

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS  
August 04, 2021**

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
Saipan, MP 96950      Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or after August 19, 2021, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Replacement of CUC Dan Dan existing .50 million gallon glass-fused-to-steel bolted tank to a new 1.0 million gallon concrete water tank project.	The new 1.0 million gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank will address the need for a durable, robust, and sustainable tank that will withstand seismic and typhoon conditions and have a longer lifespan.	Dan Dan Village, Saipan	\$ 7,048,000.00

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) and is ready for public viewing on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net) or [www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com); or you may visit the on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road Chalan Laulau, Saipan during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments from the following options: Via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and Via email at [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp). All comments received by **August 19, 2021, 4:30 p.m.**, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

### RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Ralph DLG. Torres consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

### OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington D.C. will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at [Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov](mailto:Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov) ; Tel: (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/

**Ralph DLG Torres**  
**Governor, CNMI**



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development

451 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410  
[www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)

[espanol.hud.gov](http://espanol.hud.gov)

## **Environmental Assessment Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects 24 CFR Part 58**

### **Project Information**

**Project Name:** CUC 1.0 MG DAN DAN WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

**Responsible Entity:** Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity):

**State/Local Identifier:**854856277

**Preparer:** Wilfred Villagomez, Project Supervisor

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity):

**Consultant** (if applicable): None

**Direct Comments to:** Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp); Fax: (670)234-9021

**Project Location:** Dan Dan Village, Saipan, MP 96950

**Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

The new 1.0MG pre-stressed concrete water tank will address the need for a durable, robust, and sustainable tank that will withstand seismic and typhoon conditions and have a longer lifespan. This new tank will be designed and constructed to be more suitable in high seismic, high wind, and high corrosive environments. This will ultimately result in a longer lifespan and lower annual maintenance cost than a glass-fused-to-steel bolted tank while reducing the hazards and risks to water tank's damages. Since all of CUC's water tanks are considered critical infrastructure, these lifeline utility systems must continue to provide necessary fire flow for emergencies and address the daily demand of water for personal hygiene, sanitation, and well-being of the residents in their respective tank service areas.

**Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:**

The existing Dan Dan 1.0MG Water Tank sustained major damages from Typhoon Yutu. The damages were on the roof dome, roof skirts around the tank's perimeter, and leaks between wall joints and bolts. The damages exposed the tank to the environment and susceptible to contaminations. These openings on the tanks are a major system deficiency. There is a current risk of the water tank's catastrophic failure if another typhoon will directly hit the area. The increase from .5MG to 1MG water tank services the area population that has significantly increased since the construction of the existing tank.

**Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:**

This proposed improvement project is to replace the existing .50MG Glass-Fused Steel Bolted tank with a new 1.0MG Pre-stressed Concrete Tank. It will be designed and constructed to have a longer lifespan and lower annual maintenance cost.

**Funding Information**

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-19-DV—69-001/002		\$ 7,048,000.00

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$ 7,048,000.00**

**Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]:**

**\$ 7,048,000.00**

**Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities**

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations

**STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6**

<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Commonwealth Ports Authority has determined the project site is free from the runway clear zones.
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Coastal Resources Management has determined that the project potential effects to coastal resources are likely to be less than significant adverse effect to coastal resources, the project site is not partially or wholly situated in any of Department of Coastal Resource Management's designated Areas of Particular Concern (APCs) nor within close proximity to an environmentally sensitive area.
<b>Flood Insurance</b>  Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Department of Public Works has determined that the project is not located in the special flood hazard area.

**STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.5**

<b>Clean Air</b>  Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) has concurred with the determination of the NMHC that there will be no impact on air quality for the project.
<b>Coastal Zone Management</b>  Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Coastal Resources Management has determined that the project potential effects to coastal resources are likely to be less than significant.  *Contractors shall obtain the necessary permits prior to any construction activities*
<b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b>  24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) has concurred with the determination of the NMHC that there are no suspected sites contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive materials.
<b>Endangered Species</b>	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) has determined that there is no record of special status species at the project site.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402		
<b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) has concurred with the determination of the NMHC that there is no suspected sites contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive materials.
<b>Farmlands Protection</b>  Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCRS) has determined that the project site is not located in protective Farmland area.
<b>Floodplain Management</b>  Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Department of Public Works has determined that the project is not located in the special flood hazard area.
<b>Historic Preservation</b>  National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Historic Preservation Office (HPO) concurs with NMHC's findings of effect of No Adverse Effect on Historic Properties for this undertaking.
<b>Noise Abatement and Control</b>  Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) has concurred with the determination of the NMHC that the project will not involve development of noise sensitive uses. The project is not within a major roadway or rail road.  *Contractors shall obtain the necessary permits prior to any construction activities*
<b>Sole Source Aquifers</b>  Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no sole source aquifers located at the project site.
<b>Wetlands Protection</b>  Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Coastal Resources Management (CRM) had determined that the project site is not partially or wholly situated in any of DCRM's designated Areas of Particular Concern (APCs) nor within close proximity to an environmentally sensitive area.
<b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b>	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	There are no wild or scenic rivers located at the project site.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
Environmental Justice  Executive Order 12898	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project will not cause any adverse impact to the environment. The project is to enhance and a safe livelihood.

**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 & 1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

**Impact Codes:** Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	Pursuant to the zoning regulations the project activity is acceptable.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The soil suitability of the proposed project is suitable for the project. The minimal impact since it replaces the same foot print as the existing water tank for replacement.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The proposed project would involve resurfacing and paving around the tank and installation of a drainage system to prevent flooding during rainy season.  Contractors obtaining permit must adhere to the permitting requirements such as construction safety and noise.

Energy Consumption	2	The construction activity may require little to no use of energy besides equipment that requires the use of fossil fuels and electric generator.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	No Adverse impact are anticipated from the project on employment and income within the project area.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	There are no character changes or displacement for this project. The project will mitigate the flooding issue at the project site.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	There is no adverse impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	There is no adverse impact on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	There is no adverse impact on Health Care and Soil Services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	There is no adverse impact on Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling facilities.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	2	There is no adverse impact on Waste Water sand Sanitary Sewer facilities.
Water Supply	2	There is no adverse impact on Water Supply facilities.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	There is no adverse impact on Public Safety Services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	There is no adverse impact on Parks, Open Space and Recreation facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	There is no adverse impact on Transportation and Accessibility services.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		



Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	There is no adverse impact on the Unique Natural Features and Water Resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	There is no adverse impact on Vegetation and Wildlife.
Other Factors	2	State laws and regulations requires all construction activities to go through a permit process.

#### **Additional Studies Performed:**

#### **Field Inspection (Date and completed by):**

June 8, 2021 by Wilfred Villagomez

#### **List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:**

1. CPA-Commonwealth Ports Authority
2. DCRM-Division of Coastal Resources Management
3. BECQ-Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
4. DFW-Division of Fish and Wildlife
5. DPW-Department of Public Works
6. HPO-Historic Preservation Office
7. NCRS-Natural Conservation Resource Service
8. CNMI Zoning

#### **List of Permits Obtained:**

Selected contractor will be responsible to obtain the permits needed to commence the construction activities of the proposed project.

#### **Public Outreach [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]:**

The NMHC shall provide publish notice to the local newspaper outlets, NMHC website and social media outlet to review the completed environmental review and allow the public to make comments.

#### **Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:**

Per consultation with all environmental permitting agencies there will be no adverse impact in the environment as the construction activities are minimal. The state laws and regulations require all construction contractors to obtain the necessary permits in order to commence any construction activities.

**Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]**

None.

**No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:**

**The NMHC considers a no action alternative because the proposed project is a critical lifeline infrastructure that serves 5,000 Dan Dan, Airport Road, Fina Sis, Chalan Martinez Road, As Lito Village residences. The tank sustain damages from Typhoon Yutu with leaks within the wall joints and bolts needs immediate replacement.**

**Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

There are no environmental impacts for this project and therefore it shall proceed.

**Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]**

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

None.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure

**Determination:**

☒ **Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

☐ **Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: 7/6/2021

Name/Title/Organization: Wilfred Villagomez, CDBG-DR Project Supervisor NMHC

Review Signature:  Date: 7/15/21

Reviewed by: Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, NMHC

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 7/15/21

Name/Title: Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).



# Commonwealth Ports Authority

Francisco T. A la Saipan International Airport

PO BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP • 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 / 01

Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-Mail Address: [cpa.admin@cpa.com](mailto:cpa.admin@cpa.com)

Website: <https://cpa.mt.com>



Dear Dan EA's

May 6, 2021

Mr. Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
PO Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Director Palacios:

Subject: Request for Determination of Effect  
Kagman and Dandan Saipan  
CUC Water Tank Replacement

This is in reference to your letter dated December 17, 2020 requesting for Determination of Effect for the above subject. The proposed project is the replacement of two (2) existing water tanks for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) located in the villages of **Kagman and Dandan.**

After review of the lot locations, we found them to be free from the Runway Protection Zone. As such, the determination of effect is hereby given.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**  
Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrmm.gov](http://www.dcrmm.gov)



Eli D. Cabrera  
Administrator

Janice E. Castro  
Director, DCRM

April 9, 2021

Ref No: PRM21-075

Mr. Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
P.O. Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Email: [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

**Re: Request for Determination of Effect**

Dear Mr. Palacios,

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is in receipt of your letter dated February 12, 2021 requesting for a Determination of Effect for the following projects – (1) Replacement of As Matuis 1.0 MG Water Tank; (2) Replacement of Dandan 1.0 MG Water Tank; (3) Replacement of Kagman 1.0 MG Water Tank; (4) Replacement of Tinian Carolinas Village 0.5 MG Water Tank; (5) Power Plant I Hardening Project; and (6) Power Plant Building Facility Repair and Mitigation. As stated in your letter, the proposed projects will be funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR).

Based on our records, the aforementioned projects under items (2) and (3) were evaluated and issued a determination on December 23, 2020 (*Ref. No: PRM21-021, DCRM Letter*), and item (4) on February 9, 2021 (*Ref. No. PRM21-048, DCRM Letter*). However, items (1), (5) and (6) have not been assessed. This letter shall serve as DCRM's initial assessment for Determination of Effect on the three remaining projects. Using the CRM online permitting map and its multiple data source layers, DCRM's assessments of the following projects are as follows:

- a) Item #1: The proposed replacement of the As Matuis 1.0 MG water tank includes demolishing the existing 1.0 MG tank, and then installing a new 1.0 MG pre-stressed concrete water tank. Other improvements include a telemetry system, new inlet and outlet piping configuration, new calcium hypochlorite disinfection system and sampling ports, and new inlet and outlet flow meters. DCRM's findings on the proposed project include - (1) the project is situated adjacent to a high valued habitat; (2) it is within close proximity (< 200') to two nearby streambeds; and, (3) is located near the As Matuis residential homestead area. As a result, DCRM will require a CRM minor permit for this project to ensure that the effects on natural drainage patterns of the project site are minimized, the potential destruction of important habitat are avoided, and potential discharge of toxic substances associated with construction activities are avoided, minimized, or mitigated.

