FIRST GUAM LEGISLATURE 1952 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Bill No. 54, "An Act creating the Public Utility Agency of Guam to take cognizance of and coordinate all utility services furnished by the Government of Guam; establishing a revolving fund for the self-support thereof; and other related matters", was on the 15th day of May, 1952, duly and regularly passed.

Speaker

ATTESTED:

A. S. N. DUENAS

Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by the Governor this 20th day of May, 1952, at 8:22 o'clock A. M.

> ANUEL F. L. GUERRERO Acting Secretary of Guam

APPROVED:

Acting Governor of Guam

FIRST GUAM LEGISLATURE 1952 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 54

Substitute Bill by Committee on Governmental Affairs

Frank D. Perez,

An Act creating the Public Utility Agency of Guam to take cognizance of and coordinate all utility services furnished by the Government of Guam; establishing a revolving fund for the self-support thereof; and other related matters.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM:

Section 1. There is hereby created and established within the Government of Guam, a separate instrumentality to be known as the "Public Utility Agency of Guam" (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Agency"), the chief officer of which shall be the Director of Public Works or such other officer of the Government of Guam as the Governor may designate.

Section 2. (a) All property, facilities, equipment, supplies, records and files exclusively pertaining to or exclusively used in connection with the operation and administration of electric power, telephone, water and other utility services presently furnished by the Government of Guam and all such property, facilities, equipment and supplies for which appropriated money has been obligated or encumbered are hereby transferred to the Agency.

- (b) All personnel in the Department of Finance and in the Department of Public Works of the Government of Guam who are presently employed in the administration and operation of electric power, telephone, water or other utility services presently furnished by the Government of Guam, are hereby transferred and assigned to the Agency.
- (c) There shall be covered into the Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund hereinafter in Section 9(a), defined and created, all moneys which (1) were appropriated by the Legislature to the various departments

of the Government of Guam, and which (2) were or shall be allocated, as determined by the Governor for utility use in connection with administration of electric power, telephone, water or other utility services now or to be furnished by the Government of Guam.

(d) For accounting purposes all property, facilities, equipment, supplies, records, files, moneys and personnel transferred by this section to the Agency, together with encumbrances and obligations thereon and expenses paid therefrom, shall be treated as though such transfers were made on July 1, 1951.

Section 3. The Agency shall be the successor to the present Utilities Revolving Fund, which fund was established on June 30, 1951, by the Governor, pursuant to Section 4(a) of Public Law 12, First Guam Legislature, First Regular Session; and the Agency assumes all assets, liabilities, and capital of said fund and all transactions accomplished or entered into relating to said fund are binding on the Agency.

Section 4. The original accounts receivable, accounts payable and capital of said Utilities Revolving Fund, consisting of revenues derived from sale of utility services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951, and the outstanding accounts receivable less outstanding liabilities as of June 30, 1951, assumed from the General Fund of Guam, shall comprise the original capital of the Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund.

Section 5. The Agency has the authority to supply to individuals, firms, corporations and governments, including the Government of Guam, installation and generation services for electric power, telephone, water and other utilities, or to request that such installation be performed by any governmental agency or, where it is in the public interest, any private contractor, upon the payment of the cost of such installations plus a reasonable surcharge to cover overhead and administrative expenses.

Section 6. (a) All rates now charged by the Government of Guam or hereafter charged by the Agency for public utility services shall be those which shall have been formulated, fixed, established and promulgated

by the Board on Utility Rates in Guam created by Public Law 1, First Guam Legislature, First Special Session, the powers of which Board, not-withstanding any other provision of law, are hereby extended to include the power of rate-making for all such services, in accordance with the standards and procedures specified in said Public Law 1, as amended.

(b) The chief officer of the Agency shall serve, ex officio, as technical advisor to the Board on Utility Rates in Guam.

Section 7. The Agency shall have the power, duty and responsibility for the administration and operation of all electric power, telephone, water and other utility services now furnished by the Government
of Guam or hereafter by the Agency. Such powers shall include the authority
to make a monetary charge, in the amount provided by section 6 herein, to
all persons, firms, corporations and governments, including the Government
of Guam, to whom public utility services are furnished by the Agency.

Section 8. (a) The Agency shall maintain all necessary records and shall, with the approval of the Governor, prescribe such reasonable rules and regulations, including matters pertaining to business management and personnel, not inconsistent with law as may be necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the Agency. Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the manner in which charges for utility services and installations shall be paid to the Agency.

(b) Violation of any rule or regulation authorized by this law shall, upon notice and opportunity to be heard being given to the violator, be sufficient cause for discontinuance or suspension, by the Agency, of utility services rendered to the violator.

Section 9. (a) For the purpose of securing self-supporting operation of the Agency, there is hereby established a fund to be known as the "Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund", which fund shall be maintained separate and apart from any other funds of the Government of Guam, and independent records shall be maintained in connection therewith.

(b) All moneys received by the Public Utility Agency of Guam, from whatever source derived, shall be deposited physically with the

Treasurer of Guam and credited to the Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund.

- (c) All debts, liabilities and obligations, and operating expenses of the said Public Utility Agency, including settlement and payment of any claims arising from its operation are hereby authorized to be paid from said Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund by the Treasurer of Guam upon vouchers properly certified to by the Certifying Officer of the Agency; provided that the payment and settlement of claims arising out of operations of the Agency shall be subject to the legal review and approval of the Attorney General and; provided further, that such claims must be presented, in writing, to the Agency within one year after the accrual thereof in order to be paid as provided herein.
- (d) The chief officer of the Agency shall quarterly render to the Governor a statement reflecting the financial condition of the Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund and a financial statement of operations of the Agency for the period covered. The Director of Finance or such other competent auditing agency as shall be designated by the Governor, shall periodically audit the accounts and records of said Public Utility Agency of Guam Fund and render a report thereon to the Governor.

Section 10. There are hereby authorized to be advanced from the General Fund, with the approval of the Governor, such temporary loans to the Agency, without interest, for periods not exceeding six (6) months, as may be necessary to finance the operating losses of the Agency, in case such should occur, pending subsidy appropriations by the Legislature.

Section 11. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated from unappropriated and unencumbered funds of the Government of Guam such sums as may be necessary to subsidize operating losses of the Agency, and also such sums, in the form of capital investment or long term loans, as may be necessary for capital replacement or expansion of the plant and other fixed assets of the Agency.

Section 12. The Governor, upon a finding that the public interest be served, may execute a contract with a qualified public

consulting firm to secure more efficient management of the Agency. Section 13. (a) All utility services not specifically named herein shall be excluded from the application of this law unless and until a specific finding is made by the Governor of Guam that such exclusion no longer serves the interest of efficiency and proper management. (b) Such finding shall be promulgated by Executive Order in a newspaper of general circulation in Guam at least thirty (30) days (including holidays) prior to the date when recission of such exclusion is to take effect. Section 14. The chief officer and the certifying officer of the Agency shall give such bond as the Treasurer of Guam shall require. Section 15. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency, repealed. Section 16. This is an urgency measure and shall be effective upon approval by the Governor.