

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
APPOINTMENTS

DOCUMENT NO.	APPOINTEE	POSITION	AGENCY	APPT. DATE	TERM LENGTH	DATE REFERRED	COMMITTEE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	SESSION DATE	DATE CONFIRMED	NOTES
37GL-24-1545	Steven Carrara, ESQ.	Member	Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors	1/10/24	Three (3) Years; November 29, 2023 to November 28, 2026	1/30/24	Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning	2/8/24 9:00 a.m.	2/26/24 4:25 p.m.			



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

February 26, 2024

The Honorable Therese M. Terlaje

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Chris Barnett *DUB*

Chairperson, Committee on Rules

RE: Committee Report on the Executive Re-Appointment of Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq. to serve a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

Håfa Adai Speaker Terlaje,

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on the **Executive Re-Appointment of Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq.** to serve as Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors and was referred to the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning.

Committee votes are as follows:

- 2 TO DO CONFIRM
- 0 TO NOT CONFIRM
- 2 TO REPORT OUT ONLY
- 0 TO ABSTAIN
- 0 TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Received:

February 26, 2024 4:00 p.m.

Beatrice Cruz

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Sabina Flores Perez

Sabina Flores Perez

Senator, *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORT

**Nomination of
Steven Carrara, Esq.**

**To serve as a Member of the
Guam Environmental Protection Agency,
Board of Directors**

**Three (3) Years November 29, 2023 to
November 28, 2026**



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

February 22, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: **All Members**
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and
Statistics, Research, and Planning

From: **Senator Sabina Flores Perez** *SFP*
Committee Chairperson

Subject: **Committee Report on Re-Appointment of Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq.**

Håfa Adai,

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on the appointment of **Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq.** to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization.

This report includes the following:

- COR Referral Memorandum of the Re-Appointment
- Appointment Letter to the Speaker from *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*
- Appointment Packet and Supporting Documents from *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*
- Notices of Public Hearing
- Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Submitted Written Testimonies & Supporting Documents
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature

January 30, 2024

To: **Joaquin P. Taitague**
Clerk of the Legislature

Attorney Darleen Hiton
Legislative Legal Counsel

From: **Senator Chris Barnett** *DUB*
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

Subject: **Referral of Reappointment**

Håfa Adai yan Biba Guåhan!

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §9.01, Rule IX of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of the following reappointment:

Appointee: **Steven Carrara, ESQ.**

Position: **Member**

Term Length: **Three (3) Years; November 29, 2023, to November 28, 2026**

Please refer the following document:

“**Doc. No. 37GL-24-1545** – Office of the Governor – Reappointment and Supporting Documents Steven Carrara, ESQ., Member, Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.”

Ensure the reappointment is referred to the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning chaired by Senator Sabina Flores Perez. I also request that the same be forwarded to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kamarin J.A. Nelson, Committee on Rules Director at 671-472-2461.



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

January 10, 2024

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

37GL-24-1545
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE

JAN 25 2024

Time: 4:42 pm
Received: SN

RE: Board Reappointment

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

By virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Organic Act of Guam, 10 GCA § 45103, and all other applicable laws, I am pleased to transmit the following reappointment and supporting documents:

- APPOINTEE: Steven Carrara, ESQ.
- POSITION: Member, Board of Directors
Guam Environmental Protection Agency
- TERM LENGTH: **Three (3) Years; November 29, 2023, to November 28, 2026**

The reappointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Please schedule a hearing at your earliest convenience.

Senseramente,

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Åkto Maga'låhen Guåhan
Acting Governor of Guam



37GL-24-1545
Messages and Communications
RECEIVED
Committee on Rules
January 29, 2024
10:01 a.m.
Beatrice Cruz

cc: *Honorable* Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

January 10, 2024

STEVEN CARRARA, ESQ.

Håfa Adai Attorney Carrara:

Pursuant to my authority under the Organic Act of Guam, 10 GCA § 45103, and all other applicable laws, I am reappointing you to serve as a:

**MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Term Length: Three (3) Years; November 29, 2023, to November 28, 2026**

Your reappointment is a testament to your commitment to public service and your faithful execution of the great responsibilities that this position requires. I am confident that you will continue to fulfill your duties in a professional manner for others to follow. On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend my gratitude for your continued service in this important role.

As you are aware, this reappointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

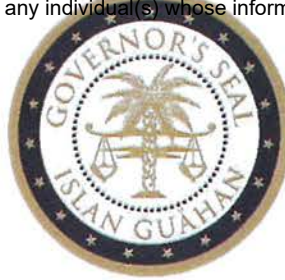
Should you have any questions, please contact Jean Taitano with the Office of the Governor at (671) 473-1121.

Senseramente,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joshua F. Tenorio".

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Åkto Maga'låhen Guåhan
Acting Governor of Guam

cc: *Honorable* Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam
Chairman, Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM Nomination and Appointment Information Sheet

The following information is required for submission to the
Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* in accordance with Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Section 2103

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Last Name CARRARA	First Name STEVEN	Middle Initial
Mailing Address [REDACTED]		Apartment/Unit #
City [REDACTED]	State [REDACTED]	Zip Code [REDACTED]
Phone [REDACTED]	E-mail Address [REDACTED]	
Position to which Appointment is Made Member, Board of Directors, Guam Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)		
Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If no, are you authorized to work in the United States? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

EDUCATION

SCHOOL (Name, City and State)	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	TYPE OF DEGREE	YEAR EARNED
High School Msgr. McClancy, East Elmhurst, NY	1976 - 1980	High School Diploma	1980
College Columbia College, NY, New York	1980 - 1984	BA	1984
Graduate School Washington College of Law, DC	1984 - 1987	JD	1987
Other Degree			

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Name of Present/Last Employer and Mailing Address IT&E Upper Tumon, GUAM	Position Title General Counsel
	Dates Held 2008 - Present

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Carlsmith Ball, LLP Hagatna, Guam	Position Title Of Counsel
	Dates Held 2004 - 2008

Previous Employer and Mailing Address Republic of Palau Koror, Palau	Position Title Attorney General/Asst. AG
	Dates Held 1998 - 2004

Previous Employer and Mailing Address US Department of Commerce Washington, DC	Position Title Attorney Advisor
	Dates Held 1987 - 1998

Previous Employer and Mailing Address	Position Title
	Dates Held

PRIOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SERVICE

Agency or Department Name		Position Title
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held

Agency or Department Name		Position Title
Address	Phone No.	Dates Held

PRIOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT OF GUAM)

<i>Agency or Department Name</i>		<i>Position Title</i>	
<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone No.</i>	<i>Dates Held</i>	

<i>Agency or Department Name</i>		<i>Position Title</i>	
<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone No.</i>	<i>Dates Held</i>	

TRAINING

<i>INSTITUTE/SEMINARS/ON-THE-JOB TRAINING</i>	<i>DATE</i>

AWARDS

<i>List all educational, professional, civic awards, and recognition for public service:</i>

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

<i>List involvement on a local/national/international level. List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:</i>
* Member, Board of Directors, Guam EPA

COMMUNITY / CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

List any published articles, papers delivered at professional meetings, etc.:

MILITARY SERVICE (Please attach Form DD-214)

<i>BRANCH</i>	<i>DATES OF SERVICE</i>	<i>RANK AT DISCHARGE</i>	<i>TYPE OF DISCHARGE</i>

OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Have you ever been found guilty of a felony in any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail: _____

Address of the Court: _____

Date(s) of Conviction: _____

Specific Infraction Committed: _____

(2) Have you ever been declared mentally incompetent by any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes No If so, please specify in detail the reasons and facts related to such declaration:

(3) Have you ever been found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of insanity?

Yes No

(4) Have you ever been confined to a mental institution for any reason?

Yes No If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are not suffering from any mental illness or affliction:

AFFIDAVIT / DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

I, the undersigned, do hereby depose and say that: (1) I have read and reviewed the information contained in the attached Appointment/Nomination letter from the Governor of Guam; (2) that the matters contained in the Appointment/Nomination letter, together with all attachments thereto, are true and correct and that I am competent to testify to said matters; and (3) that this Declaration is made for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 4 G.C.A. Section 2103.5.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam (4 G.C.A. Section 4308) that the foregoing is true and correct.

Steven Carrara

Print Name and Signature

4/27/21 12/11/23

Date



SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center | 120 West O'Brien Drive | Hagåtña, Guam 96910 | (671) 475-3370 | Fax: (671) 475-0078

Name: **STEVEN CARRARA**

Driver's License #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies the following results of a diligent search of the records of this Court:

Criminal Cases:
No Cases Found

Civil Cases:

Request for further information may be addressed at the Records Division of the Superior Court of Guam, Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagåtña, Guam. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and local/federal holidays. **Court Clearances are Non-Refundable.**

Dated:01/25/2024

Sophia Santos Diaz
Clerk of Court

By: Vanessa M. Torres
Signed by Vanessa M. Torres
Deputy Clerk I
Prepared by: Brandon M. Taitano



The absence of an Original Court Seal Invalidates this document. 66036



Note that the Legislature has taken steps to ensure that any protected personal identifying information has been redacted or excluded in whole or in part in order to protect the privacy of any individual(s) whose information has been included as part of this transmission.

Government of Guam

**GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

P.O. Box 23909
Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921



January 22, 2024


SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD

NAME:	Steven CARRARA		
DATE OF BIRTH:	[REDACTED]	FINGERPRINT#:	[REDACTED]
■	The individual has no record of criminal conviction(s) in the Guam Police Department files that are subject to Guam law.		

*****NOTHING FOLLOWS*****

THIS INFORMATION MAY BE LIMITED TO A LOCAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE FOR ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

By Direction: tmat

For 
STEPHEN C. IGNACIO
Chief of Police

The absence of an original GUAM POLICE seal invalidates this police clearance.
REVISED 04/26/2019



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

February 1, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson *SFP*
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Subject: **1st Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research and Planning will be conducting a public hearing on **Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**. The public hearing will take place in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 a.m.

Executive Re-Appointment of **Frances A. Castro** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors**.

Executive Re-Appointment of **Steven Carrara, ESQ.** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors**.

10:30 a.m.

Bill No. 193-37 (LS) – Joe S. San Agustin / Telo T. Taitague / Roy A. B. Quinata / Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 AND CHAPTER 11 TO DIVISION 1, TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED AND ADD A NEW CHAPTER 98 TO DIVISION 4, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS (ENDS) PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “ENDS EXCISE ACT OF 2023” AND ESTABLISH A DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION REVOLVING FUND AND A GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REVOLVING FUND.

Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023.”

Those interested in participating, please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez via email at office@senatorperez.org or via phone at (671) 989-2968, no later than **Friday, February 2nd, 2024**, for further guidance.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910, or via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than **4:00pm, Thursday, February 12th, 2024**. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at (671) 989-2968. The hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and stream online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*'s live feed on YouTube. A recording of the hearing will be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing. We look forward to your participation!



Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

1st Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

1 message

Office of Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 8:00 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Bcc: evan@senatorperez.org

February 1, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson

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GovGuam Public Notice Portal

--
Si Yu'os Ma'åse,



Office of

Senator Sabina Flores Perez

37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968 | (671) 472-3499


Location: 163 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

Website: www.senatorperez.org


Social Media : [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)

5 attachments

 **1st Public Notice (12).pdf**
316K

 **Bill No. 197-37 (LS) (1).pdf**
484K

 **FAC Nomination Packet.pdf**
1614K

 **Bill No. 193-37 (LS) (1).pdf**
1536K

 **SC Nomination Packet.pdf**
11749K



SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

PUBLIC HEARING Thursday, February 8, 2023 Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room 9:00A.M.