- b) Item #5: The proposed action of hardening Power Plan 1 is to include two new typhoon-resistant windows with shutters, a roll up door for the transformer station, improvements to the ventilation system, and replacing asbestos and cement exterior panels with galvanized aluminum panels along the new girts to provide more structural support for the panels. The improvements to the ventilation system will include replacing the current louvers with storm-resistant ones. DCRM's findings for the Power Plant 1 Hardening Project are – (1) the project is wholly within DCRM's designated Ports & Industrial Area of Particular Concern (APC); and, (2) construction activities of any type are known to cause some adverse effects to coastal resources. Therefore, this project is subject to a CRM permit.
- c) Item #6: The proposed repairs of Power Plant 4 building in Puerto Rico are to mitigate the vulnerability of the facility from typhoons and the effects of other natural disasters, the proposal intends to repair or replace panels, girts, roll-up doors, louvers, intake/exhaust fans, and fencing. DCRM's findings of these activities are – (1) the project is wholly situated in DCRM designated Ports & Industrial APC; and (2) although the project is to improve the facility's resiliency to severe storms, construction activities of any type are likely to cause some adverse effects to coastal resources. A CRM permit is required for this project.
- d) As proposed, the projects will be primarily conducted within the boundaries of the properties. The area was previously disturbed with pre-existing structures. As a result, DCRM anticipates that the project is not likely to have significant adverse effects on the pattern and type of land use or growth and distribution of population including the character of existing government properties and residential areas;
- e) DCRM does not anticipate that this project will cause significant public controversy. We believe that the public and other agencies will be supportive of this proposal;
- f) Based on the information provided, NMC will be required to apply for a "One Start" permit as the project is or will be federally funded. The application will enable DCRM, the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), and the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) to review your project proposal in its entirety; and
- g) As this project will be duly permitted by relevant CNMI agencies, DCRM anticipates that this project will not conflict with any CNMI environmental, natural resources protection, or land use laws and regulations.

We look forward to further coordinating with the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) or the applicant, as you navigate through local and federal requirements. Should you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our Permitting Section at 664-8300.

Sincerely,



JANICE E. CASTRO

Director

Division of Coastal Resources Management





**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**  
Division of Coastal Resources Management  
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Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



Eli D. Cabrera  
Administrator

Janice E. Castro  
Director, DCRM

December 23, 2020

Ref No: PRM21-021

Mr. Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
P.O. Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Email: [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

**Re: Request for Determination of Effect**

Dear Mr. Palacios,

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is in receipt of your letter dated December 17, 2020 requesting for a determination of effect for the proposed replacement of two (2) existing glass fused steel bolted water tanks to pre-stressed concrete water tanks for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC). The new water tanks will be located in the villages of Kagman and Dandan as depicted in the respective vicinity maps. Furthermore, this project is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

As proposed, the project scope of work will require excavation with a minimum of 4' up to a maximum of 7' within the tank foundation footprint around the tank perimeter for replacement with densely compacted backfill.

Based on our preliminary review of your proposal, scope of work, general vicinity of project sites, and water tank design plans, DCRM has determined that the proposed project's potential effects to coastal resources are likely to be less than significant provided that CUC obtains and complies with all required permits. In response to your December 17<sup>th</sup> letter, the findings of our assessment are as follows:

- (1) Based on the general information of the project, project background, and scope of work provided, the project site is not partially or wholly situated in any of DCRM's designated Areas of Particular Concern (APCs) nor within close proximity to an environmentally sensitive area;
- (2) As proposed, the project will be primarily conducted within the boundaries of the project site in Kagman and Dandan. These areas have been previously been disturbed with pre-existing structures and land clearing. As a result, DCRM anticipates that the project is not likely to have significant adverse effects on the pattern and type of land use or growth and distribution of population including the character of existing government properties and residential areas;

- (3) DCRM does not anticipate that this project will cause significant public controversy. We believe that the public and other agencies will be supportive of this proposal;
- (4) Based on the information provided, CUC will be required to apply for a "One Start" permit as the project is or will be federally funded. The application will enable DCRM, the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), and the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) to review your project proposal in its entirety; and
- (5) As this project will be duly permitted by relevant CNMI agencies, DCRM anticipates that this project will not conflict with any CNMI environmental, natural resources protection, or land use laws and regulations.

We look forward to further coordination with NMHC as you navigate through local and federal requirements. Should you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our Permitting Section at 664-8300,

Sincerely,

  
JANICE E. CASTRO  
Director  
Division of Coastal Resources Management

cc: BECQ Administrator  
DEQ WEEC





# NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

Tels: (670) 234-6866

234-7670

234-9447

Fax: (670) 234-9021

12/17/2020

Mr. Eliceo Cabrera  
Administrator  
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality  
P.O. Box 501304  
Saipan, MP 96950



RE: Concurrence of Determination of Effect

Dear Mr. Cabrera:

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is kindly requesting *concurrence* for the Determination of Effect from your agency for the proposed replacement of two (2) existing glass fused steel bolted water tanks to pre-stressed concrete water tanks for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC). The water tanks are located in the villages of Kagman and Borden (please see attached maps for your reference and proposed scope of work).

The proposed project is by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

NMHC has determined that there is no effect on the following:

**a. Impact of the project on air quality:**

*-NMHC has determined that there will be no impact on air quality.*

**b. Proximity to any known or suspected sites contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive materials:**

*-NMHC has determined that there is no suspected or visual indication of toxic chemicals or radioactive materials located at the project site.*

**c. Project involved in development of noise sensitive uses or within a major roadway or railroad:**

*-NMHC has determined that the project is not involved in the development of noise sensitive uses or is within a major roadway or railroad.*

**d. Separation from ground explosive or flammable fuel or chemical containers:**

**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax: (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax: (670) 433-3690

***-NMHC has determined that the project site is located at an acceptable separation distance from any above ground explosive or flammable fuel or chemical containers. The project will not expose such hazards to people or buildings. (Please see attached above ground storage tank maps, separation distance chart done by NMHC and ASD/AST guidance chart issued by DEQ for your reference.)***

Upon agreement of our determination please sign below indicating concurrence of your agency.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jacob Muna at the numbers listed above or via email at [officemanager@nmhc.gov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhc.gov.net).

Sincerely,

  
Josse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director

---

**Division of Environmental Quality Concurrence:**

Based on the information you have supplied, the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality does not believe that this project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act. Your project may require permits from DEQ or other local or federal agencies, and your responsibility to obtain them is not obviated by this letter.

  
Eliceo Cabrera, Administrator  
Division of Environmental Quality

5/6/2021  
Date:

**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

Rota Field Office: Tel. (671) 532-9410  
Fax. (671) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (671) 433-3690



## Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Request

### LOT:

- **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Kagman Water Tank**

1. **Explosive or Flammable Operations:** The project is located at an Acceptable Separation Distance (ASD) from any above-ground explosive or flammable fuels or chemical containers according to "Siting of HUD-Assistance Projects Near Hazardous Facilities" (Appendix F, pp. 51-52), **OR** the project will expose neither people nor building to such hazards.

### BRANCH: Storage Tanks (TANKS)

- No concerns in regards to the lot in question about the Storage Tanks program.
  - The nearest **Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST)** is the *Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort (AST-017)*, which has one (1) 4,000-gallon double-wall AST for storing diesel fuel, and one (1) 2,000-gallon double-wall AST for gasoline fuel. In addition, there is the *Kagman Juvenile Detention Facility* with one (1) 1,500-gallon double-wall AST for the storage of Diesel fuel.
  - The nearest fuel service station is the *MOBIL Kagman Service Station (AST-086)* with two (2) 6,000-gallon double-wall AST for gasoline, and one (1) 676-gallon double-wall AST for diesel fuel.
  - The nearest **Underground Storage Tank (UST)** is the *IT&E Kagman Remote Station*, which has a UST with a capacity of 1,500 gallons double-wall tank for diesel fuel.
  - If you have any questions regarding nearby Storage Tanks, you can contact the Storage Tanks team at 664-8511/06, and ask for Jason Reyes (Env. Technician), Jacob Lizama (Env. Specialist), and/or Robert Deleon Guerrero (Manager) for assistance.
2. **Toxic/Hazardous/Radioactive, Material, Contamination, Chemical or Gases:** That the project does not involve new development for habitation; OR the project involves new development for habitation but is not located within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, within ½ mile of a CERCLIS site, nor adjacent to any other known or suspected sited contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive source determines it does not pose a health hazard.

### BRANCH: Site Assessment and Remediation (SAR)

- In respect to the lot in question, there are no concerns of those sites being situated within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, or within ½ mile of a CERCLIS site, nor adjacent to any other known or suspected site contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive source determines it does not pose a health hazard. However, just to point out the FUDS sites and Brownfields sites that have completed assessments and cleanup as per lot: **Former Kagman Airfield**. This FUDS site has been cleaned up and required "No Further Action". However, we advise that the contractor exercise caution as there may be UXO encountered.



### **Former Kagman Airfield (Project No. H09CN008001)**

- The former Kagman Airfield, as known as East Field, was constructed and utilized by the U.S. Military during World War II. The Kagman Airfield is approximately 700-acres and the area was staged as an aircraft fueling and maintenance base. The airfield base was then abandoned in the 1950s', and some waste materials generated from the construction of the airfield were discarded in the area. Studies determined that the soils at the former Kagman Airfield were characterized as lead-contaminated soil.
- Remedial Action was completed by the U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu (POH). Remedial action started on July 18, 2007, and was completed on September 21, 2007. Remediation tasks led to the excavating of lead-contaminated soil over an area of 2 acres in size and a minimum of 18 inches below ground surface. About 8,200 cubic yards of lead-contaminated soil were excavated from the site. After the soil excavation process, according to the Final Remediation Report (May 2010), confirmation samples were taken after the excavation and determined that the lead concentration in the soils was below the CNMI Pacific Basin Environmental Screening Levels (PBESLs).
- Munitions and UXO found on-site were transported off-site by the CNMI Department of Public Safety Response Team. After the completion of the remedial action, the entrance and exit to the site were then barricaded to prevent any access to the site, and it was allowed to naturally re-vegetate.

### **UXO Safety**

- No concerns surrounding this site. However, should take precautions in the event of any intrusive activities such as land excavations. Reason being that there could be a possibility of UXO or Unexploded Ordnance in the area. In the event UXO is discovered, work should stop, and DFEMS be contacted.
- Even if it is indicated that there is no record of inventory there is a potential for Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) to be found in the subject site. Although, if UXO is discovered during excavation or mining activities, it is recommended that work is ceased and that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) is contacted.
- It is important that if Unexploded Ordnance ("UXO") is encountered with the surface activities, work must stop and the Site Safety Officer must contact the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services ("DFEMS") at 911. DFEMS is the contact for the removal of the Unexploded Ordnance that is discovered on-site.
- If UXO is **frequently** being discovered on the sub-surface due to land clearing activities, the need for a UXO Technician should be considered. The role of the UXO Technician is to provide safety support and monitor for any UXO during excavation activities.
  - Always remember the 3R's of UXO Safety:



- **Recognize** – when you may have come across a munition, and that munitions are dangerous.
- **Retreat** – do not approach, touch, move, or disturb a suspect munition, but carefully leave the area.
- **Report** – immediately what you saw and where you saw it to local law enforcement – call 911.

