



# CONSOLIDATED COMMISSION ON UTILITIES

Guam Power Authority | Guam Waterworks Authority  
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## GPA RESOLUTION NO. FY2023-30

### RECOGNITION OF MUTUAL AID UTILITY PARTNER, POHNPEI UTILITIES CORPORATION (PUC) FOR ASSISTING GPA DURING POST TYPHOON MAWAR POWER RESTORATION

**WHEREAS**, on May 24, 2023 Typhoon Mawar made landfall on Guam with sustained winds of approximately 150+ mph. According to the Joint Typhoon Warning Center, Typhoon Mawar was equivalent to a Category 4 Atlantic hurricane. The storm was the strongest to strike the island in at least two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, Typhoon Mawar battered the island with powerful winds and torrential rains, uprooting trees, damaging homes and businesses, and cutting electricity and access to water for most of Guam's residents, causing significant damage to the island infrastructure, including GPA's electrical grid system; and

**WHEREAS**, immediately after high winds began to decrease the day after the storm's direct hit on the island, GPA began to mobilize teams to proceed with assessments and repairs, which initiated the process of post-typhoon restoration; and

**WHEREAS**, Mutual Aid partner Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC), answered Guam's call for assistance on June 10, 2023, two weeks after Typhoon Mawar, a Category 4 storm and the first major typhoon to land on Guam in more than two decades, devastated the island with super typhoon winds and flooding damaging Guam's island wide power infrastructure and electrical grid system; and

**WHEREAS**, the PUC's visiting crew of seven linemen and one deputy Chief of Power Distribution traveled to Guam to support the Guam Power Authority's post-typhoon recovery efforts to make critical repairs and restore Guam's Islandwide Power System. PUC assisted GPA crews and remained on island for about one month; and

**WHEREAS**, the PUC brought a crew of seven linemen and one deputy Chief of Power Distribution to assist and work alongside GPA's T&D linemen and visiting crews from the Commonwealth Utility Corporation (CUC) in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) to repair the island's power infrastructure; and

1           **WHEREAS**, the PUC worked diligently to help reconnect power lines and weathervanes  
2 and replace power poles damaged by Typhoon Mawar to reconnect homes and businesses in the  
3 villages; and

4           **WHEREAS**, the PUC worked seamlessly to support Guam’s restoration efforts  
5 islandwide, which allowed GPA to deploy integrated crews to each village to repair essential  
6 power lines that distributed power into the villages; and

7           **WHEREAS**, the addition of the PUC crew allowed GPA to deploy skilled crews in 30  
8 bucket trucks throughout the island 24 hours a day aiding in a more efficient and shortened  
9 recovery period; and

10          **WHEREAS**, the PUC played a critical role in repairing Guam’s island wide power system  
11 which serves more than 52,000 Guam customers; and

12          **WHEREAS**, PUC crews contributed to GPA achieving more than 99% island wide  
13 service restoration within 50 days, setting a record for restoration and expectations for  
14 improvement after a major typhoon; and

15          **WHEREAS**, GPA is grateful to the leadership team, linemen and crewmen who had a  
16 hand in assisting Guam after a major natural disaster.

17  
18          **NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, the Consolidated Commission on Utilities  
19 does hereby recognize and express their Dangkulu na si Yu’os Ma’åse to the following:

- 20  
21          1. Governor Reed B. Oliver of the State of Pohnpei, along with CEO and General Manager  
22 of the Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC), Nixon Anson, for their contributions to  
23 aiding Guam in post-Typhoon Mawar restoration efforts, along with the following crew  
24 members that worked hand in-hand with GPA’s T&D linemen:

- 25  
26                   • Samuel Welper                   Supervisor Lineman (Team Leader 1)  
27                   • Kitson Kapiriel                   Lineman  
28                   • Burt Pelep                   Lineman  
29                   • William Route                   Lineman  
30                   • Inos Wichep                   Deputy Chief of Power Distribution (Team Leader 2)  
31                   • Mike Hairens                   Lineman  
32                   • Kevin Artui                   Lineman  
                    • Clinton Obispo                   Lineman