Executive Re-Appointment of Frances A. Castro to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

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The Honorable
LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga' Håga • Governor
The Honorable
JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Sigundo Maga' Låhi • Lieutenant Governor



INVITATION FOR BID NEW BUILDING FOR CONSERVATION OFFICERS (Design-Build)

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam and Honorable Joshua F. Tenorio, L.T. Governor of Guam, through the Director of Department of Public Works (DPW), Vincent P. Arriola, Announces the solicitation of a sealed proposal for:

Project No. 350-0-10696-F-MAN

Bid Security must accompany bid-15% of total bid amount and may be Cash, Bid Bond, Certified or Cashier's Check made payable to:

Treasurer of Guam

Non-Refundable Fee: \$25.00 (Twenty Five Dollars) required as Payment for each Bid Documents.

Availability of Documents: January 31, 2024, CIP / Contracts Administration, Ground Floor, TMC Building, DPW, Upper Tumon.

Please present receipt from the One-Stop Cashier - Building A, DPW, Upper Tumon.

Pre-Bid Conference: February 7, 2024, 9:00 am, Division of Capital Improvement (CIP) (CIP) Ground Floor, TMC Building Conference Room, Upper Tumon. Pre-Bid and Site Visit is Mandatory

Bid Submittal: February 21, 2024, 2:00 p.m. One (1) original and one (1) copies must be submitted CIP TMC Building, Ground Floor.

Department of Public Works reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in the proposals, which in its sole and absolute judgment will serve the Government of Guam interests.

/s/ VINCENT P. ARRIOLA
Director

This Ad Paid for with Government Funds

542 North Marine Coprs Drive, Tamuning, Guam 96913 • (671) 646-3121 / 647/5055 • Fax (671) 649-6178



DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION REAL PROPERTY TAX DIVISION GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

P.O. Box 23607 GMF, Guam 96921 • Tel: 635-1840 Fax No.: 633-2643

REAL PROPERTY TAX REMINDER NOTICE TAX CREDIT, EXEMPTION APPLICATION and DUE DATES

In accordance with §24114 and §24612 Chapter 24, Title 11, Guam Code Annotated, Notice is hereby given for the following tax credits / exemptions offered by the Government of Guam for eligible homeowners and qualified applicants effective Tax Year 2024 and the date of tax payments for tax assessment year 2023.

TY2023 (RP23) PAYMENT DUE DATES: The first installment of property taxes is due by February 20, 2024 and the second by April 20, 2024. The entire property tax may be paid by the first installment due date. If unpaid by 12:00 midnight of the due date, a delinquent penalty in an amount equal to nine percent (9%) minimum of \$5.00 will be assessed. By June 8, 2024 the 2023 delinquent list will be published in a daily newspaper of general circulation. By July 1st, 2024, a redemption penalty of one-half (1/2) of one percent a month will be assessed or a minimum penalty of two dollars (\$2.00), plus additional fee of \$1.00 for publication fee.

TAX CREDIT/EXEMPTION FILING DUE DATE FOR TY2024 is March 15, 2024. If you have already applied, you do not need to resubmit an application if you continue to reside on the same property as your primary residence. However, if a portion of the building is utilized as commercial or rental or if you cease to reside on the property, you must immediately inform the Real Property Tax Division, Appraisal Branch and to avoid penalty fee.

MAJOR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SENIOR CITIZEN'S CREDIT

- Applicant must be the Head of Household who owns and currently resides on the property; (Primary Residence)
- Applicant must have lived on Guam for the preceding consecutive five (5) years.

CATEGORY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Eighty Percent (80%) Credit
- Senior Citizen Tax Credit
 - Applicant must be at least fifty-five (55) years of age by filing due date.
- Citizen with Disability Tax Credit
 - Applicant must be at least eighteen (18) years of age by filing due date and must meet the definition of permanent disability established by the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities (DISID).
- Head of Household of Dependent with Disability
 - Applicant must be at least eighteen (18) years of age by filing due date and, that the dependent must also be currently residing on the property.
 - The dependent must meet the definition of permanent disability established by the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities.
 - Applicable to primary residence of eligible/qualified applicant ONLY. Official certification from DISID must be submitted with tax credit application

Other Credits and Exemptions: Home exemption, Veteran exemption, Government used land, property used exclusively for public road or easement, property used exclusively for educational, religious, or other eleemosynary purposes, property included in any cemetery in use as such, and not conducted for profit and land registered by the owner as a Bona fide farmer.

§24409. Application and Review: Property owners are reminded to report a change, whenever a person has filed a claim for exemption covering any property, it shall be his duty in the event he ceases to be the owners, or ceases to occupy the same as his home or in the event of any change in the facts previously reported in his claim as to the use of the property pertaining to his entitlement to an exemption or credit, to make a report thereof thirty (30) days after any such event occurs.

Information and applications for tax credits, exemptions, assessments and appraisal of Real Property on Guam you may visit us online at www.guamtax.com. Our office hours of operation are Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

e-mail addresses; Real Property Tax (realpropertytax@revtax.guam.gov)
Real Property Tax Administrator (benedict.atoique@revtax.guam.gov)
Contact numbers: Assessment Branch (671) 635-1896 ; Appraisal Branch (671) 635-1892

/s/ MARIE P. LIZAMA
Acting Tax Assessor

"Paid with Government funds by The Department of Revenue and Taxation"

AVAILABLE JOBS FOR ELIGIBLE U.S. WORKERS

- 84 - CARPENTER with 1 yr. exp. \$15.58 PER HOUR***
Performs carpentry duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 35 - CEMENT MASON with 1 yr. exp. \$15.66 PER HOUR***
Performs cement mason duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 15 - ELECTRICIAN with 2 yrs. exp. \$18.41 PER HOUR***
Performs electrician duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 10 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC with 2 yrs. exp. \$19.60 PER HOUR***
Performs heavy equipment mechanic duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 18 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR with 1 yr. exp. \$18.06 PER HOUR***
Performs heavy equipment operator duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 16 - LEAD CARPENTER with 1 yr. exp. \$16.48 PER HOUR***
Performs lead carpentry duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 22 - PIPEFITTER with 2 yrs. exp. \$17.05 PER HOUR***
Performs pipefitter duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 10 - PLUMBER with 2 yrs. exp. \$17.05 PER HOUR***
Performs plumber duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 15 - REINFORCING METAL WORKER with 1 yr. exp. \$16.73 PER HOUR***
Performs reinforcing metal worker duties for residential, commercial and government projects.
- 37 - WELDER with 1 yr. exp. \$18.87 PER HOUR***
Performs welder duties for residential, commercial and government projects.

***Special Wage Rate:** Work to be performed on DPRI-funded projects and projects covered by Davis Bacon, Service Contracts Act, and/or Executive Order 14206 will be paid no less than the indicated wage rate but may be paid more where special rates apply.

Benefits: Round trip airfare for off-island hire; Lodging at \$92.00/week; Local transportation to/from jobsite from the employer's designated housing facility; and Employer/employee-paid medical insurance provided.

Successful applicant must be able to obtain military base access.

The job offer meets all EEO requirements, and initiates a temporary placement. The recruitment associated with this job offer is closely monitored by the Department of Labor. Qualified, available and willing U.S. workers are highly encouraged to apply. Should you qualify for the job and are not hired, you may appeal with the Department of Labor who will independently review matter.

The complete job duties may be viewed in person at American Job Center
414 W. Soledad Avenue, Suite 300 GCIC Building Hagåtña, Guam
Or apply online at www.hireguam.com; Enter Keyword: 2024-023


1st Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

 PRINT

1st Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 02/01/2024 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Nicky Leann Fernandez, Office Manager

 **Public Hearing Date:** 02/08/2024 09:00 AM

 **Department(s):**
[GUAM LEGISLATURE \(/notices?department_id=92\)](/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ (/notices?division_id=265)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (</notices?public=1>)

 **Share this notice**

February 1, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor,
Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Subject: **1st Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research and Planning will be conducting a public hearing on **Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.** The public hearing will take place in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 a.m.

Executive Re-Appointment of **Frances A. Castro** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

Executive Re-Appointment of **Steven Carrara, ESQ.** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

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Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation

Public Notice 12/27/23, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE "STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023."

Those interested in participating, please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez via email at office@senatorperez.org or via phone at (671) 989-2968, no later than **Friday, February 2nd, 2024**, for further guidance.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910, or via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than **4:00pm, Thursday, February 12th, 2024**. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at (671) 989-2968. The hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and stream online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* live feed on YouTube. A recording of the hearing will be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing. We look forward to your participation!



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan • 37th Guam Legislature

January 31, 2024

Transmitted via electronic mail



Steven Carbullido
Chairman
Guam Environmental Protection Agency
Board of Directors
Building 17-3304 Mariner Avenue, Tiyán
Barrigada, Guam 96913

Subject: Notice of Public Hearing on Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Hâfa Adai Chairman Carbullido,

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning will be conducting an oversight hearing and public hearing on **Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** The oversight hearing and public hearing will take place in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 a.m.

Executive Re-Appointment of **Frances A. Castro** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

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Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of I Kongressun Manhoben Guahan, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023.”



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

The Committee requests that you or your designee attend the public hearing to present and submit written testimony on the agenda items, and you are welcome to invite other members of your team who will provide valuable input. Please contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez via email at office@senatorperez.org or via phone for further guidance.

Written testimonies may be submitted in advance via office@senatorperez.org. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (671) 989-2968.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse,

Sabina Flores Perez

Sabina Flores Perez

Senator, *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Attachments (5): 1st Public Notice
FAC Nomination Packet
SC Nomination Packet
Bill No. 193-37 (LS)
Bill No. 197-37 (LS)



Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

Public Hearing Invitation - Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

2 messages

Nicky Leann B. Fernandez <nicky@senatorperez.org> Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 2:07 PM
To: Steven Carbullido <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>
Cc: danny@flowaterguam.com, Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

Hafa Adai Chairman Carbullido,

Attached to this email is an invitation from Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson on the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning.

We greatly appreciate your time and attention.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

--
Saina Ma'åse',



Nicky L. Fernandez
Office Manager
Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez
37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968
Location: 163 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor, [Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910](#)
Email: nicky@senatorperez.org
Website: www.senatorperez.org
Facebook: [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)

5 attachments

- Invitation Letter 02.08.24 - GEPA-BoD (1).pdf**
328K
- 1st Public Notice (9).pdf**
571K
- FAC Nomination Packet.pdf**
1614K
- Bill No. 193-37 (LS) (1).pdf**
1536K
- Bill No. 197-37 (LS) (1).pdf**
484K

Nicky Leann B. Fernandez <nicky@senatorperez.org> Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 12:58 PM
To: Steven Carbullido <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>
Cc: danny@flowaterguam.com, Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

Hafa Adai Chairman Carbullido,

Please see the updated invitation for your perusal.

--
Saina Ma'åse',



Nicky L. Fernandez
Office Manager

Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez
37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics,
Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968

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Email: nicky@senatorperez.org

Website: www.senatorperez.org

Facebook: [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)

[Quoted text hidden]

3 attachments

-  **Invitation Letter 02.08.24 - GEPA-BoD (2).pdf**
329K
-  **1st Public Notice (12).pdf**
316K
-  **SC Nomination Packet.pdf**
11749K



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

January 30, 2024

Transmitted via electronic mail

michelle.lastimoza@epa.guam.gov

Michelle Lastimoza
Administrator
Guam Environmental Protection Agency
Building 17-3304 Mariner Avenue, Tiyan
Barrigada, Guam 96913

Subject: Notice of Public Hearing on Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Håfa Adai Administrator Lastimoza,

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning will be conducting an oversight hearing and public hearing on **Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** The oversight hearing and public hearing will take place in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

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Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023.”

The Committee requests that you or your designee attend the public hearing to present and submit written testimony on the agenda items, and you are welcome to invite other members of your team who will provide



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
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I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

valuable input. Please contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez via email at office@senatorperez.org or via phone for further guidance.