### **Lead-Based Paint (LBP) Water Tank**

- If the steel water tank was constructed before the 1980s' there may be potential for Lead-Based Paint (LBP). In addition, also the steel tank may have been painted with Lead-Based Paint. It is required that a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) sample the water tank before removal/demolition to see if contains Lead-Based Paint (LBP). The sample results must be provided to BECQ for review and comment.
- If confirmed for LBP/ACM, it is required that Certified Lead Abatement Workers are the personnel to do the abatement work. In addition, Asbestos Abatement work must **ONLY** be done by certified trained personnel (must have LBP Abatement work credentials).
- A Lead Abatement Plan is required and must be provided to BECQ for review before any work. Also, the parts of the tank must be properly wrapped and transported to an area away from the residential homes.
- Abatement work must ensure that there is medical surveillance monitoring and air monitoring in place for the abatement work to remove the LBP. Abatement work that results in the collection of LBP chips must be properly disposed of in an off-island facility that accepts LBP. Note that the Marpi Landfill cannot and will not accept LBP, as it is an RCRA D Landfill.
- If you have any questions regarding SAR, you can contact Joshua Santos (Env. Specialist), and/or Robert Deleon Guerrero (Manager) at 664-8534/06 for assistance.

### **BECQ-DEQ Storage Tanks, Site Assessment & Remediation (ST/AR)**

- Robert B. Deleon Guerrero (Manager)
- Joshua C. Santos (Env. Specialist – Site Assessment & Remediation)
- Jacob T. Lizama (Env. Specialist – Storage Tanks)
- Jason Q. Reyes (Env. Technician – Storage Tanks)



## Map (CUC Kagman Water Tank)

### NMHC Request - CUC Kagman Water Tank

In respect to distance to the following ASTUST locations and Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), here are the details.

- 1) CUC Kagman Water Tank - Kagman Juvenile Detention Facility (AST) (0.10 mile)
- 2) CUC Kagman Water Tank - IT&E Kagman Remote Station (UST) (0.60 mile)
- 3) CUC Kagman Water Tank - MOBIL Kagman S/S (AST) (0.95 mile)
- 4) CUC Kagman Water Tank - Kagman Caves (FUDS) (0.45 mile)
- 5) CUC Kagman Water Tank - Former Kagman Airfield (FUDS) (0.55 mile)
- 6) CUC Kagman Water Tank - Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort (AST) (1.37 miles)



Google Earth

31° 15' 11.11" N 150° 15' 11.11" E  
 31° 15' 11.11" N 150° 15' 11.11" E  
 31° 15' 11.11" N 150° 15' 11.11" E  
 31° 15' 11.11" N 150° 15' 11.11" E



## Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Request

### LOT:

- **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Dan Dan Water Tank**

1. **Explosive or Flammable Operations:** The project is located at an Acceptable Separation Distance (ASD) from any above-ground explosive or flammable fuels or chemical containers according to "Siting of HUD-Assistance Projects Near Hazardous Facilities" (Appendix F, pp. 51-52), **OR** the project will expose neither people nor building to such hazards.

### BRANCH: Storage Tanks (TANKS)

- No concerns in regards to the lot in question about the Storage Tanks program.
  - The nearest **Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST)** is the *CPA Incinerator Facility, CPA Airport Facility, Continental Cargo Warehouse, Herman's Modern Bakery, and MOBIL Bulk Aviation Facility.*
  - If you have any questions regarding nearby ASTs, you can contact the Storage Tanks team at 664-8511/06, and ask for Jason Reyes (Env. Technician), Jacob Lizama (Env. Specialist), and/or Robert Deleon Guerrero (Manager) for assistance.
2. **Toxic/Hazardous/Radioactive, Material, Contamination, Chemical or Gases:** That the project does not involve new development for habitation; OR the project involves new development for habitation but is not located within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, within ½ mile of a CERCLIS site, nor adjacent to any other known or suspected sited contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive source determines it does not pose a health hazard.

### BRANCH: Site Assessment and Remediation (SAR)

- In respect to the lot in question, there are no concerns of those sites being situated within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, or within ½ mile of a CERCLIS site, nor adjacent to any other known or suspected site contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive source determines it does not pose a health hazard. However, just to point out the FUDS sites and Brownfields sites that have completed assessments and cleanup as per lot:

### FUDS Sites / Brownfields

- For information on FUDS sites and Brownfields sites near the Dan Dan Water Tank, you can check the CNMI DEQ Public Record ([cnmiddeqpublicrecord.weebly.com](http://cnmiddeqpublicrecord.weebly.com)).
- Kobler Naval Supply Center: <http://cnmiddeqpublicrecord.weebly.com/kobler-naval-supply-center.html>
- Naftan Bomb Storage / Naftan Ordnance Disposal: <http://cnmiddeqpublicrecord.weebly.com/nod-nbs.html>
- CPA Buried Drum Site: <http://cnmiddeqpublicrecord.weebly.com/cpa-buried-drum-site.html>

- CPA Proposed Commercial Site: <http://cnmideqpublicrecord.weebly.com/cpa-proposed-comm-site.html>
- CUC Isely Field: <http://cnmideqpublicrecord.weebly.com/cuc-isely-field.html>
- KV-1 Site: <http://cnmideqpublicrecord.weebly.com/kv-1-saipan.html>
- Western Equipment Quarry, Saipan: <http://cnmideqpublicrecord.weebly.com/western-equipment-quarry-saipan.html>

### UXO Safety

- No concerns surrounding this site. However, should take precautions in the event of any intrusive activities such as land excavations. Reason being that there could be a possibility of UXO or Unexploded Ordnance in the area. In the event UXO is discovered, work should stop, and DFEMS be contacted.
- Even if it is indicated that there is no record of inventory there is a potential for Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) to be found in the subject site. Although, if UXO is discovered during excavation or mining activities, it is recommended that work is ceased and that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) is contacted.
- It is important that if Unexploded Ordnance ("UXO") is encountered with the surface activities, work must stop and the Site Safety Officer must contact the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services ("DFEMS") at 911. DFEMS is the contact for the removal of the Unexploded Ordnance that is discovered on-site.
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  - Always remember the 3R's of UXO Safety:
    - **Recognize** – when you may have come across a munition, and that munitions are dangerous.
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### Lead-Based Paint (LBP) Water Tank

- If the steel water tank was constructed before the 1980s' there may be potential for Lead-Based Paint (LBP). In addition, also the steel tank may have been painted with Lead-Based Paint. It is required that a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) sample the water tank before removal/demolition to see if contains Lead-Based Paint (LBP). The sample results must be provided to BECQ for review and comment.



- If confirmed for LBP/ACM, it is required that Certified Lead Abatement Workers are the personnel to do the abatement work. In addition, Asbestos Abatement work must **ONLY** be done by certified trained personnel (must have LBP Abatement work credentials).
- A Lead Abatement Plan is required and must be provided to BECQ for review before any work. Also, the parts of the tank must be properly wrapped and transported to an area away from the residential homes.
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- If you have any questions regarding SAR, you can contact Joshua Santos (Env. Specialist), and/or Robert Deleon Guerrero (Manager) at 664-8534/06 for assistance.

**BECQ-DEQ Storage Tanks, Site Assessment & Remediation (ST/AR)**

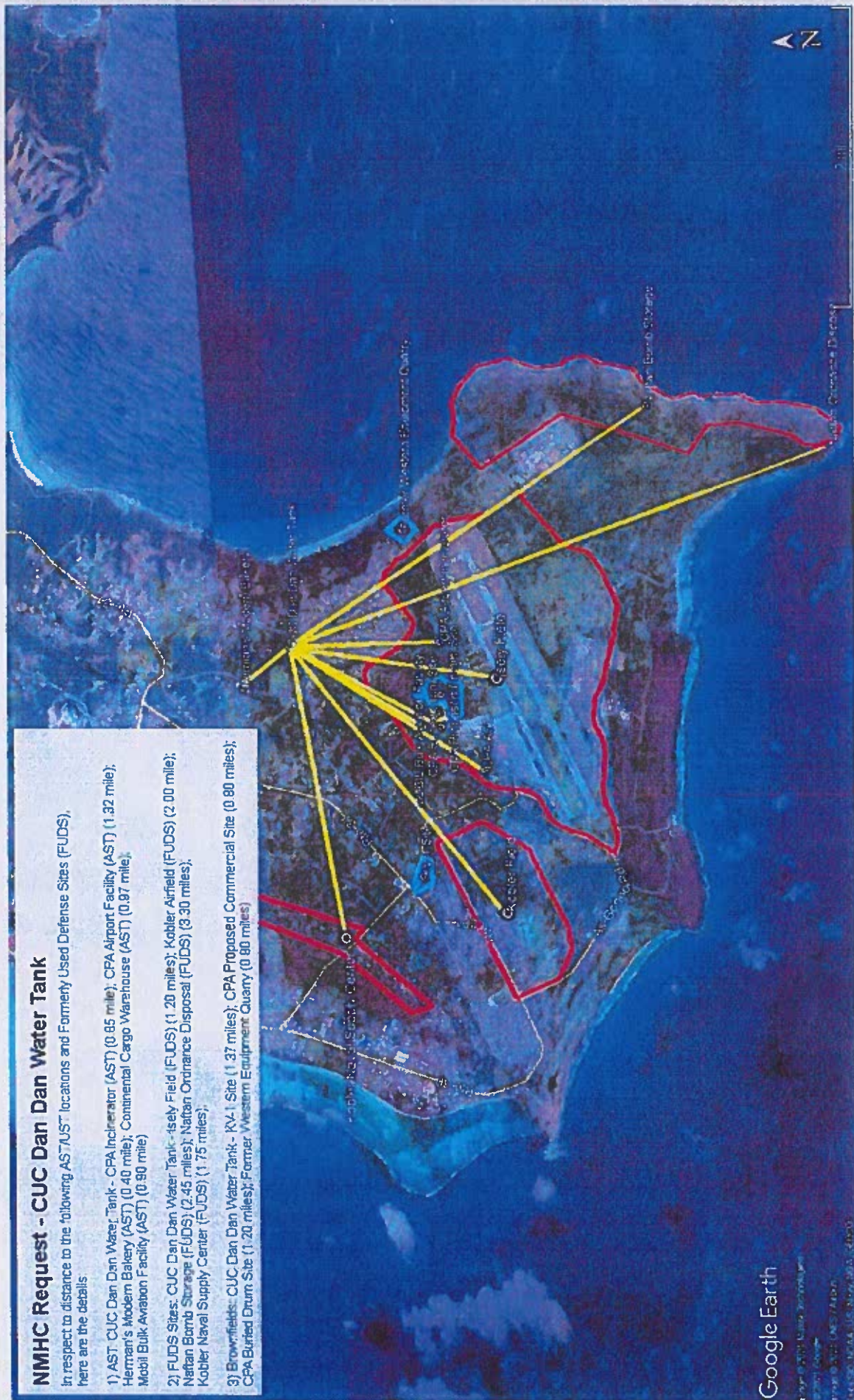
- Robert B. Deleon Guerrero (Manager)
- Joshua C. Santos (Env. Specialist – Site Assessment & Remediation)
- Jacob T. Lizama (Env. Specialist – Storage Tanks)
- Jason Q. Reyes (Env. Technician – Storage Tanks)

