAM APPROVALS REQUIRED:

Agency	Type of Approval	Date of Application	Status
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)	Air permits for generators	Pending	Pending submittal of applications
Guam Historic Preservation Office (GHPO)	Completion of National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Consultation	11 Jan 2021	Consultation with GHPO is ongoing.
Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA)	Aboveground Storage Tank permit	Pending	Pending submittal of applications
	Air permits for standby diesel generators	Pending	Pending submittal of applications
	Stormwater management permitting/plan approval	Pending	Pending submittal of applications
	Hazardous Waste Permit	Pending	Pending submittal of applications
	Clearing and Grading Permit	Pending	Pending submittal of applications
Guam Department of Public Works (GDPW)	Clearing, Grading, Grubbing and Stockpiling Permit	Pending	Pending submittal of applications