Written testimonies may be submitted in advance via office@senatorperez.org. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (671) 989-2968.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse,

Sabina Flores Perez

Sabina Flores Perez

Senator, *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Attachments (5): 1st Public Notice
FAC Nomination Packet
SC Nomination Packet
Bill No. 193-37 (LS)
Bill No. 197-37 (LS)



Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

Public Hearing Invitation - Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

2 messages

Nicky Leann B. Fernandez <nicky@senatorperez.org>

Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 1:52 PM

To: "michelle.lastimoza@epa.guam.gov" <michelle.lastimoza@epa.guam.gov>

Cc: Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>, Arlene Acfalle <arlene.acfalle@epa.guam.gov>

Håfa Adai Administrator Lastimoza,

Attached to this email is an invitation from Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson on the Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning.

We greatly appreciate your time and attention.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

--

Saina Ma'åse',

**Nicky L. Fernandez****Office Manager**

Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez

37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968

Location: 163 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor, [Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910](#)Email: nicky@senatorperez.orgWebsite: www.senatorperez.orgFacebook: [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)

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484K



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan • 37th Guam Legislature

February 6, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson *SFP*
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Subject: **2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research and Planning will be conducting a public hearing on **Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.** The public hearing will take place in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 a.m.

Executive Re-Appointment of **Frances A. Castro** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

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Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guahan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023.”

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Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910, or via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than **4:00pm, Thursday, February 12th, 2024**. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at (671) 989-2968. The hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and stream online via *I Liheslaturan Guahan*'s live feed on YouTube. A recording of the hearing will be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing. We look forward to your participation!



Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

1 message

Office of Senator Sabina Perez <office@senatorperez.org>
To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org
Bcc: evan@senatorperez.org

Tue, Feb 6, 2024 at 8:00 AM

February 6, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and PlanningSubject: **2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

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GovGuam Public Notice Portal

--
Si Yu'os Ma'åse,








**Office of
Senator Sabina Flores Perez**
37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics,
Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968 | (671) 472-3499
Location: 163 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

Website: www.senatorperez.org
Social Media : [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)

5 attachments

-  **2nd Public Notice (12) (1).pdf**
317K
-  **FAC Nomination Packet.pdf**
1614K
-  **Bill No. 197-37 (LS) (1).pdf**
484K
-  **Bill No. 193-37 (LS) (1).pdf**
1536K
-  **SC Nomination Packet.pdf**
11749K



SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, February 8, 2023
Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room
9:00A.M.

Executive Re-Appointment of Frances A. Castro to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

Executive Re-Appointment of Steven Carrara, ESQ. to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

10:30A.M.

Bill No. 193-37 (LS) – Joe S. San Agustin / Telo T. Taitague / Roy A. B. Quinata / Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 AND CHAPTER 11 TO DIVISION 1, TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED AND ADD A NEW CHAPTER 98 TO DIVISION 4, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS (ENDS) PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE "ENDS EXCISE ACT OF 2023" AND ESTABLISH A DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION REVOLVING FUND AND A GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REVOLVING FUND.

Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE "STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023."

Those interested in participating, please confirm your attendance by contacting the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez via email at office@senatorperez.org or via phone at (671) 989-2968, no later than **Friday, February 2nd, 2024**, for further guidance.

Testimonies should be addressed to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson, and will be accepted via hand delivery to our mailbox at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, or via email to office@senatorperez.org, no later than **4:00pm, Thursday, February 12th, 2024**. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez at (671) 989-2968. The hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117 and stream online via I Liheslaturan Guåhan's live feed on YouTube. A recording of the hearing will be available online via Guam Legislature Media on YouTube after the hearing. We look forward to your participation!

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CIVIL ENGINEERS: Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering (may be foreign equivalent), 60 months of experience as a Civil Engineer. For employment located in Saipan, the CNMI, provides construction management oversight. Responsible for the preparation, planning, coordination, and management of multiple project assignments within broad general objectives and limits. Work requires independent judgment in the evaluation, selection, and substantial adaptation and modification of standard techniques, procedures and criteria.

Send resume to:

PACIFIC ENGINEERING GROUP & SERVICES (PEGS), LLC
 Attn: Jamerie Paras, Office Manager
 7303 Chalan Pale Arnold Rd., Suite 203
 P.O. Box 502713 Saipan, MP 96950
 Email Address: jparas@pegssmp.com

HUNTERSPEAKS ORGANIZATION

Statement of Activities (Unaudited)
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Revenues, gains, and other support:

Total revenues, gains, and other support \$538,390

Expenses and Losses

Total expenses and losses \$722,792

Change in net assets -\$184,402

Net assets, beginning of year \$175,527

Prior period adjustments -

Net assets, end of year -\$8,875

To review financial statements or for more information, please contact the Hunterspeaks Chairman, Vincent Duenas at vduenas@hsguam.org.



Joseph T. Duenas
 CCU Chairman

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY
 ATURIDÁT ILEKTRESEDÁT GUÅHAN
 P.O. BOX 2977 • HAGÁTÑA, GUAM U.S.A. 96932-2977
 Telephone Nos. 671-648-3054/55 or Facsimile 671-648-3165



John M. Benavente, P.E.
 General Manager

SOLE SOURCE

Public Law 36-70
5GCA § 5214

<u>PO NO.:</u>	<u>VENDOR:</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION:</u>	<u>CONTRACT TERM:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
32305	Oracle New Zealand	Oracle Software Update License and Support	11/29/2024	\$52,118.40
32304	Oracle New Zealand	Oracle Database License and Maintenance Fee Perpetual	11/27/2024	\$53,746.64

This notice is paid for by the GUAM POWER AUTHORITY FEMA REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS
Public Law 26-12

Sole Source award is posted on the Authority's web site at http://go.opengovguam.com/bids/awarded_ole_source/gpa.



Joseph T. Duenas
 CCU Chairman

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY
 ATURIDÁT ILEKTRESEDÁT GUÅHAN
 P.O. BOX 2977 • HAGÁTÑA, GUAM U.S.A. 96932-2977
 Telephone Nos. 671-648-3054/55 or Facsimile 671-648-3165



John M. Benavente, P.E.
 General Manager

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

This notice is paid for by the GUAM POWER AUTHORITY O&M FUNDS
Public Law 26-12

<u>RFP NO.:</u>	<u>CLOSING DATE:</u>	<u>TIME:</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION:</u>
GPA-RFP-24-005	03/05/2024	4:00 P.M.	Decommissioning and Retirement Plan for Cabras Power Plant

Copies of the general scope of work may be picked up at the GPWA Procurement Office, 1ST Floor, Room 101, Gloria B. Nelson Public Service Building, 688 Route 15, Mangilao, Guam 96913. All interested firms should register with GPA's Procurement Division to be able to participate in the RFP. Please call our office at 1 (671) 648-3054 / 3055 to register. Registration is required to ensure that all "Amendments and Special Reminders" are communicated to all proponents throughout the RFP process. Procurement instructions are posted on the Authority's web site at <https://go.opengovguam.com/bids/available/gpa>.

/s/ John M. Benavente, P.E.
 General Manager

DEDEDO SOCCER CLUB

Profit and Loss Statement
As of 12/31/2023

Income	
PROGRAM FEES	\$ 24,723.38
GRANT MONIES	\$ 18,000.00
Total Income	\$ 42,723.38
Expense	
CLUB ADMIN	\$ 6,722.91
CLUB UNIFORMS	\$ 13,861.90
CLUB GEAR	\$ 7,687.21
TEAM & FIELD FEES	\$ 3,143.85
COACH/PLAYER AWARDS	\$ 6,411.54
Total Expense	\$ 37,827.41
Net Loss /Profit	\$ 4,895.97

CAMACHO CALVO LAW GROUP LLC

SINFOROSO M. TOLENTINO
stolentino@camachocalvo.law
 356 E. Marine Corps Drive, Suite 201
 Hagåtña, Guam 96910
 Telephone No. 671.472.6813
 Facsimile No. 671.477.4375

Attorneys for Petitioner
SINFOROSO M. TOLENTINO

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
WALTER SCOTT BARRETT,
 Deceased.

PROBATE CASE NO. PR0069-23

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by SINFOROSO M. TOLENTINO, Administrator of the Estate of Walter Scott Barrett, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against said Estate or against said Decedent, that within sixty (60) calendar days after the date of the first publication of this notice, they either file them with necessary vouchers in the Office of Clerk of the Superior Court of Guam, or exhibit them with the necessary vouchers to said Administrator or his attorneys of record, Camacho Calvo Law Group LLC, 356 E. Marine Corps Drive, Suite 201, Hagåtña, Guam 96910, the same being the place for the transaction of the business of said Estate.

DATED: Hagåtña, GU, January 30, 2024.

CAMACHO CALVO LAW GROUP LLC
 /s/ SINFOROSO M. TOLENTINO
 Attorneys for Petitioner


2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

 PRINT

**2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday,
February 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.**

PUBLIC HEARING



 **Posted on:** 02/06/2024 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Nicky Leann Fernandez, Office Manager

 **Public Hearing Date:** 02/08/2024 09:00 AM

 **Department(s):**
GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department_id=92)

 **Division(s):**
OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ (/notices?
division_id=265)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

 **Share this notice**

February 6, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators, Stakeholders and Media

Fr: Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor,
Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Subject: **2nd Notice of Public Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research and Planning will be conducting a public hearing on **Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.** The public hearing will take place in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. The agenda is as follows:

9:00 a.m.

Executive Re-Appointment of **Frances A. Castro** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

Executive Re-Appointment of **Steven Carrara, ESQ.** to serve as a **Member** on the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

10:30 a.m.

Bill No. 193-37 (LS) – Joe S. San Agustin / Telo T. Taitague / Roy A. B. Quinata / Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 AND CHAPTER 11 TO DIVISION 1, TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED AND ADD A NEW CHAPTER 98 TO DIVISION 4, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS (ENDS) PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE "ENDS EXCISE ACT OF 2023" AND ESTABLISH A DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION REVOLVING FUND AND A GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REVOLVING FUND.

Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation

SENATOR SABINA FLORES, Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE "STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023."

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OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ
Chairperson
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

AGENDA
PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, February 8th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room

The agenda is as follows:

9:00 a.m.

Executive Re-Appointment of Frances A. Castro to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

Executive Re-Appointment of Steven Carrara, Esq. to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

10:30 a.m.

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Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023.”



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

Public Hearing

Thursday, February 8th, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room

**Executive Re-Appointment of Steven Carrara, Esq. to serve as a Member on the Board of Directors of
Guam Environmental Protection Agency**

NAME (please print)	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	ORAL TESTIMONY	WRITTEN TESTIMONY	IN FAVOR	NOT IN FAVOR	CONTACT INFORMATION
Michelle Lastimoza	Guam EPA	✓	✓	✓		
Steve Carrara		✓		✓		
Arturo Achille	Guam EPA					



GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • AHENSIAŅ PRUTEKSIÓN LINA'LA' GUÁHAN
LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO • GOVERNOR OF GUAM | JOSHUA F. TENORIO • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF GUAM
MICHELLE C. R. LASTIMOZA • ADMINISTRATOR

February 8, 2024

HONORABLE SABINA F. PEREZ

Senator

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation,
Labor, Procurement, and Statistics,
Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guáhan

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: Written Testimony in Support of Fran Castro and Steve Carrara

Hafa adai Senator Perez and members of the Committee,

The Guam Environmental Protection Agency (Guam EPA) is pleased with Governor Leon Guerrero's nominations to reappoint Ms. Fran Castro and Mr. Steve Carrara to the Guam EPA board of directors, and Guam EPA is in full support of the nominations. I have some brief remarks about Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara that I'd like to share with you this morning.

In July 2021, we spoke of how Ms. Castro is a proud daughter of the Marianas who has dedicated a great portion of her life toward environmental stewardship, earning distinguished recognition in public service and environmental leadership through her work in developing and executing sound, protective environmental policies in the CNMI during her nearly 20-year tenure with Saipan Division of Environmental Quality and CNMI Bureau of Environment and Coastal Quality. We supported her then, and we continue to support her today.