# Map (CUC Kagman Water Tank)

## NMHC Request - CUC Dan Dan Water Tank

In respect to distance to the following AS/AUS locations and Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), here are the details:

- 1) AST: CUC Dan Dan Water Tank - CPA Incinerator (AST) (0.85 mile); CPA Airport Facility (AST) (1.32 mile); Herman's Modern Bakery (AST) (0.40 mile); Continental Cargo Warehouse (AST) (0.97 mile); Mobil Bulk Aviation Facility (AST) (0.80 mile)
- 2) FUDS Sites: CUC Dan Dan Water Tank - Isely Field (FUDS) (1.20 miles); Kobler Airfield (FUDS) (2.00 mile); Naftan Bomb Storage (FUDS) (2.45 miles); Naftan Ordnance Disposal (FUDS) (3.30 miles); Kobler Naval Supply Center (FUDS) (1.75 miles);
- 3) Brownfields: CUC Dan Dan Water Tank - KV-1 Site (1.37 miles); CPA Proposed Commercial Site (0.80 miles); CPA Buried Drum Site (1.20 miles); Former Western Equipment Quarry (0.80 miles)







# Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

## Division of Fish & Wildlife

### Department of Lands and Natural Resources

Lower Base, P.O. Box 10007  
Saipan, MP 96950



Telephone: 670-664-6000  
Fax: 670-664-6060

December 18, 2020

Jesse Palacios  
Corporate Director, NMHC  
PO Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Subject: Information Request (#IR-21-04), NMHC Request for a Determination of Effects for Special Status Species

Dear Mr. Jesse Palacios:

You requested information from the Division of Fish and Wildlife regarding potential environmental impacts from several new construction projects on Saipan.

We reviewed your information request, including supporting information and maps. Please note that DFW does not have jurisdiction over wetlands or rivers and offering guidance on such matters is outside of our scope. Please contact the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality for further guidance pertaining to wetlands or rivers.

Our comments regarding potential special status species impacts follow:

- 1) NMHC Central Office Expansion project, Lot No. 014 D 75, Garapan, Saipan  
The lot appears to be mostly cleared and maintained based on satellite imagery. DFW has no record of special status species on this or the immediately adjacent lots.
- 2) Water Tank Replacement project, Lot No. 099 G 01, **Kagman**, Saipan  
Nightingale Reed-warblers have been detected in lots adjacent to the proposed project site and if still present, they may be impacted by project activities involving land clearing and heavy equipment use. Mitigation measures may be required for the project if endangered species are detected within 50 meters of the project site.
- 3) Water Tank Replacement project, Lot No. 010 K 503, **Dandan**, Saipan  
The lot appears to be mostly cleared and maintained based on satellite imagery; however, the lot is surrounded by potential habitat for endangered species. DFW has no record of endangered species on this or the immediately adjacent lots.

We did not conduct on-the-ground inspections of the sites. Our response is based solely on the information you provided, our current knowledge, and professional experience.

*This letter is not a permit or approval of the proposed projects. Instead, the information that we provide may assist you in project planning, including information required to comply with the preparation of an Environmental Assessment Statutory Checklist.*

If you have any questions, or I can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at 664-6032.

Sincerely,



Emilie Kohler  
Wildlife Biologist, DFW

Cc: Anthony T. Benavente, Secretary, DLNR  
Manny M. Pangelinan, Director, DFW





Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor - Oleai Joeten Commercial Center  
Saipan, MP 96950



December 22, 2020  
Serial No. PW20-1072

12/23/20

Mr. Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
Saipan, MP 96950

RE: Determination of Special Flood Hazard Area

Dear Director Palacios:

This letter is in response to your request received by our office on December 17, 2020 for the determination of Special Flood Hazard Areas as a part of a regulatory compliance checklist regarding a proposed replacement of two existing CUC glass fused steel bolted water tanks located in **Dandan and Kagman** in the island of Saipan.

After a thorough review of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM Panels No. 6900000045C for Dandan and 6900000065C for Kagman) and other source materials, this office has determined that the aforementioned locations are **NOT in the Special Flood Hazard Areas**. See attached map.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Edwin Tmarsel, Flood Administrator of our Building Safety Code Division at the telephone number 234-2726.

Sincerely,

  
JAMES A. ADA  
Secretary of Public Works

cc: Building Safety Code Division



NMHC- SAIPAN OFFICE

RECEIVED

By: 

Date: 12/23/2020 2:40 PM  
20200301



# National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

145°45'19"E 15°10'32"N



## Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

### SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

	Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
	With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AH, AV, VE, AR
	Regulatory Floodway

### OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD

	0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Area of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile
	Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
	Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes, Annex X
	Area with Flood Risk due to Levee

### OTHER AREAS

	Area of Minimal Flood Hazard
	Effective LOMRS
	Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard

### GENERAL STRUCTURES

	Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
	Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

### OTHER FEATURES

	Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
	Coastal Transect
	Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
	Limit of Study
	Jurisdiction Boundary
	Coastal Transect Baseline
	Profile Baseline
	Hydrographic Feature

### MAP PANELS

	Digital Data Available
	No Digital Data Available
	Unmapped

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps. It is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **12/20/2020 at 6:23 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRF number, and FIRF effort date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas not be used for regulatory purposes.



SAIPAN ISLAND  
690110

690110  
145°45'19"E



# National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



## Legend

SEE THIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

### SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

- Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
- With BFE or Depth Zonation (AE, AH, VE, XE)
- Regulatory Floodway

### OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD

- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Area of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile
- Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes.
- Area with Flood Risk due to Levee

### OTHER AREAS

- NO SCREEN
- Area of Minimal Flood Hazard
- Effective LOMRs
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard

### GENERAL STRUCTURES

- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

### OTHER FEATURES

- Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
- Coastal Transect
- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

### MAP PANELS

- Digital Data Available
- No Digital Data Available
- Unmapped

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **12/20/2020 at 6:26 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmapped areas may be used for regulatory purposes.







*Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*  
*Historic Preservation Office*  
*Department of Community & Cultural Affairs*  
*Airport Road*  
*Caller Box 10007*  
*Saipan, MP 96950*



TEL: 664-2120-25  
FAX: 664-2139

April 14, 2021

Serial: 34420  
File: 6.7.21.12

Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
P.O. Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950

**RE: Section 106 Consultation for Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program in Support of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's proposed Water Tanks Replacement Project located in Dandan and Kagman areas, Saipan**

Dear Mr. Palacios,

Pursuant to the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the CNMI Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has reviewed your consultation letter and general documentation for the above reference proposed replacement of two (2) existing 0.5 million gallon (MG) glass fused to steel bolted tanks with new 1.0 MG pre-stressed concrete material.

Based on the information presented, HPO concurs with NMHC's finding of effect of **No Adverse Effect on Historic Properties** for this undertaking.


If there are any further questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to HPO at (670) 664-2120.

Sincerely,

Rita C. Chong-Dela Cruz  
State Historic Preservation Officer



## FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

<b>PART I</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request 5/13/2021				
Name of Project Dan Dan 1. MG Water Tank Replacement		Federal Agency Involved NMHC -- HUD - CDBG - DIR				
Proposed Land Use TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT		County and State Dan Dan Village, Saipan				
<b>PART II</b> (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS 14 MAY 2021		Person Completing Form: P. SABLAN		
Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size	
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %	Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %				
Name of Land Evaluation System Used	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS				
<b>PART III</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Site Rating				
		Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		N/A				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly						
C. Total Acres In Site						
<b>PART IV</b> (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information						
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland						
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland						
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted						
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value						
<b>PART V</b> (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)						
<b>PART VI</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)		Maximum Points	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
1. Area In Non-urban Use		(15)				
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use		(10)				
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed		(20)				
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government		(20)				
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area		(15)				
6. Distance To Urban Support Services		(15)				
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average		(10)				
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland		(10)				
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services		(5)				
10. On-Farm Investments		(20)				
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services		(10)				
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use		(10)				
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS		160	0	0	0	0
<b>PART VII</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)						
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	0	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment)		160	0	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)		260	0	0	0	0
Site Selected:		Date Of Selection		Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
Reason For Selection: 						
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form: PAMELA M. SABLAN, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST Date: 17 MAY 2021 (See instructions on reverse side)						

