

EDDIE BAZA CALVO  
Governor



RAY TENORIO  
Lieutenant Governor

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AUG 12 2013

Office of the Governor of Guam

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Joseph M. Diego  
Area Director  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
770 East Sunset Blvd., Suite 280  
Tiyan, Guam 96913

Date: 8-21-13  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Received by: [Signature]

2013 AUG 21 AM 9:29

**Re: Guam Community College Application for  
USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Loan**

Dear Mr. Diego:

In 2010, Guam Community College (GCC) began its "go green" campaign to transform the mindset and physical structure of the campus into a more sustainable entity. Since then, LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) features have been incorporated into the construction of GCC's Learning Resource Center (LRC) and newly renovated Foundation Building to effectively minimize the impact on Guam's environment and promote better energy performance.

In August 2011, the LRC was awarded LEED Gold status. GCC's Foundation Building is hoping to earn LEED Silver status, and construction has just begun on the renovation and hardening of Building 200, also slated for LEED certification. Solar panels on four buildings and in its parking lots have earned GCC recognition as the island's largest civilian producer of solar energy, and the GCC Ecowarriors student organization is noted for promoting recycling efforts both on- and off-campus. The implementation of these cost-efficient and environmentally friendly strategies is vital to Guam's goal to maintain a thriving and sustainable future.

GCC's commitment to creating a well-built, safe, educational campus suitable for Guam's volatile weather and environment aligns perfectly with the USDA's goal to help build stronger, more vibrant rural communities across the nation. Accordingly, GCC is seeking to secure a \$6 million loan from USDA Rural Development through its Community Facilities Loan Program.

If granted, the loan proceeds will be used by GCC to construct more sustainable buildings. The first project planned to be covered by the loan is the hardening, renovation, and expansion of Building 100, which is a deteriorating one-story metal

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structure built in the 1960's. A second project to be covered by the loan is the expansion of the Gregorio G. Perez Crime Lab to accommodate program growth and for future designation as a regional Forensic DNA Testing Laboratory.

Earlier this year, *I Liheslaturan Guahan* introduced Bill No. 63-32 (COR) which seeks to appropriate monies from the Territorial Education Facilities Fund (TEFF) for public educational facilities and equipment. In support of GCC's loan request and the aforementioned construction projects, and by copy of this letter to the Hon. Judith Won Pat, Speaker of the *I Liheslaturan Guahan*, I am requesting that Bill 63-32 (COR) be amended to provide that at least \$279,000 of the TEFF appropriations contemplated by Bill 63-32 be made to GCC for the purpose of supporting the debt service of its USDA loan. Armed with this additional support, it is my hope that USDA Rural Development will remain committed to financing the construction of the anticipated GCC facilities through the Community Facilities Loan Program.

*Senseramente,*



**EDDIE BAZA CALVO**

*I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*

Governor of Guam

cc: ✓ Hon. Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D., Speaker, 32nd *Liheslaturan Guahan*  
Mary A.Y. Okada, Ed.D., President, Guam Community College