Ms. Castro demonstrates balance in her role as an actively engaged board member and her responsibilities as an associate director with the University of Guam Sea Grant where she lends her expertise and vision to the principles of coral reef resilience, island sustainability and multicultural diversification in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. She continued to broaden her knowledge through continuing education as illustrated by her recent accomplishment where she earned a professional Master of Environmental Management degree from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University in 2023.

Mr. Carrara is our current board vice-chair and our most senior board member. Since his initial appointment in 2012, Mr. Carrara has maintained a level of excellence as a board member through his passion for the environment and for the island which stems from his experiences in the Pacific region for nearly two decades. Mr. Carrara has worked with the National Oceanic and



GUAM EPA | 17-3304 Mariner Avenue Tiyan Barrigada, Guam 96913-1617 | Tel: (671) 300.4751/2 | Fax: (671) 300.4531 | epa.guam.gov
ALL LIVING THINGS OF THE EARTH ARE ONE • *MANUNU TODU I MANLÁLALA'*

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Atmospheric Administration and the Palau Environmental Protection Board and as a result, developed the understanding required to address the unique environmental and cultural issues facing our region. As he seeks his fourth confirmation, we are confident that Mr. Carrara will continue to support the agency and its mission, especially in our efforts to continue modernizing the agency's rules and regulations and increase our compliance and enforcement efforts. Mr. Carrara is an effective communicator, and a staunch advocate of the community, who prioritizes community concerns and places them at the forefront of board discussions. We appreciate his longevity, and his leadership and continuity is well recognized by our federal counterparts with EPA Region 9.

Both Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara have proven to be great assets to our board – a board composed of like-minded professionals hailing from the engineering, legal, educational, military and broadcast media fields whose concerns are supportive and protective of human and environmental health.

In the last three years with our board, both Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara have faithfully executed the board's deliberative process and helped shape Guam EPA's policy decisions which touched upon protection of our groundwater, our State Implementation Plan for air pollution compliance, the MCOG's Island-wide Environmental Clean-up Program funded by the Recycling revolving Fund, priority projects through EPA's State Revolving Fund for GWA, New Source Rules for New and Modified Major Sources in SO₂ nonattainment areas, Guam's Zero Waste Master Plan and Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

Arguably, Ms. Castro's participation on our board exceeded our expectations, especially when you consider that she is a first-termer. Through three terms, Mr. Carrara's dedication in service to Guam through our board is unquestionable. Attendance at board meetings is rarely an issue with either of them.

It remains a pleasure to work with Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara, as they both possess a disposition which assures us of their well-placed concerns for Guam's environment, ensuring that consistent attention is paid towards safe drinking water, solid waste management, air quality and marine preservation. They both fully understand the level of commitment necessary to serve our community well, and recognize that their work with our board is not done.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these thoughts with you all today. We ask for your favorable consideration of the nominees as we look forward to their confirmations.

Dangkolu na si Yu'us ma'åse'.

MICHELLE C. R. LASTIMOZA
Administrator



GUAM EPA | 17-3304 Mariner Avenue Tiyan Barrigada, Guam 96913-1617 | Tel: (671) 300.4751/2 | Fax: (671) 300.4531 | epa.guam.gov
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OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

Nomination of

Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq.

To serve as a Member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors

Three (3) Years November 29, 2023 to November 28, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	SIGNATURE AND DATE	TO DO CONFIRM	TO NOT CONFIRM	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ Chairperson	<i>SFP</i> 2/22/2024	✓				
SENATOR THOMAS J. FISHER Vice Chairperson						
SPEAKER THERESE M. TERLAJE Member	E-Vote 2/26/2024			✓		
SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT Member	E-Vote 2/26/2024			✓		
SENATOR JOE S. SAN AGUSTIN Member						
SENATOR TELO T. TAITAGUE Member	E-Vote 2/23/2024	✓				
SENATOR JESSE A. LUJAN Member						



Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

Request for E-Vote for the Executive Appointment of Steven Carrara, Esq. to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors

4 messages

Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

Fri, Feb 23, 2024 at 8:52 AM

To: Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Telo Taitague <senortelot@gmail.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>
 Cc: Sabina Perez <sabina@senatorperez.org>, "Nicky Leann B. Fernandez" <nicky@senatorperez.org>

Håfa Adai Committee Members,

Please see attached Committee Report for **Steven Carrara, Esq.** to serve as a **Member** of the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.**

Please indicate your preferred action, based on the following options:

- To Do Confirm;
- To Not Confirm;
- To Report Out Only;
- To Abstain; or
- To Place in Inactive File.

Please submit your response as soon as possible. Your responses will be logged into the Committee Report Vote Sheet for Steven Carrara, Esq., which will be filed with the Committee on Rules.

--

Saina Ma'åse',



Evan C. San Nicolas

Chief of Staff

Office of Senator Sabina Flores Perez

37th Guam Legislature • *I Mina'Trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning

Tel: (671) 989-2968

Location: 163 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor, Chalan Santo Papa, *Hagåtña*, Guam 96910

Email: evan@senatorperez.org

Website: www.senatorperez.org

Social Media : [Senator Sabina Flores Perez](#)



Committee Report - Steven Carrara, Esq., Member, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors .pdf

21354K

Senator Telo Taitague <senortelot@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 23, 2024 at 10:31 AM

To: Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>

To do confirm.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

Create a Great Day!*Senator Telo T. Taitague*

37th Guam Legislature

Republican Minority Whip**Vice Chair on General Government****Operations & Appropriations**

Suite 309 DNA Building

238 Archbishop Flores St.

Hagatna, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 989-8356

Email: senatortelot@gmail.com

[Quoted text hidden]

Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Mon, Feb 26, 2024 at 10:07 AM

To: Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>Cc: Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>, Sabina Perez <sabina@senatorperez.org>, "Nicky Leann B. Fernandez" <nicky@senatorperez.org>*Håfa Adai,*

To Report Out Only.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'**Office of Speaker Therese M. Terlaje**

Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture

I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan 37th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

☎ (671) 472-3586

✉ senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com🌐 www.senatorterlaje.com

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[Quoted text hidden]

Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Mon, Feb 26, 2024 at 11:41 AM

To: Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org>Cc: Senator Thomas Fisher <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>, Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, Senator Telo Taitague <senatortelot@gmail.com>, Senator Jesse Lujan <senatorlujan@guamlegislature.org>, Sabina Perez <sabina@senatorperez.org>, "Nicky Leann B. Fernandez" <nicky@senatorperez.org>

Report out only

On Fri, Feb 23, 2024 at 8:52AM Evan San Nicolas <evan@senatorperez.org> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]



OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ

Chairperson

Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement,
and Statistics, Research, and Planning

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning convened a public hearing on February 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Guam Congress Building, Public Hearing Room. Among the items on the agenda was the consideration of the re-appointment of Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq. to serve as a Member of the Guam Board of Equalization, of whose appointment is as follows:

- Appointed by Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero on January 10, 2024, to serve from Three (3) Years; November 29, 2023 to November 28, 2026.
- Appointment packet was forwarded to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* on January 25, 2024
- Appointment packet forwarded to this Committee for public consideration on January 30, 2024.

Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via email to all Senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on February 1, 2024, and again on February 6, 2024, fulfilling the 5-Day Notice and 48-Hour Notice of the Open Government Law requirements respectively.

Senators Present

Senator Sabina Flores Perez	<i>Committee Chairperson</i>
Senator Joe S. San Agustin	<i>Committee Member</i>
Senator Telo T. Taitague	<i>Committee Member</i>
Senator Chris Barnett	<i>Committee Member</i>
Senator Joanne Brown	<i>Legislative Member</i>

Oral Testimony

Steven Carrara, Esq.	<i>Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Director Nominee</i>
Michelle Lastimoza	<i>Guam Environmental Protection Agency Administrator</i>

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY AND DISCUSSION

The public hearing was Called-to-Order at 9:00 a.m.

Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson: *Håfa Adai* the Committee on Environment, Revenue, and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, Statistics, Research, and Planning is calling this public hearing to order. The time is now 9:00 a.m. Thursday, February 8th, 2024.

In compliance with Open Government Law, notices of today's hearing were published in the Guam Daily Post and provided via email to Senators, stakeholders, and the local media and posted to the Governor of Guam's Public Notices website on Thursday, February 1st, 2024 for the five-day notice and February 6th, 2024 for the 48-hour notice.

I'd like to acknowledge my colleague that's here today, Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Good morning. The purpose of this confirmation hearing and public hearing is to hear the testimony on the following agenda items.

9:00 a.m.

The Executive Re-Appointment of Frances A. Castro to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

The Executive Re-Appointment of Steven Carrara, Esq. to serve as a Member on the Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors.

10:30 a.m.

Bill No. 193-37 (LS) – Joe S. San Agustin / Telo T. Taitague / Roy A. B. Quinata / Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 AND CHAPTER 11 TO DIVISION 1, TITLE 11 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED AND ADD A NEW CHAPTER 98 TO DIVISION 4, TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS (ENDS) PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “ENDS EXCISE ACT OF 2023” AND ESTABLISH A DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION REVOLVING FUND AND A GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REVOLVING FUND.

Bill No. 197-37 (LS) - Committee on Maritime Transportation, Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens by request of *I Kongressun Manhoben Guåhan*, the Guam Youth Congress, in accordance with 2 GCA §7102 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 10 TO TITLE 11 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A VAPING PRODUCT TAX AND LICENSING OF THE RETAIL AND WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION OF VAPING PRODUCTS, WHICH SHALL BE CITED AS THE “STOP ADDICTION THROUGH VAPING EXCISE (S.A.V.E.) ACT OF 2023.”

The rules of conduct for today's confirmation hearing:

- Those called to testify will be in the order beginning with Government Agencies, followed by those that confirmed testimony in-person or by Zoom in advance with my office by Friday, February 2nd, 2023, or prior to today's hearing, or by the order according to the sign in sheet.

- To ensure that all public comments are captured, I ask that all written testimonies be submitted to my staff immediately so copies can be made available for dissemination and to ensure inclusion into the bill's Committee Report.
- Those attending via Zoom will be first recognized by the Chairperson before speaking. Videos must remain on, and digital backgrounds are not allowed. Only participants that have confirmed their attendance with my office will be granted access to the hearing.
- Those providing oral testimony will first be recognized by the Chair before speaking and begin by:
 - stating your name;
 - organization, and;
 - position (if relevant) for record-keeping purposes.
- Senators will be given an opportunity at the end of each panel to ask questions,
- Questions and testimony shall be confined to the substance or nature of the agenda. The personal inference as to the character or the motive of any Senator, or any individual testifying, is NOT permitted.

Now to begin our agenda with the Executive reappointment of Ms. Frances A. Castro to serve as a member of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's Board of Directors. An overview of the functions of Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors, there are nine members appointed by *I Maga Hågan Guåhan* with the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan*. Members shall serve three years except those members that are appointed to fill a vacancy. In those cases, their term expires with the expiration date of that term.

The key responsibilities of the Board of Directors is to appoint the Administrator who is not a member of the Board or does not have a right to vote as well as the Deputy Administrator who also is not on the Board and doesn't have the right to vote but has to carry out the mandates of the agency, which is really critical.

Another important function is the Board shall serve as an appellate body to hear notices, any kind of infractions or enforcement actions by any entity as well as to hear concerns of any citizen who

believes that he or she has been aggrieved by an action or decision by the Administrator of Guam EPA. Notices of today were sent to the Administrator of Guam EPA as well as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. So at this time, we have the panel before us.

If there's anyone here that would like to testify on behalf of the nominees, we welcome you to the table, if you just came in, and then we will follow up with the testimony from the nominees themselves. We have two nominees today. We can invite you to provide testimony on both, if you would like, at this time and then we'll end it with the nominees then speaking, providing their testimony. Please sign in if you haven't done so. At this time, I would like to recognize Administrator Michelle Lastimoza from Guam EPA. Thank you for being here.