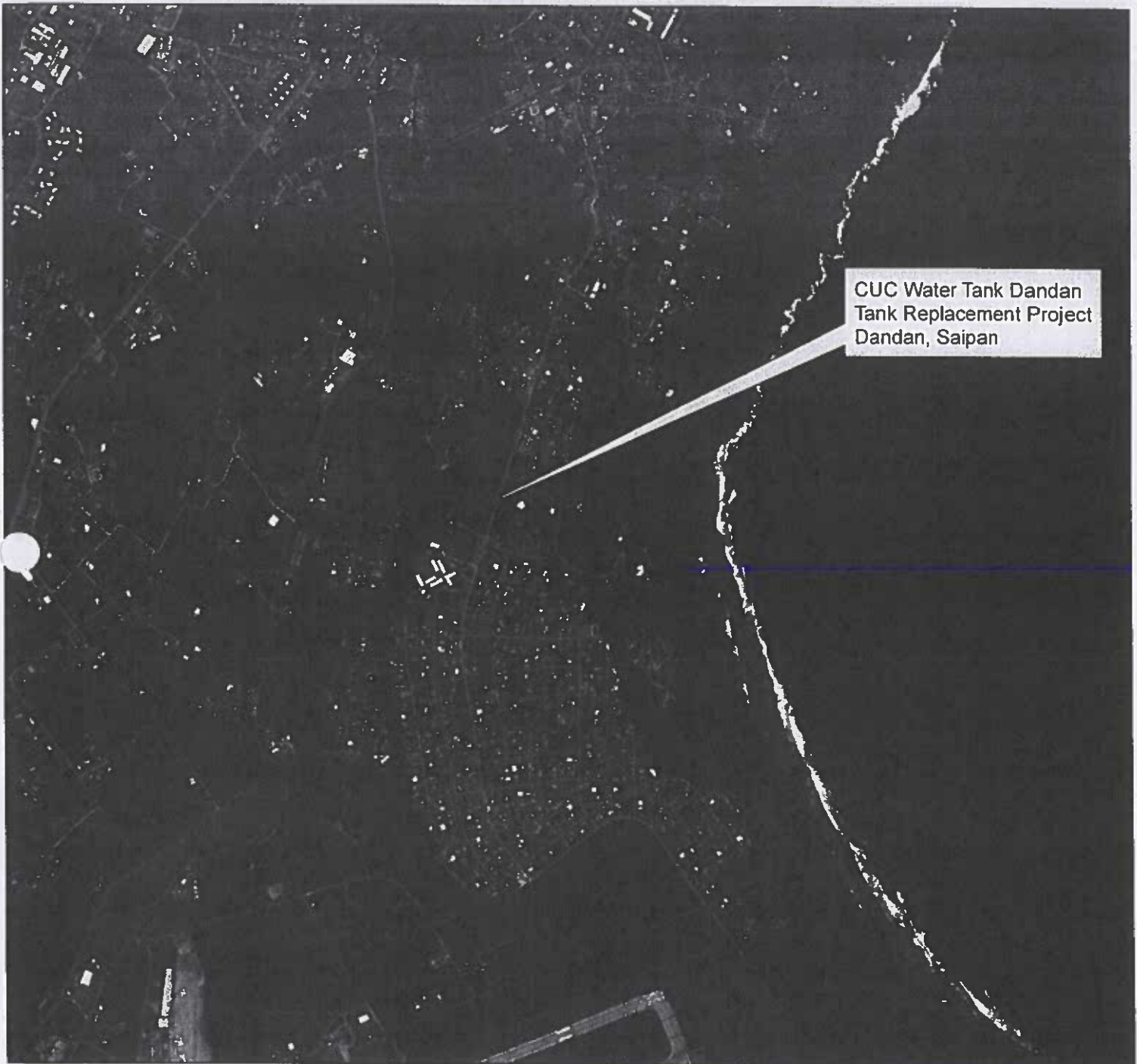
# Prime and Unique Farmlands Map

USDA-NRCS

Map Prepared by Pamela M. Sablan, District Conservationist - 05/17/2021

Response to Categorically Excluded Statutory Checklist

"CUC Tank Replacement Project - Dandan Village - Dandan, Saipan"



CUC Water Tank Dandan  
Tank Replacement Project  
Dandan, Saipan

## Legend



Project Location

Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

0 750 1,500 3,000  
Feet





# NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

Tels: (670) 234-6866

234-7670

234-9447

Fax: (670) 234-9021

12/17/2020

Ms. Geralyn Dela Cruz  
Zoning Administrator  
Zoning Board  
Caller Box 10007  
Saipan, MP 96950

Re: Request for Zoning Certification

Dear Ms. Dela Cruz:

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is in the process of preparing the Environmental Assessment Statutory Checklist (24 CFR § 58.36) for the proposed replacement of two (2) existing glass fused steel bolted water tanks to pre-stressed concrete water tanks for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC). The water tanks are located in the villages of Kagman and Dandan (please see attached maps for your reference and proposed scope of work).

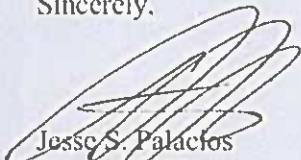
Therefore, our agency is kindly requesting for your concurrence in certifying that the project is acceptable based on the Zoning Law. This concurrence will not constitute as approval for a permit.

The proposed project is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Attached with this letter is a signature portion for your concurrence.

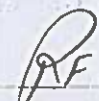
If you may have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Jacob Muna at the numbers listed above or via email at [officemanager@nmhc.gov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhc.gov.net).

Sincerely,

  
Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director



NMHC- SAIPAN OFFICE

By:   
Date: 12/20/20 10:30 a.m  
2020-0363

**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax. (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (670) 433-3690

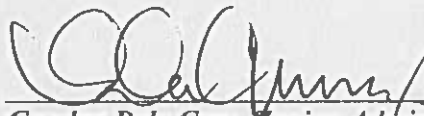


**(Zoning Use)**

*This certification is granted to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) to proceed with their project based on Article 6 (General Development Requirements) Section 618 (Utilities) (citation) of the Saipan Zoning Law.*

*This certification will not constitute as an approval for a permit. The NMHC and/or Contractor must apply for a permit prior to any construction work. If the NMHC and/or Contractor fails to apply for a Zoning permit, the Zoning Office will issue a violation notice and impose fines for failure to abide by the Zoning Law.*

**Certified & Concurred by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Geralyn Dela Cruz, Zoning Administrator

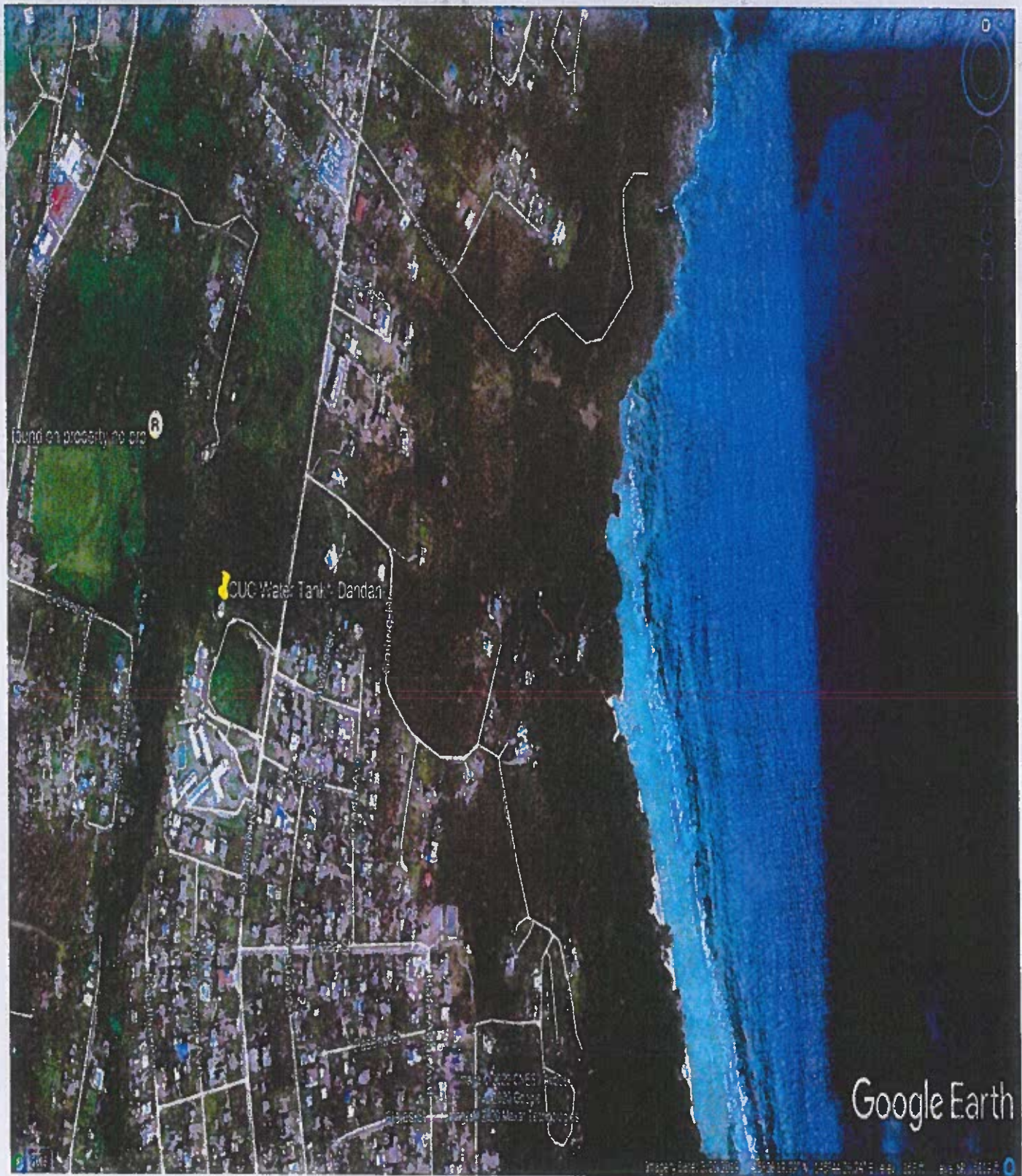
12/21/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”**

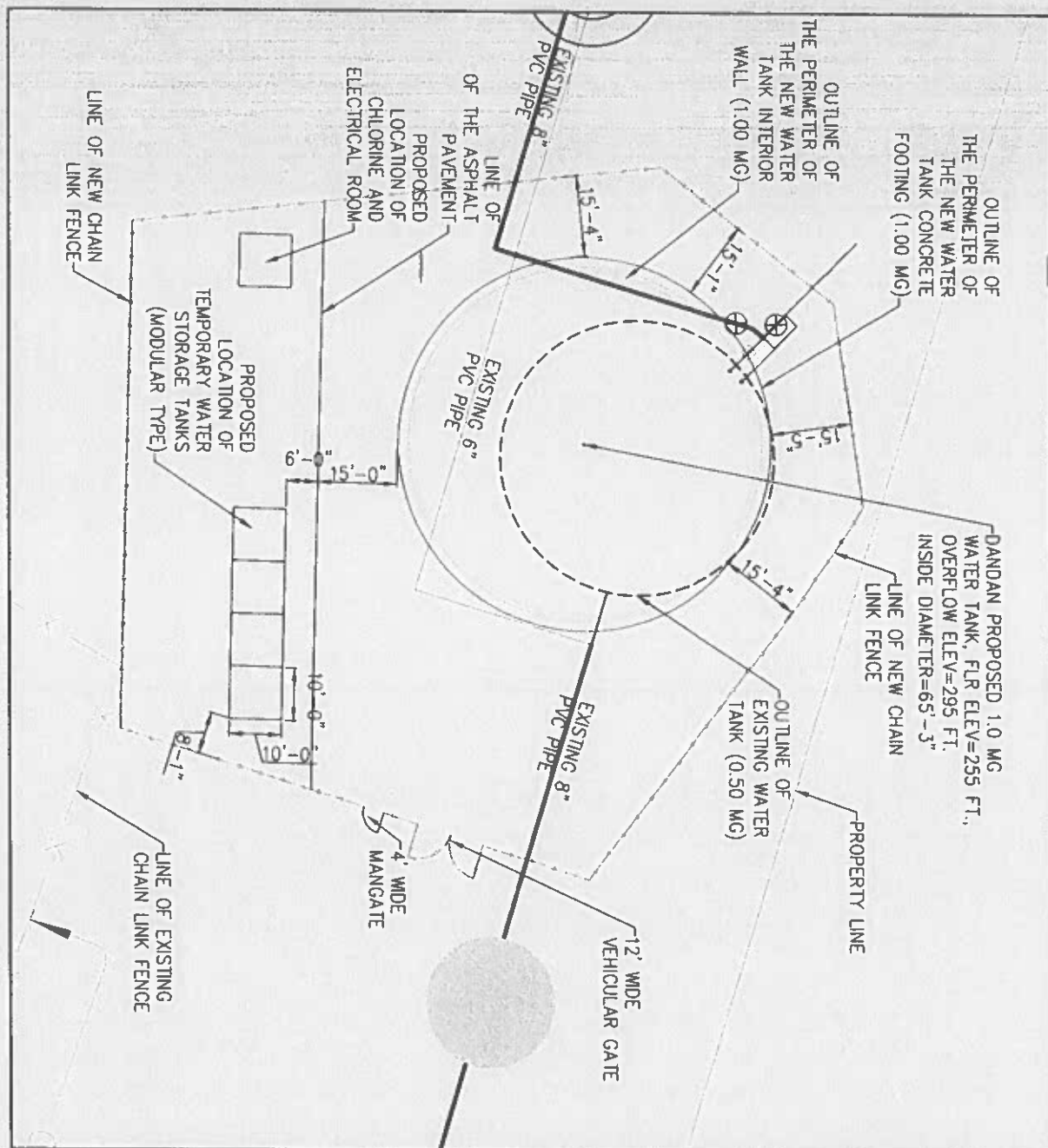
**Rota Field Office:** Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax. (670) 532-9441