Michelle Lastimoza, *Administrator, Guam Environmental Protection Agency*: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning, Senator San Agustin, Senator Telo T. Taitague. I'm very honored today to provide testimony in support of Ms. Fran Castro and Mr. Steve Carrara.

The Guam Environmental Protection Agency is pleased with Governor Leon Guerrero's nomination to reappoint Ms. Fran Castro and Mr. Steve Carrara to the Guam EPA Board of Directors and Guam EPA is in full support of the nominations. I have some brief remarks about Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara that I'd like to share with you this morning.

On July of 2021, we spoke of how Ms. Castro is a proud daughter of the Marianas who has dedicated a great portion of her life towards environmental stewardship, earning distinguished recognition in public service and environmental leadership through her work in developing and executing sound, protective environmental policies in the CNMI during her nearly 20-year tenure with Saipan Division of Environmental Quality and CNMI Bureau of Environment and Coastal Quality. We supported her then and we continue to support her today.

Ms. Castro demonstrates balance in her role as an actively engaged board member and her responsibilities as an associate director with the University of Guam Sea Grant where she lends her expertise and vision to the principles of coral reef resilience, island sustainability and multicultural diversification in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

She continued to broaden her knowledge through continuing education as illustrated by her recent accomplishment where she earned a professional Master of Environmental Management degree from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University in 2023. Mr. Carrara is our current Board Vice Chair and our most senior board member.

Since his initial appointment in 2012, Mr. Carrara has maintained a level of excellence as a board member through his passion for the environment and for the island which stems from his experiences in the Pacific region for nearly two decades. Mr. Carrara has worked with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Palau Environmental Protection Board and as a result developed the understanding required to address the unique environmental and cultural issues facing our region.

As he seeks his fourth confirmation, we are confident that Mr. Carrara will continue to support the agency and its mission, especially in our efforts to continue modernizing the agency's rules and regulations and increase our compliance and enforcement efforts. Mr. Carrara is an effective communicator and a staunch advocate of the community who prioritizes community concerns and places them at the forefront of board decisions. We appreciate his longevity and his leadership and continuity is well recognized by our federal counterparts with USEPA.

Both Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara have proven to be great assets to our Board, a Board comprised of like-minded professionals hailing from the engineering, legal, educational, military, and broadcast media fields whose concerns are supportive and protective of human and environmental health.

In the last three years with our Board, both Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara have faithfully executed the board's deliberative process and help shaped Guam EPA's policy decisions which touched upon protection of our groundwater, our state implementation plan for air pollution compliance, and the MCOG's island-wide environmental cleanup program funded by the Recycling Revolving Fund, priority projects through EPA's state revolving fund for GWA, new source reviews for new and modified major sources in the SO2 nonattainment areas, Guam's Zero Waste Master Plan, and the integrated solid waste management plan.

Arguably, Ms. Castro's participation on our board exceeded our expectations, especially when you consider that she is a "first-termer". Through three terms, Mr. Carrara's dedication and service to Guam through our board is unquestionable. Attendance at board meetings is rarely an issue for either of them.

It remains a pleasure to work with Ms. Castro and Mr. Carrara as they both possess a disposition which assures us of their well-placed concerns for Guam's environment, ensuring that consistent attention is paid towards safe drinking water, solid waste management, air quality, and marine preservation. They both fully understand the level of commitment necessary to serve our community well and recognize that their work with our board is not done.

Thank you for this opportunity to share these thoughts with you today. We ask for your favorable consideration of the nominees, and we look forward to their confirmations. Thank you.

Chairperson Perez: *Si Yu'os Ma'åse*, Administrator, for that endorsement. Now I'd like to recognize Vangie Lujan for her testimony.

Evangeline "Vangie" Lujan, Community Member: Good morning, Senators. Thank you so much for allowing me to participate and speak on behalf of the reappointment of Frances A. Castro to serve as the Board of Directors of Guam EPA. My name is Evangeline Lujan, and although I work for the Guam Waterworks Authority, I'm here because of my relationship and work experience with Ms. Fran Castro with the University of Guam Sea Grant Board, as well as with the Guam Green Growth.

So *Håfa Adai*, everyone. I've known Ms. Frances or Fran Castro for almost 18 years.

I'm honored to support her reappointment to the Board of Guam EPA. Over the years, I've worked alongside Ms. Castro as part of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and the steering committee on the Micronesia Challenge, which is a regional initiative. Today we continue to work together as part of the University of Guam's Guam Green Growth Initiative and on the University of Guam Sea Grant Board projects.

EPA faces many challenges, the growing need to update outdated regulations and policies, the pressure to approve development projects, regulating emerging contaminants, and enforcing federal and local regulations, such as the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water, air pollution permits, different things, just to name a few, all with limited staff and limited budget. Ms. Castro was with CNMI's Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality as director of the Division of Coastal Resource Management.

Her experience enables her to understand the complexities of the issues and challenges that EPA staff tackle every day. Ms. Castro is an exceptional professional. She has been involved in the protection and environment her entire career. She has been an advocate for environmental and conservation projects that are based on science and on data. She has a strong desire to ensure that Guam's environment is managed in a sustainable way.

She is always someone I can freely discuss issues from contentious developers who want to build on sensitive areas to how to engage young people in environmental education and outreach. She uses her creativity and technical skills to address the public's concerns related to watershed management, marine resources, coastal resources, coral reef management, non-point source pollution, regulatory compliance, and most recently, climate change.

Ms. Castro has been instrumental in the development and exponential growth of the University of Guam Sea Grant Program, as well as being an advocate and great partner as part of our Guam, the G3 Initiative, and we're both also co-chairs for the Thriving Natural Resources.

It has been an honor to be able to recommend Ms. Castro to continue as a Member of the board of directors at Guam EPA. She is committed, dedicated, and an exemplary board member. I know she will use her talents and skills to support the mission of EPA, its administrators, managers, and staff.

Something that I didn't necessarily write in my testimony, but it's difficult to be on the board of Guam EPA. There are so many issues and so many pressures from so many people to advocate for other areas of concern and conditions.

So I thank Fran and Mr. Carrera for their courage to be on this board because it's not easy. In fact, there's many people that have been asked to be on the board, but they've turned it down because of the complexity and the problems that Guam EPA has to deal with on a regular basis. So thank

you for your courage and your commitment to the people of Guam and moving Guam EPA in a forward way. Thank you so much. I know that Fran will continue to do great for the environment and the community. And if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Chairperson Perez: Thank you, Angie, for your endorsement as well. I like to recognize Senator Taitague as well as Senator Barnett. Thank you for joining us. I'd like to then recognize Kyle for his testimony.

Kyle Mandapat, Community Member: Good morning, Senators. Thank you so much for allowing us this opportunity. You know, I've had the pleasure and the honor of working with all of you in different capacities over the years.

And I think the thing that binds not only you, but the leadership of the island together is whether it's via entertainment and bettering people's lives, whether it's through our pursuit of the better environment we all deserve, whether it's making sure no one gets left behind, or whether it's making sure that everybody's held to the standard that we all deserve them to be held to. Passion binds all of you in that way. And I can only say the same thing about Ms. Fran Castro.

Having the honor to work with her and to see her in action across so many different fields, her passion for our people and for our environment and for the people of the entire Marianas really does take a huge, huge step towards mobilizing people to really take the steps that they can to better our island and our environment.

When I first heard that she was on this board for the EPA, I was so grateful because it meant that somebody who stood up for what they believed in, somebody who knew what was good for different faucets of the environment that maybe the normal person might not, was going to be in there and able to affect change and to assist our people with growth in so many ways. And I'm glad to say that she definitely has not upset in that way.

Her continued push for the betterment of our island and the way that we deal with waste and the way that we preserve our resources and conserve what we have continues to motivate me daily and is something that you can see growing in the other people that she's able to mentor. So today I'd like to say I strongly support Ms. Fran Castro and her continued part of the Guam EPA board, and I look forward to seeing what she can do further along with the rest of the board, and I hope that you all will consider supporting her in the same way. Thank you.

Chairperson Perez: *Si Yu'os Ma'åse* Kyle, for your testimony, and I'd like to also recognize Senator Brown for being here. Thank you. So now, is there anyone else that would like to provide testimony for both the nominees, Fran Castro and Steven Carrara, at this time, before I ask them to provide their own testimony? Okay. Seeing that there's none, I would like to recognize the nominee, Fran Castro, for her testimony. Good morning.

Frances A. Castro, Nominee: Good morning. Thank you. *Buenas*, Senator, or Chairwoman Perez, Senator Barnett, Senator San Agustin, Senator Brown, and Senator Taitague *si yu'os ma'åse*, and thank you for the opportunity to be heard. I'm very honored and grateful to be here, and for being given the opportunity to continue serving the island by working to protect our natural resources for the benefit of our future generations.

First, I would like to acknowledge and thank Governor Leon Guerrero and Lieutenant Governor Tenorio for their confidence in reappointing me to the Guam EPA board. *Si yu'os ma'åse* I come before you today with immense gratitude and a deep sense of responsibility as I address this esteemed body regarding my reappointment to the Guam Environmental Protection Agency Board of Directors.

It is an honor to have served the people of Guam in this capacity for the past three years, and I am humbled by the opportunity to continue contributing to the critical work of environmental stewardship on our island. During my tenure on the Guam EPA Board, I have had the privilege of observing the challenges and opportunities that define our environmental landscape. Notably, I want to highlight the exemplary efforts during the aftermath of Typhoon Mawar, specifically in debris management.

I commend Administrator Michelle Lastimoza, Nick Rupley, Glenn San Nicolas, and the entire Guam EPA staff for their unwavering dedication, tireless efforts, and sacrifices, including extended hours away from their families during that time. Their hard work in collaboration with other local and federal agencies ensured the proper and timely removal of all storm debris. Despite staffing shortages, they successfully completed this monumental task, playing a crucial role in restoring normalcy and addressing solid waste issues in Guam.

Their commitment and resilience during this challenging period exemplify the true spirit of public service and contribute significantly to Guam's recovery. Guam, with its unique biodiversity and delicate ecosystems, demands vigilant oversight and thoughtful policies to ensure a sustainable and resilient future for our community. Together with my esteemed colleagues on the Board, we have navigated complex issues working to implement effective regulatory measures and championed initiatives that prioritize environmental protection and public health.

This includes the adoption of the 2023 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan and the Zero Waste Plan, which mandates a comprehensive government and islandwide plan to achieve a 50 percent reduction in waste by 2035 and 75 percent by 2045. In seeking your continued support for my reappointment, I affirm my unwavering commitment to upholding the highest standards of environmental governance. I am dedicated to fostering collaboration between government agencies, private sectors, and community stakeholders to address emerging environmental issues.

My vision is anchored in a comprehensive approach that balances economic development with the preservation of our natural resources, ensuring a legacy of environmental sustainability for

generations to come. As an environmentalist myself, I will advocate for policies that safeguard our air, water, and land while also promoting innovative solutions to address new challenges.

I recognize the importance of transparency, public engagement, and inclusivity in the decision-making process, and I am committed to ensuring that the voices of our community members are heard and valued. If reconfirmed, my ongoing priorities will revolve around assisting the agency in securing the necessary resources for growth, specifically focusing on hiring essential staff. Adequate staffing is crucial for the agency's operational effectiveness.

With the impending departure of Captain Brian Bearden, the agency finds itself confronted with a significant void that requires filling. I would like to seize this moment to applaud Captain Bearden for his outstanding dedication in bringing crucial matters to the forefront of the Board's attention and for providing invaluable guidance. I would also continue to capitalize on the agency's enforcement capabilities to generate revenue. This involves an emphasis on collecting maximum fines where applicable.

Addressing staffing challenges is integral to optimizing these enforcement measures. I will work diligently with my colleagues on the Board. We will review and strengthen regulations. This includes closing existing gaps and developing new regulations as needed to ensure a robust regulatory framework that aligns with evolving environmental challenges. My commitment to these priorities reflects my dedication to the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's mission and the well-being of our community.

I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the continued growth and effectiveness of the agency. In closing, I humbly ask for your support, and if confirmed, I pledge to uphold the highest ethical standards as a Guam EPA Board member. I am committed to maintaining an impartial voice and bringing my experience to the Board. I sincerely appreciate the trust bestowed upon me thus far. And serving on the Guam EPA Board has really been a privilege, and I'm enthusiastic about continuing this important work with renewed dedication and enthusiasm.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued commitment to safeguarding the well-being of our island home. Thank you.

Chairperson Perez: *Si Yu'os Ma'åse*, Fran, for that wonderful testimony. At this point, maybe we can offer the floor to Steven Carrara, also for his testimony, and then we'll have the Senators ask questions to both. Steven, you're recognized.

Steven Carrara, Esq., Nominee: Good morning, Senator, all the Senators. Thank you for the opportunity to appear today. Thank you to the Governor for the reappointment and the kind words from the Administrator and Ms. Lujan on my reappointment. I guess I'm the longest-standing member, and I hope I've been helpful to the agency and the staff in addressing all the regulatory issues. My goal is to make sure their voice is heard, make sure we make good recommendations to the legislature on legislation to address the numerous problems.

I'm very proud of the staff that we have, I think, and the Board. It's a collaborative effort, and there's a lot of input from everyone at the meetings, and we hope to continue that. We have a lot of challenges, and I just try to bring a common-sense perspective to it and try to address them as they come up. I echo Director Castro's comments here, that we have the same goals, and we want to continue to make sure we have a great place here in Guam, and thank you again for the opportunity to serve, and happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Chairperson Perez: Thank you, Mr. Carrara. I do have questions. First of all, thank you for accepting the reappointment. We definitely need people to serve on the Board of Directors, and especially with the breadth and depth that you provide, both of you provide, and like you said, Fran Castro, the renewed commitment, I think that really resonated with me, because to promote and improve environmental standards, you definitely need staying power and the reevaluation to commit to protecting Guam's environment and its people. I wanted to follow up with some questions regarding updating regulations. A lot of them have been there in the books for decades. Not to say that they weren't good, but they just need updating. In regard to regulations, what do you think is the priority at this point to update?

Fran Castro: I think that we need to work on the water quality standards for Guam. We recently did a study in southern Guam, it's like a ridge-to-reef framework study, and we've found that many of the sites where we were collecting data, a lot of them had nitrates and other contaminants. So we need to address that, because I think a lot of development and a lot of things that are going on in the upland areas in southern Guam specifically, don't violate water quality standards. So we have to be a little bit more stringent in our standards. So we need to work with Guam EPA using that data to try to figure out how we can improve the water quality standards for Guam.

Chairperson Perez: Now that Brian Bearden is no longer in the agency, who would be the one to develop that or is it the Board that does that?

Fran Castro: I believe the agency's Water Quality section. I'm hoping that they fill Brian's position real soon. I think that they're working on that right now, but I am there to work hand-in-hand considering that I was part of that study that was done in southern Guam.

Chairperson Perez: With PFAS, we're hearing that the proposed rule is going to be finalized. Hopefully that could be incorporated into the water quality standards. Would it be part of that as well?

Fran Castro: Yes, absolutely. That can be considered.

Chairperson Perez: Okay, great. With the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer, what do you think are the biggest challenges to protecting that?

Fran Castro: I think we're currently trying to still update the groundwater protection zone map. And I believe that that really needs to be done. I know that WERI was working on a study to

determine, you know, the area that we need to update the map and also, I just lost my train of thought. And then also, I think there was a recent bill that was passed to allow septic systems in these lots.

Chairperson Perez: It was introduced, it's not passed.

Fran Castro: Oh, sorry, introduced. So I think the agency's a little bit concerned, and I'm concerned too, that it would be open to all lots instead of just the usual decedent lots, a quarter acre, so I'm hoping that this body would be able to reconsider that instead of opening it to all homeowners or all lots to consider the agency's position on it. Okay.

Chairperson Perez: And then the other thing you mentioned was the zero waste.

Fran Castro: - Correct.

Chairperson Perez: What do you think can be done to ensure that we reach 50% reduction in Guam's solid waste by 2035?

Fran Castro: So yeah, that's a big task, and I think that was just adopted back in November 23, 2023. Yeah, so it was, it's still in its infancy stages. And we currently have this program working with the mayor to collect all these abandoned vehicles, white goods, and things like that. But I think maybe a mandatory, like, household trash collection service, something like that. More education and outreach on the way we can recycle things. I know through the Guam Green Growth, there's a circular economy hub.

We should try to take advantage of that initiative to try to divert some of the waste going to the landfill and turning those eligible materials into other products that can be used. So things like that.

Chairperson Perez: When they did their waste characterization study, almost 50% of the waste is biodegradable. So, perhaps with this mandatory, island-wide collection that can include green waste or composting would definitely assist in reducing what's going to the landfill, by diverting the biodegradable waste, which, I believe, is the low-hanging fruit.

Of course, we want to divert those non-biodegradables as well, because those last for a long time. Moving to the circular economy is a good move. I hope there's some steps that Guam EPA and you on the Board of Directors can help to advocate for.

Fran Castro: Yeah, and I think some of that green waste can really be used in some of the machines over at the Makerspace Hub to turn into, like, wood plaques, like those name plaques that you have in front of you, you know, different things that can be useful for a community.

Chairperson Perez: Okay, great. Thank you, Ms. Castro. I'm going to turn my questions to Stephen Carrara, and then I'll open it up to my colleagues. So, Steven, thank you so much for accepting the nomination for the fourth term. Is that correct?

Steven Carrara: Yes, it is. Okay. I forgot how many it was myself.

Chairperson Perez: I think it's really important to have that historical background and institutional knowledge that you can provide to the Board of Directors. What have you seen through your terms? Do you see more challenges or different types of challenges? And what was your contribution in overcoming those challenges?

Steven Carrara: Well, there's always going to be challenges. Guam is not unique in this. Groundwater is an issue even in New York City. The groundwater is being impacted by various things. In Guam we have the challenge of the northern aquifer, and we can't afford to get that wrong. So as you mentioned, there is pending legislation. We need to emphasize our focus on that and losing Captain Bearden is something that we're going to have to replace and get that expertise to continue.

Over the course of my four terms, I think things have continued on an upward trend. We are addressing those issues. I think we're getting real good quality staff and even though it's hard to recruit in this environment, I think the agency is doing a great job in that regard.

But again, my focus and I think the Board when we get into meetings is on the aquifer making sure that's taken care of. Our waste programs have continuously improved, and I think as it has overall in the world, we need to focus more on that, reduce, reuse and recycle and the outreach programs and that is critically important because it takes a while to adapt.

I mean, even in New York, my mother is 93 years old, she has to segregate everything, can't put the garbage out before 8 o'clock because of rat issues and stuff and people are addressed to it. So everyone can do it and we need to do it as well.

Chairperson Perez: The other thing is Zero Waste. That's one way we can help our aquifer by reducing the amount of waste that we produce. I think illegal dumping too could also impact, obviously whatever chemicals are in the abandoned vehicles or in our waste products. We're finding that a lot of these consumer products have PFAS in them.

So it's really critical that we support those efforts to ensure that it's not being illegally dumped or it's properly dumped in addition to just reducing our load because unfortunately we live above our aquifer. Anything that we discharge could potentially end up in our drinking water. Like you said, we're seeing trends, is that what you were saying? We're seeing increases in contaminants. I don't know if I heard you correctly.

Steven Carrara: Well, I mean, I guess we're finding out PFAS and there was another contaminant that was mentioned in the last few meetings. It wasn't really, it's not banned anywhere. Yeah, dieldrin. And it's never ending.

Chairperson Perez: That one was banned. That was banned in the 1980s, but for some reason it's showing up again.

Steven Carrara: I guess it's banned as a product, but I guess not listed. I forget what the exact issue was, but it's not treated or recognized. Not regulated, I guess, even though it's banned. It's just an issue that keeps, one issue that comes up and something we need to be prepared to address and have the mechanisms to address that.

Chairperson Perez: To clarify, it was banned, but the reason why it wasn't regulated is because it was banned. It was only produced by the U.S., but for some reason there's high levels in some of our very productive wells. It's a neurotoxin, so it's very, very dangerous. We need to address that, and I need to follow up with EPA.

You're on the Board meetings regularly and that is one of the critical things that we've seen in the past is the Board lacking a quorum. That's dangerous because there's no means to address Notice of Violations. You run the risk of lack of enforcement. So both of you accepting the nominations is critical for the Board to operate and to enforce our laws. I just want to thank you for accepting this nomination and I look forward to your confirmation. I'm going to open up to my colleagues, in order of who arrived. Senator San Agustin, you're recognized.

Senator Joe S. San Agustin, Committee Member: Thank you, Madam Chair. First, I just want to thank you, Frances and Steve, for accepting the reappointment. May God bless you for what you want to do, because I know you got a marketing, was it Environmental Master's and you're a legal beagle. So it seemed to work out pretty good.

Steven Carrara: Thank you. We try.

Senator San Agustin: No, but my concern is that they brought up, how many Board members do you have, Michelle, in EPA? We have six.

Chairperson Perez: Out of nine.

Senator San Agustin: Six out of nine? So you need all six to be present to have a quorum.

Michelle Lastimoza, GEPA: - That's correct, five at least.

Senator San Agustin: So if you lose one of them, you'll be okay still, right? Now I'm just teasing, I just thought I'd throw that in. No, I support the two of you being reappointed, okay? Don't get me wrong when I say that, but I do support the two of you. I looked at your background. My only concern is for you, France, you got a 100% owner of Blue Solution, what is that? What was that?

Fran Castro: That is a consulting company that I started when I first moved to Guam, but I mean, it's just there. I'm not really doing any of that anymore. It was basically helping the Guam Coastal Management Program like update their development guidelines and updating their 309-strategy plan for coastal, so.

Senator San Agustin: Okay, the reason why I was asking that is because it says on that one page, any financial involvement, zero, but you're 100% owner, hello? Well, that was. I just wanted to

make sure we understand how to document what we have in front of us. But I still support your appointment. I'm just saying that when I look at a document here, I want to make sure we bring clarity to it. It's no different when I look at Steve's.

Senator San Agustin: He has no financial background, but he's the legal beagle for IT&E. Any EPA regulation you create, he's got to be careful in how he decides that. I'm going to ask you, Steve, I hope there's no conflict because both of you based on the documents say something. And I'll keep an eye on what's going on, but I just want to make sure. I read the documents I got. I don't just look at it and use it as fire starters. I thank you for accepting the reappointment, for both of you. And God bless Michelle. She's able to work with the two of you and the rest of them. And you guys just take care. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chairperson Perez: Thank you, Senator. Senator Taitague, you're recognized.

Senator Telo T. Taitague, Committee Member: Thank you, Madam Chair, and good morning to my colleagues. And of course, good morning to the nominees that are here. And of course, Director, good to see you again, as always, and those who are participating today, those who testified earlier. It's so important to exercise your right and voice your voice out to the public.

So first and foremost, I thank you for stepping up to the plate to serve our community, to ensure its safety and environment, and other things that come your way, because I'm sure you find those things like not turning a blind eye or being a yes man to someone that does not have the best interest of the people of Guam in mind. So I hope you keep an open mind and open your eyes wide and feel free to see any one of us if you're seeing any kind of, I call shenanigans, my favorite word, going on.

I mean, EPA is an agency that we can't afford to turn a blind eye at all. The damage is so devastating, and so I hope you keep that in your heart as you serve in your next term. This will be your second term, right, Mrs. Castro? Ms. Castro, okay.