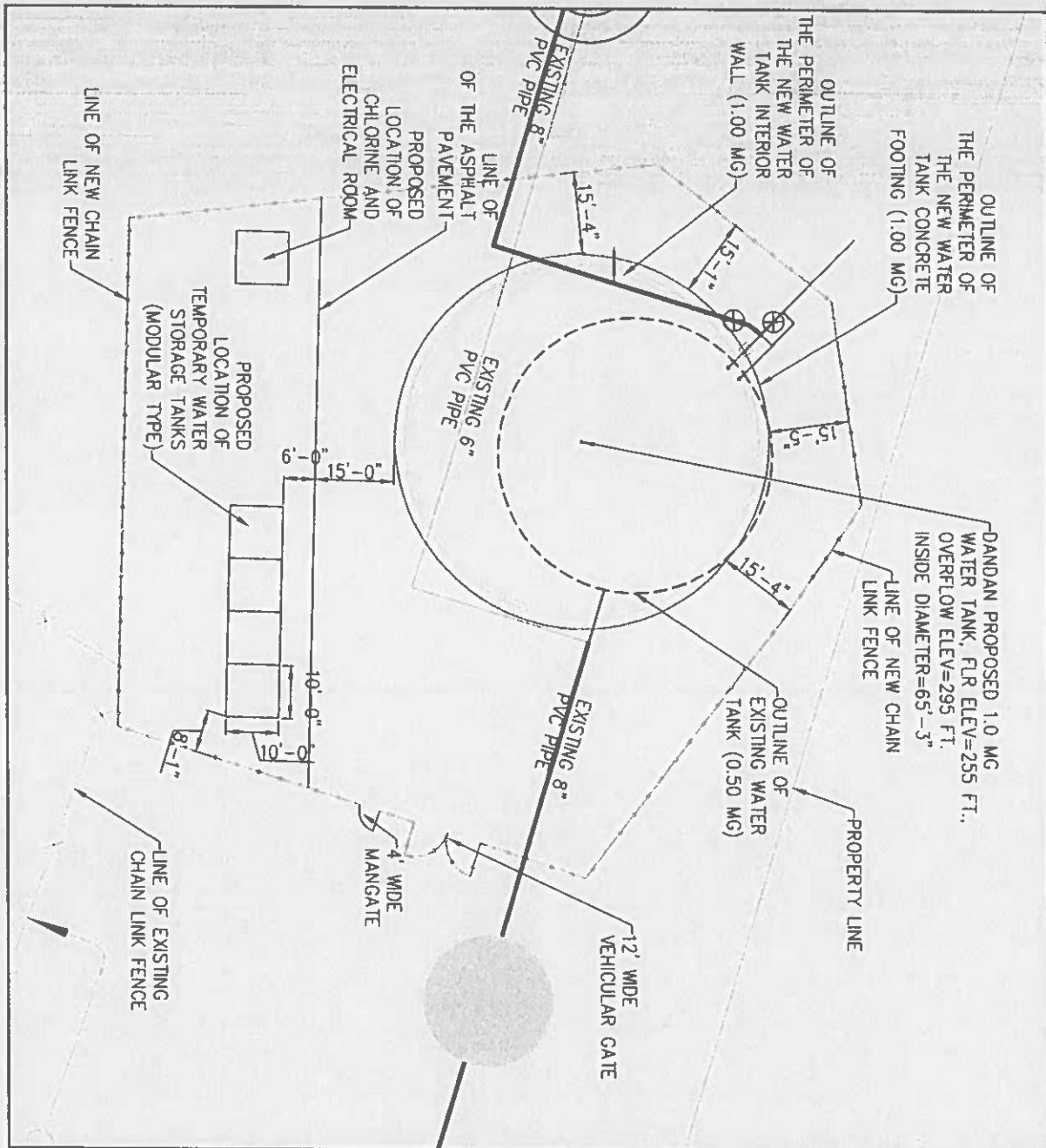
**Tinian Field Office:** Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (670) 433-3690

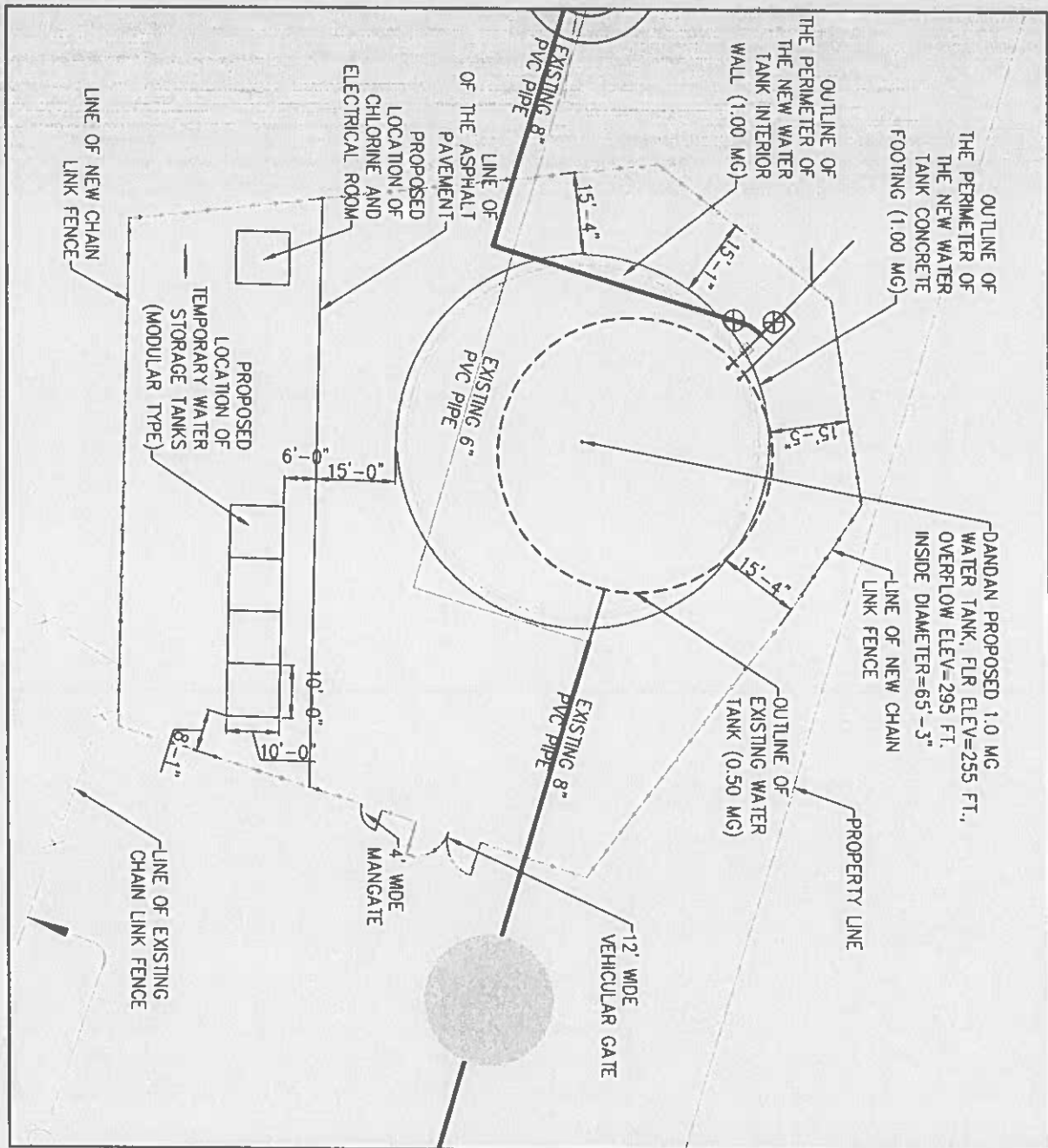
Dandan Water Tank Project Site:



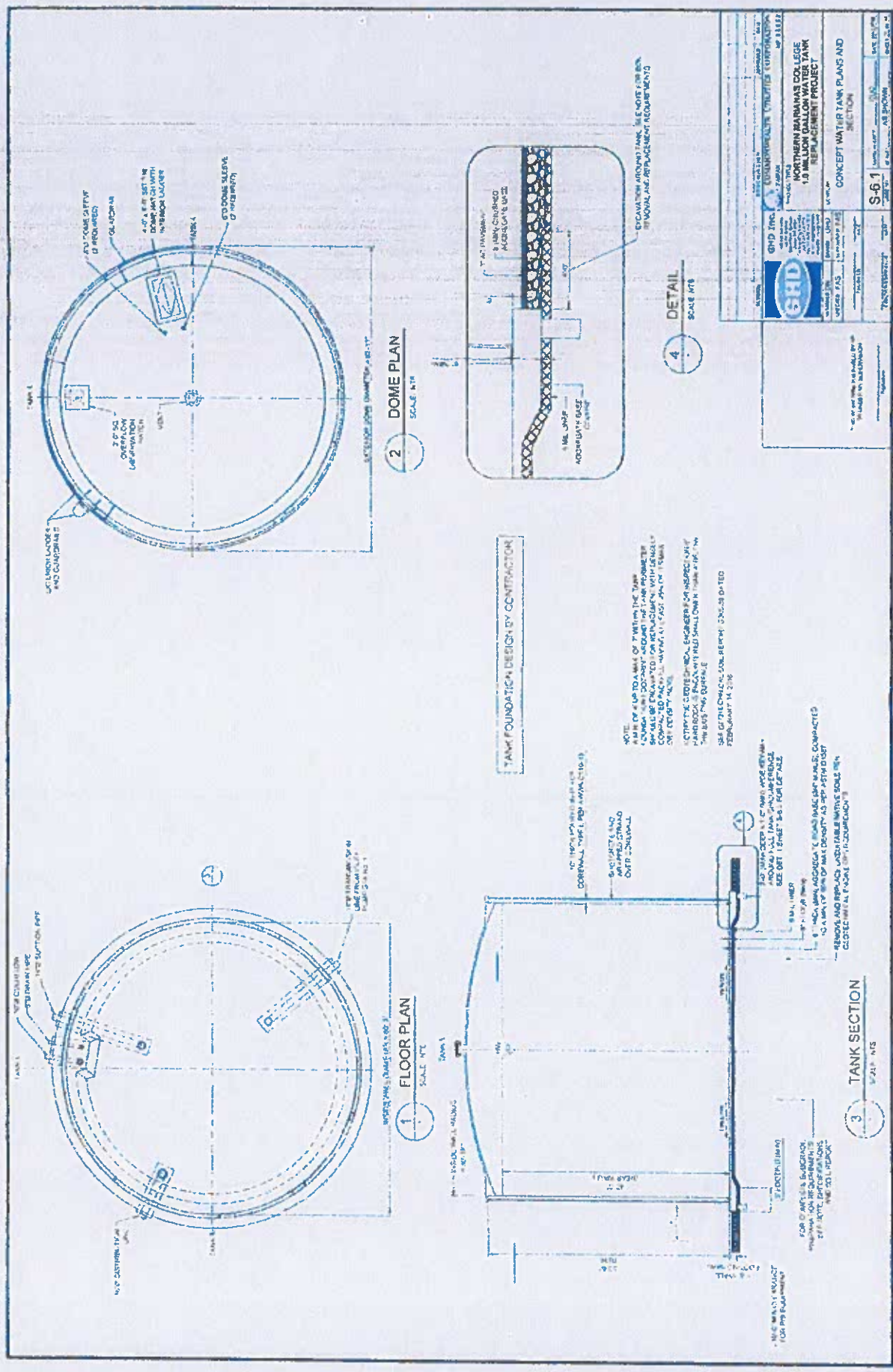
















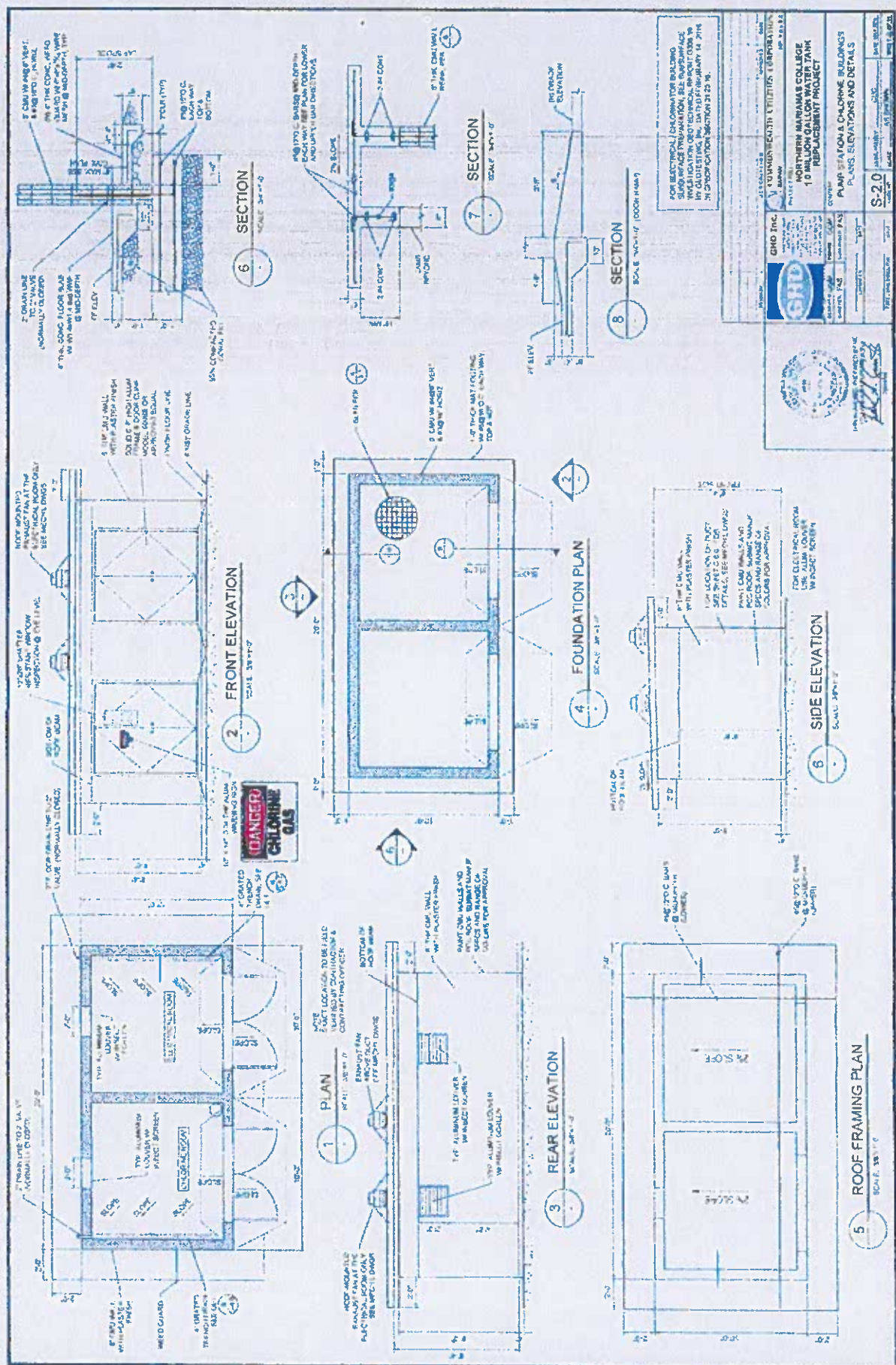
## 2 ELEVATION OF WALL AND WALL FOOTING

**RADIAL SECTION  
OF WALL AND WALL FOOTING**

### HORIZONTAL SECTION OF VERTICAL WALL JOINT

#### 4. ELEVATION OF VERTICAL WALL JOINT





FOR ELECTRICAL CHLORINATION BUILDING  
SLAB BASE PREPARATION, SEE SURFACE  
PREPARATION AND FINISH SPECIFICATIONS  
IN SPECIFICATION SECTION 21 25 16.

<b>CHLORINE BUILDING</b> 10 MILLION GALLON WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT	
PROJECT NO. 10-100 DRAWING NO. S-20	DATE 10/1/80 SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"
PREPARED BY: [Signature] CHECKED BY: [Signature] APPROVED BY: [Signature]	



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Water & Wastewater Engineering



Date: September 14, 2020

Project Title: Replacement of Dandan 1.0 MG Water Tank

Project Cost (estimate): \$7,048,000.00

### Project Description:

The existing Dandan tank is a 0.50 MG Million- Gallon (MG) glass-fused steel bolted tank built in 1992. The tank serves the villages of As Lito, Fina Sisú, Tottotville, and parts of Koblerville with a total estimated population of 5,000.

The existing Dandan Water Tank sustained damages from recent typhoons. There is a current risk of catastrophic failure of the water tank if another typhoon will directly hit the area. Therefore, the objective of this proposed project is to replace the 0.50 MG existing tank with a new 1.0 MG pre-stressed concrete water tank that will be designed and constructed to be more suitable in high seismic, high wind, and high corrosive environments. This will ultimately result in a longer lifespan and lower annual maintenance cost while reducing the hazards and risks to water outages due to damages of the water tank.


The proposed project considers the demolition of the existing tank at the Dandan village after a temporary water storage tank is provided to ensure continuous water service. Following the demolition of the existing tank, a new 1.0 MG pre-stressed concrete water tank will be constructed at the same location within the footprint of the existing tank. Although the existing tank has a capacity of 0.5 MG, the population of the tank's service area has significantly increased since the construction of the existing tank; therefore, the existing water tank will be replaced with a 1.0 MG water tank. Other proposed improvements include a telemetry system, new inlet and outlet piping configuration, new calcium hypochlorite disinfection system with building enclosure, sampling ports, and new inlet and outlet flow meters among other works related to or affected by the new tank.

The new pre-stressed concrete tank will be built on the same footprint as the existing 0.50 MG glass-fused steel bolted tank. For this reason, the proposed project will not impact any environment resources, wildlife, endangered species, archaeological, cultural, or historic sites.

Perimeter foundation excavation will be about 3 ft – 3.5 ft deep x 12 in. in width.

The scope of works is as follow:

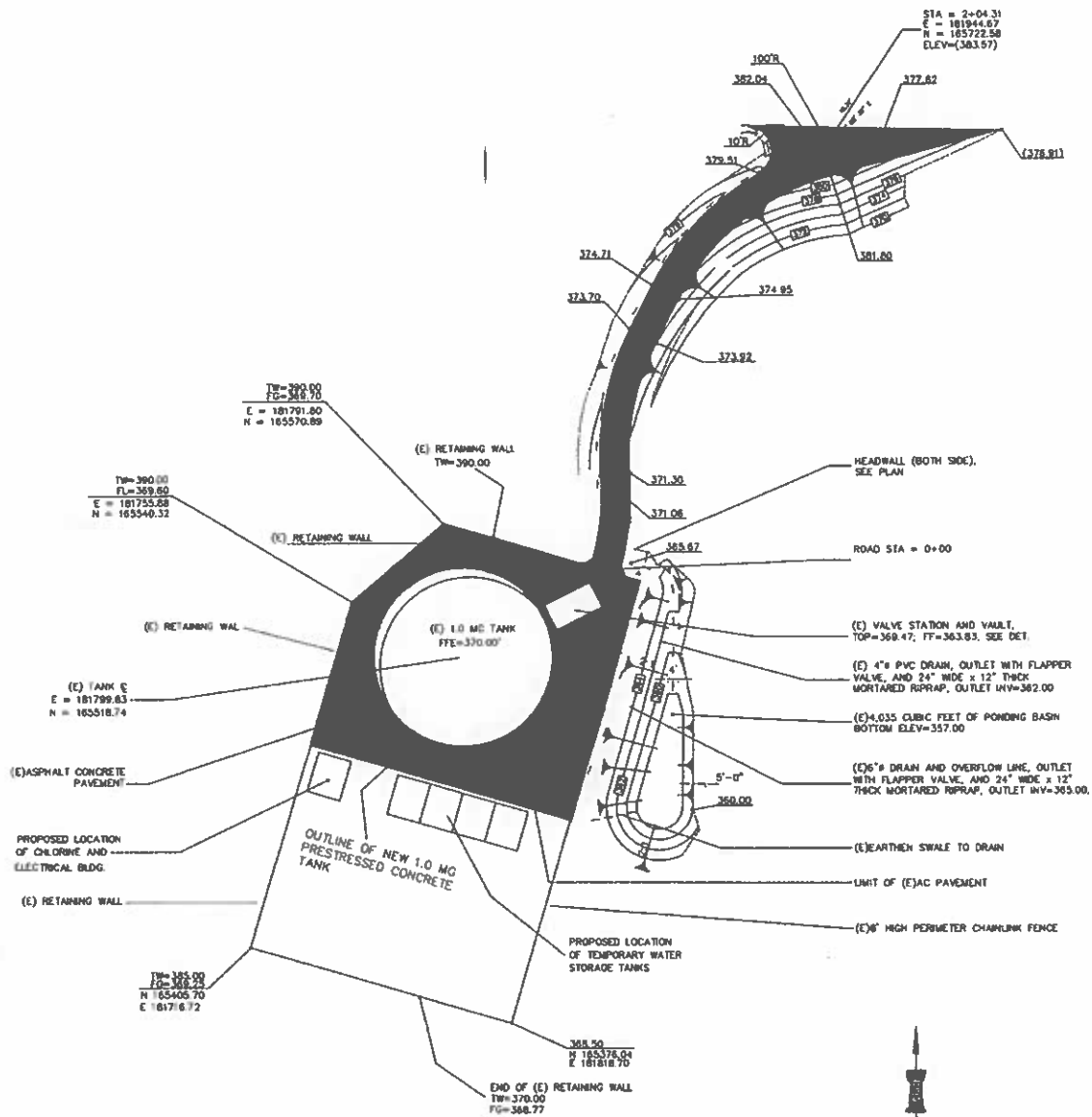
- Demolish existing 0.50 MG Glass Fused Steel Bolted Tank & replace with 1.0 MG Pre-stressed Concrete Tank.
- Provide a temporary water storage tank during construction for continuous water service or use.
- Design a new telemetry system (between tank, BP and wells).
- New inlet and outlet piping configuration.
- Provide a new calcium hypochlorite disinfection system with a building enclosure.
- Install inlet/outlet flow meters.
- Install perimeter security fence.
- Install perimeter lighting.
- Asphalt around the perimeter of the tank.

Prepared by:   
Acting Chief Engineer – Water & Wastewater

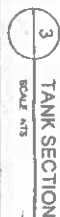
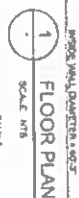


PROPOSED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
FOR KAGMAN 1.0 MG WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT





PROPOSED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
 FOR KAGMAN 1.0 MG WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT



NOTE:  
A MAX OF 4 UP TO A MAX OF 7 WILL MAKE THE TASK  
FOUR (NOT FORTY) AROUND THE TASK PERFORMER  
SHOULD BE EVALUATED FOR REPLACEMENT WITH DISCREETLY  
COMPLETED TASKS, AROUND AT LEAST 85% OF THE TASK  
FOR DELIVERY 18009

NOTE: THE QUALITY CONTROL ENGINEER FOR INSPECTION IS  
NAMED HERE, ENGINEER/TECHNICAL SHOULD BE TYPED IN  
THE EDITING SUBJECT

SEE QUALITY CONTROL, SOL. REPORT 0306 28 DATED  
FEBRUARY 14, 2018

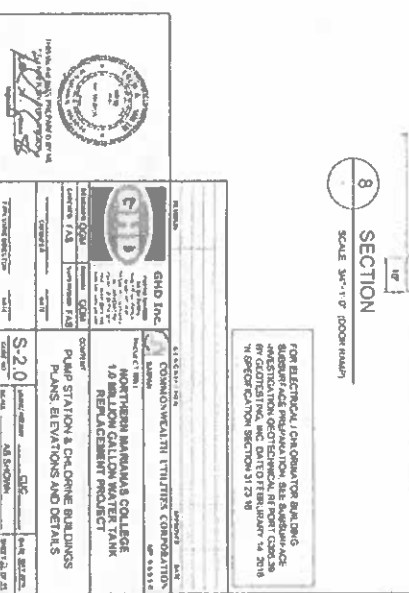
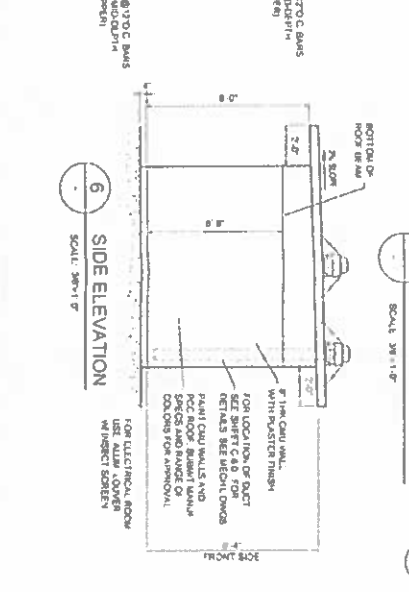
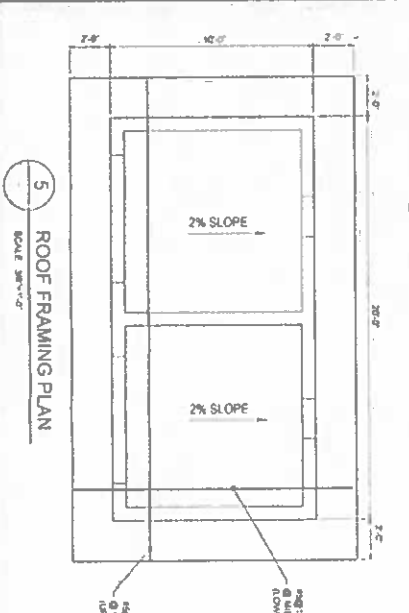
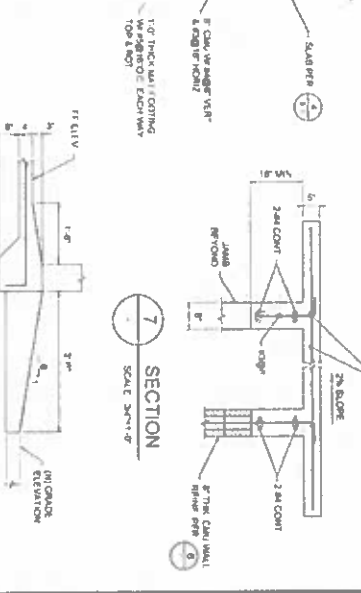
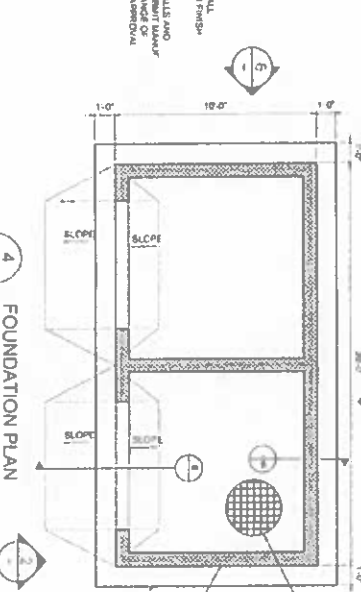
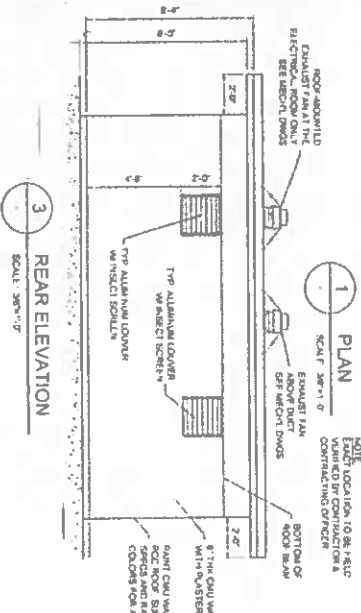
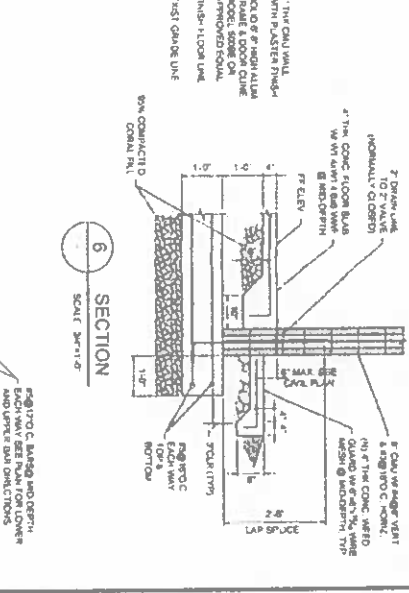
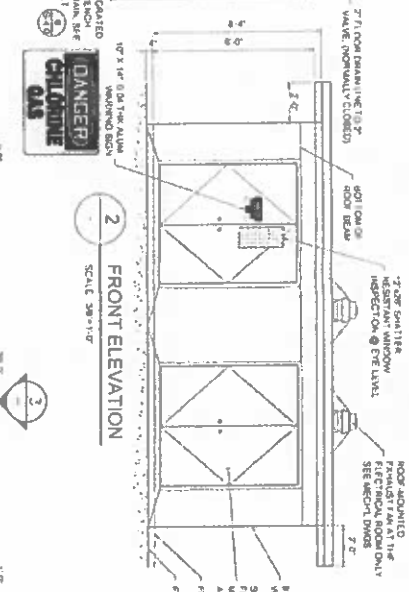
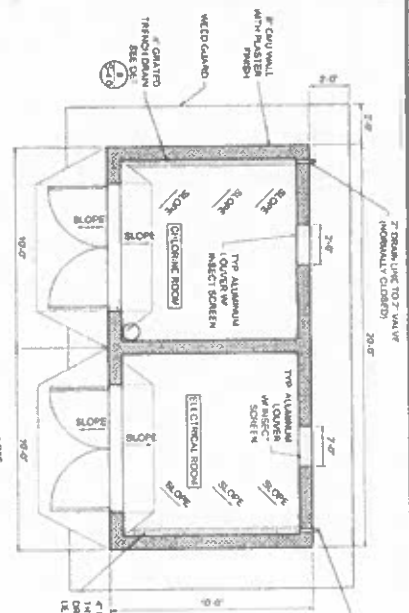
SEE ON DETCHENKA; SOL REPORT 6306 30 DATE  
FEBRUARY 14 2016

8" (203 mm) AGGREGATE ROAD BASE (3% MAX. S), COMPACTED TO A MIN OF 95% OF MAX DENSITY AS PER ASTM D1557  
REMOVE AND REPLACE UNSUITABLE NATURAL SOILS PER GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS

[illegible]







**FOR ELECTRICAL CONSULTANT TO SUBMIT**  
**INVESTIGATION OF ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS**  
**IN CONNECTION WITH THE**  
**REPAIR OF THE**  
**IN CONNECTION WITH THE**

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