I do have a question, though, with regards to conflict of interest. You do work at UOG under the Sea Grant, and I don't know if EPA does have grants, opportunities for any nonprofit organizations or agencies that seek grants from EPA. Do you ever see yourself in a predicament? And if you do, what would you do in that case?

Fran Castro: I care a lot about the environment, and so I'll do what I need to do to address issues accordingly, and I'm by-the-book person, so I don't think I'll ever, I don't say I'll ever, but I don't see myself posing any conflicts of interest between my job and serving on the board of Guam EPA.

Senator Taitague: Okay, are there any grant opportunities that EPA offers? Maybe the director, is there any grants that are given out from EPA to nonprofits or to avail themselves to assist anyone?

Michelle Lastimoza, GEPA: So Guam EPA itself does not offer, you know, competitive grants to nonprofit organizations at this time, but certainly there have been occasion where a grant opportunity is available and then we will partner with you know, whether it be another government agency or a nonprofit or an educational institution that may benefit from, you know, from the grant. And so long as there's, I guess, that partnership with our agency, certainly we have offered letters of support.

Even with Sea Grant, where they apply for federal grants, we have offered our support to them in applying.

Senator Taitague: Okay, thank you. The other question I have is a huge concern actually that a bill that we tried to get passed in the legislature- and I know that you've been in the CNMI. I love Saipan, by the way, you know I always try and get out there as much as I can, you know, to visit. But I do notice there was some issues in CNMI with regards to quarrying, you know, the stripping of land over there that's happening.

It's a huge concern, right, and being that you have been there and saw, I mean, worked especially in the environment. We tried to pass a bill. It didn't pass for one reason or another. Have you had an opportunity to review, you know, what can happen in Saipan could actually happen in Guam. You don't want to see that happening here. I mean, you learn from mistakes, you know you just- and now that you're here in Guam to ensure that it doesn't happen here.

So are you familiar with the issue of quarrying and how the regulations and guidelines are really not in place to enforce?

Fran Castro: So in CNMI, in fact, you asked this question and I happen to be the person in Saipan that permits major developments, one of them being quarries, and so we do permit the quarries.

I'm not sure why there is no permitting for these types of quarries that are popping up here in Guam, but I think one of the things that we can really do to address that situation is really look at the applications and what they're proposing and then if it's larger than you know- five acre or ten acre- then I think it should be subject to permitting.

Senator Taitague: So I hope that you know I was sitting on the board and then you do have this background and the importance of it to lobby this issue, because it's one thing that we allow it, but the enforcement and if they violate any of these regulations or where we lack regulations, that we can't enforce anything if there's no regulations, and I appreciate it, Madam director, that you did attend that and advocated for this big issue. But unfortunately, you know we have an issue about the quarries right now.

So I ask that, in your capacity and you know your know-how, to please advocate for this and if there's any senator here who's unsure about what's going on in Saipan- you know that didn't vote on this bill, that you would- you would talk to them and tell them the repercussions and what's

happening in Saipan. I appreciate that. If you can do that, all right, thank you, and thank you again for stepping up to the plate.

Mr. Carrara, I've seen you many times on different issues and I'll have to ask you the same question with regard to a conflict of interest, have you recused yourself at all since you've been on the board?

Steven Carrara: I think in one instance, when they were talking, there were some regulations on underground storage tanks, and that probably was at least seven, eight years ago. I think I may have provided comments, but I didn't vote on that. But that's the only time I recall ever facing a potential conflict of interest and, just to avoid the appearance, I didn't vote on it for that reason.

Senator Taitague: Okay, this will be your fourth term, correct? Yes, ma'am, okay, so that you've been sitting there for almost how many? How long?

Steven Carrara: I guess since 2012. I didn't know if, initially, if it was over ten years, over ten years, yeah, over ten years. I didn't know if it was an initial appointment or did, I fill someone's seat, I don't recall.

Senator Taitague: Okay, well, I've always been in a person to- especially if someone has been sitting on the board for over ten years, to bring to the fact that. Do you feel that you know, when time comes, to allow the next generation- new set of eyes, new ideas- to come and sit on the board and to step aside and or even advocate for the next generation to come in and sit down on the board? Because you know, I do realize it's difficult to find people to sit on boards.

At times you're taking away from your family, your own work, you know regiment and it becomes, it becomes difficult and there's certain circumstances where institutional knowledge is needed, but that knowledge needs to be passed down to the next generation. You know for them too.

Have the opportunity to bring in that new set of eyes. And, and you know I have to tell you I'm not as techie as the generation you know- two decade generations before after me. But I just was wondering what? What is your take on that? An individual sitting on a board for a long period of time?

Steven Carrara: Well, I'm glad you raised that. I think there's value in continuity and I'm also glad we have director Steve Carbullido, who's the chairman of the board and you know so he's kind of a passing of the torch. He's younger than all of us, I think, on the board and he is an engineer. So I think that provides passing to a new generation and certainly someone with more expertise. And, and when somebody's willing to come along- we only have six members now- I'm happy to help pass along, transition my knowledge base to whoever comes along.

Senator Taitague: Well, I appreciate that, knowing that you're out there trying to advocate for other individuals, because there are like three more vacant seats needed on the board. That's open and I don't know if you updated the website. With regards to Dave Duenas, I'm showing that he's

expired on November 23rd as well, so I don't know if he's had his confirmation. I think he did. Dave Duenas has come up. He hasn't come up for his confirmation yet. Okay, I'll go ahead, and...

Michelle Lastimoza: I don't believe he has.

Senator Taitague: Okay, so technically you do only have five. That is well.

If they pass, you know, of course, which I believe you will have your confirmation, but you know we need to get him in as right away there are critical things that need to be addressed at EPA as it's growing.

The last thing I have is so, Mr. Carrara, again thank you for serving. To me, anybody who's at retirement age, if you think about it now, we are living longer these days where you're getting or aging into a new demographics here in population, where 65 is the new 40. You know I'm going to be 65, because I'm 64. Hey, the new 40, okay, but still, please encourage anyone that you run into to serve on the Board as important as this. Pass on your institutional knowledge as well, Ms. Castro. Pass on that institutional knowledge for the next generation, because you know we all would like to retire sooner than later.

Lastly, your Board minutes. You know I go on the website, and I look at EPA and I can't seem to find your Board minutes posted. Maybe, are they posted? It needs to be updated. I do. What happened to transparency? Oh my gosh, you guys.

No, it's not on it online? Okay, can I? Can I go ahead and have him come up, please, and introduce yourself and what department you're in, please, and then give us your explanation? Why is it not on your website? The board minute meetings?

Nic Rupley Lee, Acting Deputy Administrator/ Public Information Officer, Guam Environmental Protection Agency: So our website is, and I can't. Our website is in a constant state of being updated. I do understand that there was a bill that was passed by Senator Quinata, so we're going to work on addressing the record, the reporting requirements for his public law. So I, the way I understand it, is, anything that's going to be reported to the legislature, to the governor, will have to be on our website as well. So once those updates are completed, I can let you know where to find them on the website.

Chairperson Perez: If you could just state your name?

Nic Lee: I'm sorry, my name is Nic Lee with Guam EPA.

Senator Taitague: And what is your position?

Nic Rupley Lee, GEPA: I'm the PIO and the current Acting Deputy Administrator. Okay, so the website is my responsibility. We are trying to make sure that we're complying with everything that we have to comply with for the website, but the minutes will be added there along with an

anticipation of Senator Brown's bill being passed, where we're also going to put the YouTube videos of all the board meetings on the website as well, so that will be there also.

Senator Taitague: Well, I'm, I'm- I have to say I'm disappointed in that, because you know, if you look at other agencies, that I always look at the website, you know, to look at the board meetings when they have a board and it's posted on their website. This should have been done a long time, you don't need a law to put that on there. I just really thought that, I was really surprised it's not on here. So can you please do that sooner than later again? Yes, like next week.

I'm sure you have copies of it, you know, and as a board, I hope you request that every time to ensure that after every board meeting that it ends with okay, we're ready to adjourn, but don't forget to post this on the website.

Nic Rupley Lee: Okay, and of the week. It'll be there.

Senator Taitague: Yes, okay, *Si Yu'os Ma'åse*.

Chairperson Perez: *Si Yu'os Ma'åse*, Senator Taitague, Senator Barnett, you're recognized.

Senator Chris Barnett, Committee Member: Thank you, Madam Chair, *Mañana Si Yu'os* to the panel. Good morning, Miss Michelle and Miss Frances and Mr. Steven. Thank you for being here and for your desire to serve. I guess I just want to first ask Mrs. Castro to kind of expand on what Senator San Agustin was the same, because I didn't notice in your financial interest. It lists you as the owner of 100% of blue solutions, and then could you just repeat your statement on the record about this company.

Fran Castro: Yeah, so this is when I first moved to Guam, and I wasn't employed and I opened up an environmental consulting company to assist with some projects here on Guam. While the business license is still open, I no longer do that, and it has nothing to do with any regulatory work. It's mostly updating the development guidance, the guidebook for GCMP and their 309 coastal strategic plans.

Senator Barnett: And so you're saying that although the license is still active for the company, the company itself is not active. And are you currently receiving any contracts from the government of Guam or any entity?

Fran Castro: No.

Senator Barnett: Okay, thank you, ma'am. Then I guess I just wanted to next ask for both of you if you could. There's been a lot of conversation about the use of nuclear power and the potential use of micro, a nuclear-powered micro reactor, and I just wanted to ask, as board members, did you have a stance on this issue one way or another? I know that you described yourself as an environmentalist in their testimony, so just I guess if you could state for the record what your

stance is, if any, on the usage of nuclear power, in Guam and or the nuclear-powered micro reactors.

Fran Castro: Thank you, I don't currently have a stance at the moment. I need to do more in-depth research on what's happening with that issue. I know that it's. It hasn't really come before the board for any discussion, so at this point, I don't really have a stance.

Senator Barnett: What about in the NMI? Is there a movement for or against the use of this technology, or has it even been discussed?

Fran Castro: It hasn't really come before us.

Senator Barnett: Mr. Carrara.

Steven Carrara: Well, I hope technology catches up to the requirements we need in terms of producing power. Whether it's nuclear biofuel, there's a host of issues. I think everybody needs to keep an open mind about it and if they could craft a solution that works. I think it's something we need to consider.

Senator Barnett: Thank you. I next wanted to ask for your thoughts on the failure of the legislature to pass Bill No. 116-37. I know, senator, tied, we had touched on it a little bit, but I know that the agency was heavily involved in providing input to this bill, which again just provided baseline rules and regulations for the operations of mining and quarrying on Guam, and I know that you said in your testimony here today that you permit the quarries and the NMI. So I just wanted to ask both of your thoughts on this bill because I thought it was interesting. I mean I think there was even an editorial on it published in the Pacific Daily News.

I thought it was interesting that we as a body failed to pass this very critical measure and I kind of scratched my head on it, because we have a couple members in this body who I mean anything-sustainability, environmental, I mean- they are the first ones to run and get their picture taken, but when it comes time to vote on a measure that actually does something for sustainability and environment, sadly they were on the "no side" of the issue. So again, I just wanted to ask your thoughts on the failure of us to pass that bill.

Fran Castro: I really think it should be revisited and consider maybe, as I mentioned earlier, if it's more than five acres or more than ten acres, consider having it be permitted. I don't know which agency that probably falls under the land management, but that's my thoughts. Mainly because quarries can, you know, everything, we live on an island, so everything that's up here washes down into the ocean where the reefs are and the fish, and so that would be my take on that.

Senator Barnett: Mr. Carrara?

Steven Carrara: Yeah, I don't think it was something that came up before our board meeting, so I don't have any first-hand experience with it from the EPA level, but obviously quarrying involves

a lot of chemicals, explosives, and things that are, I think, heavily regulated by the federal government, but obviously something that needs to be addressed locally, and if it comes to, you know, the board level, I would certainly pay more attention to it.

I wasn't involved in the particulars of that legislation, but I think there's a fairly comprehensive regulatory framework, whether additional local regulatory legislative actions required, I guess it's something that's still open for discussion.

Senator Barnett: What are, in your estimation, some of the negative effects of unregulated quarrying and mining to our island?

Steven Carrara: Well, I think you get a lot of sediment that washes out into the reef. If there are chemicals involved, which I think there are, that could affect groundwater. From what I understand, just from my personal observations, I haven't seen the negative effects of that here, but obviously it could be. I don't know. I have not personally been involved with that, but obviously we need to pay attention to it.

Senator Barnett: Yeah, I would just say that it contributes to all the problems that we're facing, you know, the runoff, the erosion, the polluted beaches, I think these can all be tied to, at some level, quarrying or mining.

Steven Carrara: Well, if I may add, when we were in Palau and the compact road was being built, and during the rain, the red clay would wash out, and then you'd see from an aerial photo how it just bleached out into the reefs, and, you know, it coated the reefs. Not a good thing. Needs to be regulated.

Senator Barnett: Yeah, and that's why, again, I was scratching my head on it, because, I mean, quarrying and mining, it falls right into the lap of all these issues that we give lip service to, whether it's climate change or sustainability or pollution or erosion, and, again, that's what I'm saying. I mean, it's got to be a real support, and more than just a photo op, so I thank you for your presence here today, and I wish you luck in your future service. *Si yu'os ma'åse*. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chairperson Perez: *Si Yu'os Ma'åse*, Senator Barnett. Senator Brown, you're recognized.

Senator Joanne Brown, Legislative Member: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I'm still thinking about being 40 again with Senator Telo's comments, but, you know, I was a Deputy Administrator of Guam EPA 33 years ago, so I don't think the numbers are going to add up. I would only have been seven, but welcome. Thank you, Frances, for accepting the renomination to the Guam EPA Board, and also to you, Mr. Carrara, for your interest, once again, in wanting to serve. I like the mix that has been proposed.

You know, my main concerns about Guam EPA, in reflection, is, you know, you have about the same staff I did, and yet we see the island has grown tremendously, and the need for regulatory enforcement has expanded substantially, but the EPA capability is very limited, and I'm concerned

about that, and I think the more recent example we saw in recent years was the Marbo Cave Project, which I assume you were sitting on the board at the time that happened.

Our chairwoman here, Senator Taitague, myself, and Speaker, actually walked that project after the incident happened of all the erosion that Guam EPA permitted with regards to the solar farm that was constructed there for the Guam Power Authority, and when I see stuff like that, having worked at the agency and knowing what your regulatory authorities are and responsibilities, I'm taken aback, because it tells me Guam EPA in that particular project was sleeping at the wheel.

I mean, it's one thing when there's illegal activity out there, and you guys are catching it. It's another thing when the agency permits a project and then doesn't keep on top of it, especially basic erosion control measures that were not put in place and not properly monitored, and when I get the response that, oh, you know, and we did get the response, oh, we don't have enough personnel. Well, you never have enough personnel.

I mean, we had to deal with Manenggon Hills, the construction of several hotels and golf courses with exactly the same capacity you have now. And you know, we can't use that as an excuse when you guys are actually permitting a project. If you're permitting a project, then there's an expectation that you're going to be able to go out and do the proper monitoring you need to do and ensure that the contractors are performing to that requirement. Odds are, if they have the opportunity, most will take the shortcut. That's been my experience.

I don't know if it's any different with you, Ms. Lastimoza, being there for the last few years. But they just can't help it. I don't know why. I think we know why. Because it's cheaper for them to do that, at least in their minds, they can cut costs by not meeting environmental standards. Because really, who's going to look and who cares? So if Guam EPA is not out there with its eyes and ears performing its responsibility, the odds are fairly good that shortcuts are going to be taken. And who's going to be at the short end?

Look at the damage to Marbo Cave. You know, where are we today with regards to that? So I wanted to get your feedback because you're sitting on the board. What consequence of anything did you do to your management or to the agency to address that significant, big-in-your-face deficiency of lack of proper regulatory enforcement? What has been done since then to address that?

Fran Castro: I know that the cleanup, I think, is already completed in the Marbo Cave to an acceptable condition. And as far as staffing, I'll just respond to that. Because when I started on this board, the staff was still the same number as it is today. And one of the reasons for that is that we're competing with the military, with the private sector. We can't even hire a really good engineer, because they pay more, the military and other engineering firms.

And the government is just, even with the pay raises that they had recently, it still is not attracting people to apply for the jobs. They're really trying. We're really trying. That's kind of one of my

goals since the beginning of time, since I started on this board. And they're really, really struggling. I mean, I'm pushing people to go and apply over there, but it's just, even to get people to sit on this board is very difficult. No one wants it. They just decline all the time.

So it's really, it's a tough situation, but we try to do the best that we can do. And hopefully, I'm going to work with our Administrator here, when there's big projects such as the solar farm, to make sure that we have staff out there doing inspections and making sure that they're in compliance with the permits.

Steven Carrara: You raise a good point. I mean, it would have been great had an inspector been there and said, you don't have the barricades up here, which resulted in all the silt going into the cave. But on the other hand, the agency did react quickly. The contractor put up some opposition, but quickly folded when they realized they really had no defense to it. The situation, I haven't not personally seen it because I was told not to go look in case we get involved in litigation and didn't want any of the board members becoming a witness to it.

But from what I understand, considerable sums were spent to rectify the problem and it's been created. I think overall, we try to support the agency in meeting these staffing levels, but it's just very hard in this market. The military is drawing people. They pay more. Jesse just left to go, one example, over to the federal contracting agency. So we are thin and it's a problem that everybody's aware of and like I said, I wish we could put the blinders on, yes, it would have been great if we could have caught that and prevented it from happening. And that's a lesson we need to learn.

Senator Brown: As I mentioned, if you can't regulate it, don't permit it. And with all the money that's floating around, there is nothing to prevent Guam EPA from working with this administration, Ms. Lastimoza, you're a member of this administration, to prioritize those positions. I mean, if we could do it at GMH for PIOs.

There's no reason you can't facilitate that for key critical positions at Guam EPA to have competitive salaries. We've done that with utilities, you know. We've done it with other critical operations in this government, but that to me is not an excuse for the people you had on staff.

They could have still gone out there, those that oversaw that particular project, and there's nothing to have prevented your administrator, you yourself, I've always went out and visited projects because I just didn't want to, you know, expect my staff to come in and inform me my air-conditioned office and really not know what was going on. So at least I knew where projects were and were they in compliance or not. Just when you see that type of situation, it tells me that you don't have a handle.

Not you and specifically, but the white the agency does not have a handle on proper regulatory enforcement. I think it's pointless if we're going to continue to authorize the construction of these projects that cost millions and millions of dollars and yet we're going to say, oh, we just don't have

the personnel to go out and do our proper enforcement to make sure that the projects that we authorize, we permit, are in compliance.

If you can't do that, then stop authorizing them, because then, trust me, it'll bring a lot of attention to your situation rather than: oh, we're the victims and we just don't have the staff and we don't have the capacity and everybody's leaving, end of story, so we don't have to perform. That just doesn't cut it for the time you're there and I appreciate your advocacy. I watched you at the last hearing with regards to the whole water quality issue and you held your own very well. I was pleasantly surprised. I'm glad to see that.

I think you need to do that more, because it's easy to fold, especially when it comes to pressure, political pressure and money. In this community, odds are. A lot of people are people, our own people will fold. They talk about: oh, we love the environment, we love our island, we want to leave a better island for our children. But do we do it in practice? Is that what decisions get made behind closed doors? Oh, heck, no.

So I appreciate the fact that to watch you grow in your position as your depth- you know, previous deputy- to move to where you are now and to stand your own in here. I'm pleased to see that.

I want to see more of that. I mean, you should have no shame about advocating for your work and, Fran, I tell you have the credentials. I've always been impressed. You know your work. I left EPA before you started up in the northern Marianas in the environmental work that you were doing. But you know to continue to see your, your growth as well, and you're not just your formal education and the work that you're doing.

I see you're still working on your education now in moving forward and continue to advocate and I'm very pleased with the sea grants. You know you see grants used to be administered for Guam and the region out of the University of Hawaii and to see- even though I'm a- I'm a graduate there also, but you know my heart is here- and to see our own ability here to have grown our sea grants program and your involvement there is wonderful. And for you to also extend yourself to the board, I'm pleased to see that as well.

Mr. Carrara, I don't know you at all. This is my first time I'm really meeting you, but it's not a bad thing. I think having your legal expertise on the board- certainly particularly with regards these enforcement actions, is a tremendous plus. I really like the mix that I'm seeing. I hope you get more members. But please understand- I mean we are expecting you in your particular role, and certainly Ms. Lastimoza, in the authorities, because Guam EPA has extensive authorities. You can bring a project to its knees- and I know I've done it.

It can be done legally, you have the authority to do it. But if you don't take that and exercise it and ensure the best interest of the community is at heart, then we end up seeing the situations that we see, and I don't think we want to see that. We need to count on you and your staff at Guam EPA and I would encourage you that all those critical positions, you need to start bringing that up.

Bringing that up and raising that concern, because if it can be done for insignificant positions in this government- and we've seen it- why can't it be done for critical positions? That we need that expertise and those people. I mean, when I was at Guam EPA, we actually created the position of the territorial hydrogeologist, which is a position Guam EPA has. Has it been filled since Mr. Werch passed away? No, it has not, and that's very concerning.

I mean, of course we have the expertise with WERI, but being able to have your own in-house hydrogeologist review your projects and monitor them is quite an asset, and so it can be done. And getting the people- I mean money's floating from the skies these days, isn't it? We're so rich, we have so much hundred million dollars in excess revenue- we love to talk about that. Woohoo excess revenue.

I don't see it going into the most critical positions that we need, and I think Guam EPA- I think we can argue- is one of those critical departments that really need the additional resources and support, because you guys should have doubled or tripled by now. You know, 33 years later, to not see that growth is concerning. So, anyway, I appreciate your efforts. I'm glad you're on the Board and please make that extra effort to assert yourself, because the community needs that.

The people of Guam need it, and we're up against the politics and the money and the greed. So you got a tough job, but it can be done. You got the power to do it, thank you. Thank you very much, madam chair.

Chairperson Perez: *Si Yu'os Ma'åse*, Senator Brown. Are there any comments at this time you'd like to make?

So, I have seen you in action in regard to standing up for the environment. I thank you for that, Administrator, thank you to the Board too.

The Committee will continue to receive written testimony until 4:00 p.m., Monday, February 12th, 2024. Please address all testimony to Senator Sabina Flores Perez, Chairperson of the Committee on Environment, Revenue, and Taxation, Labor Procurement, Statistics, Research, and Planning. It can be dropped off at the mailboxes here at the Guam Congress Building or emailed to office@senatorperez.org.

Being that there are no others here to testify, the confirmation hearing for both Fran Castro and Steven Carrara are duly heard. We are going to recess until 10:15 a.m. *Si Yu'os ma'åse* and have a great day.

Chairperson Perez adjourned the confirmation hearing for Steven Carrara at 10:15 a.m..

Written Testimonies:

- Michelle Lastimoza, *Administrator, Guam Environmental Protection Agency*

III. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

The Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning notes that per Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq.'s nomination packet, he will serve for a term of Three (3) Years from November 29, 2023 to November 28, 2026.

The Committee on Environment, and Revenue and Taxation, Labor, Procurement, and Statistics, Research, and Planning hereby reports out the appointment of **Mr. Steven Carrara, Esq.** to serve as a **Member** of the **Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Board of Directors** with the recommendation **TO REPORT OUT ONLY** .