



CARL T.C. GUTIERREZ GOVERNOR OF GUAM

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MAY 0 1 1996

The Honorable Speaker Twenty-Third Guam Legislature Guam Legislature Temporary Building 155 Hesler Street Agana, Guam 96910

LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Dear Speaker:

Enclosed please find a copy of Substitute Bill No. 529 (LS), "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS BY ADDING A NEW §8121 TO TITLE 21, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED", which I have signed into law today as **Public Law No. 23-93.**

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez Governor of Guam

Attachment 232125

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT
Received By Millipin
Time 11:14
Date 516/96

TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 529 (LS), "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS BY ADDING A NEW §8121 TO TITLE 21, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED," was on the 19th day of April, 1996, duly and regularly passed.

TED S. NELSON Acting Speaker

Attested:

JUDITH WON PAT-BORJA Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by the Governor this 24 day of 4pril1996, at 123 o'clock 2.M.

Ichia

Assistant Staff Officer Governor's Office

APPROVED:

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ

Governor of Guam

Date: 5-1-96

Public Law No. 23-93



TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 529 (LS) As substituted by the Author

Introduced by:

D. Parkinson A. L. G. Santos M. Forbes T.C.Ada V. C. Pangelinan A. R. Unpingco F. E. Santos C. A. Leon Guerrero A. C. Blaz J. P. Aguon E. Barrett-Anderson I. M. S. Brown F. P. Camacho M. C. Charfauros H. A. Cristobal A. C. Lamorena V L. Leon Guerrero T. S. Nelson S. L. Orsini J. T. San Agustin J. Won Pat-Borja

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS BY ADDING A NEW §8121 TO TITLE 12, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

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

Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The Legislature takes due
note of the intense public debate being waged world wide over the issue of
electromagnetic fields (EMF) and their potential hazards to public health.

The Legislature further notes that the scientific community remains divided
 on this matter with numerous supposedly credible arguments continuing to be
 presented on both sides of the issue. This has left the public thoroughly
 confused and extremely concerned.

•

5 On Guam, concerned citizens have strongly appealed for the exercise of 6 caution in the placement of public utility facilities and equipment which 7 generate electromagnetic fields. In this light, pending any conclusive 8 scientific resolution of the EMF debate, the Legislature has decided to 9 exercise due caution by the establishment of safety standards intended to 10 protect public health.

The Legislature recognizes that these standards will have a direct 11 economic impact on the development of certain public utility facilities. If 12 these standards are later found to be excessive, they can always be repealed 13 or amended. On the other hand, no future Act of this Legislature could ever 14 undo an injury or illness or the loss of a life should electromagnetic fields in 15 fact be a serious public health threat. It is, therefore, the position of the 16 Legislature that if it is to err, it so chooses to err on the conservative side of 17 safety. 18

Section 2. A new §8121 is added to Chapter 8 of Title 12, Guam Code
Annotated, to read:

"§8121. No substation utilizing or transforming electrical power
at 13 kV or higher which is not actually fully completed and in use on or
prior to April 1, 1996, may be built or operated within One Hundred
(100) feet of any building which is regularly or customarily occupied for
residential purposes, including any buildings or structures within the
curtilage which are regularly used in conjunction with or as a part of
the residence."

1995 (FIRST) Regular Session

Date: 4/19/96

VOTING SHEET

Bill No. <u>529</u> Resolution No. ____ . Question:

NAME	YEAS	NAYS	NOT VOTING/ ABSTAINED	ABSENT/ OUT DURING ROLL CALL
ADA, Thomas C.				
AGUON, John P.				
BARRETT-ANDERSON, Elizabeth	~			
BLAZ, Anthony C.	~			
BROWN, Joanne S.				
CAMACHO, Felix P.	V			
CHARFAUROS, Mark C	V			
CRISTOBAL, Hope A.				
FORBES,~ MARK				
LAMORENA, Alberto C., V				
LEON GUERRERO, Carlotta				
LEON GUERRERO, Lou				
NELSON, Ted S.	V			
ORSINI, Sonny L.	~			
PANGELINAN, Vicente C	~			
PARKINSON, Don	-			······································
SAN AGUSTIN, Joe T.	~			
SANTOS, Angel L. G.				······
SANTOS, Francis E.	V			
UNPINGCO, Antonio R.			· ·	·
WONPAT-BORJA, Judith			 	

TOTAL

21 0 0 0

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

Recording Secretary

•**	(671) 477-9126
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	34
	QC.

[FAX (671)-477-5	5795]
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(671) 472-3424

OPEAKER DON PARKINSON
23RD GUAM LEGISLATURE
424 W. O'BRIEN DRIVE - JULALE CENTER, SUITE 222
AGANA, GUAM 96910

SPEAKER and CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICAL POWER AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

April 12, 1996

Senator Judith Won Pat-Borja Legislative Secretary 23rd Guam Legislature Temporary Building 155 Hesler St. Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Senator Won Pat-Borja,

The Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection wishes to report out its findings on BILL NO. 529: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS. The Committee's Voting Record is as follows:

TO PASS:	6
NOT TO PASS:	0
ABSTAIN:	2
TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE:	\bigcirc

A copy of the Committee Report and other pertinent information are attached for your information.

Sincerely,

Speaker Don Parkinson Chairman, Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection

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[FAX (671) 477-5795]

🖤 PEAKER DON PARKINSON 🥨 23RD GUAM LEGISLATURE 424 W. O'BRIEN DRIVE - JULALE CENTER, SUITE 222 AGANA, GUAM 96910

SPEAKER and CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICAL POWER AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

VOTING SHEET ON:

BILL NO. 529: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM **POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	INITIAL	TO PASS	NOT TO PASS	ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
Speaker Don Parkinson	<u>&</u>				
Sen. Joe T. San Agustin	A				
Sen. Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson					
Sen. Anthony C. Blaz	_1	_/		u and a second	
Sen. Felix P. Camacho	- (J)-	V			
Sen. Sonny L. Orsini					
Sen. Francis E. Santos	16	V			
Sen. Antonio R. Unpingco		<u> </u>			

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CONNITTEE ON ELECTRICALP AND CONSUMER PROTECTION Speaker Don Parkinson, Chairperson

COMMITTEE REPORT

BILL NO. 529: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS

PREFACE:

The Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection held a public hearing on March 8, 1996 at 1:00 p.m. in the Legislative Public Hearing Room, Guam Legislature, Temporary Building. The purpose of the hearing was to hear Bill No. 529: An Act to Establish Safety Setback Requirements for New Guam Power Authority Transformer Substations. Committee members present at the hearing were Speaker Don Parkinson, Chairperson, Senator Joe T. San Agustin, Vice-Chairperson and Senator Anthony C. Blaz.

TESTIMONY:

Appearing before the Committee was Mr. Richard Young, General Manager of the Guam Power Authority, along with GPA's legal counsel, Mr. Fred Horecky. Presenting written testimony in favor of the bill were Mr. Paul Merfalen, Mr. Tony Quinata and Mr. Fred Gofigan.

Mr. Young stated, based on the voltages used by GPA, there was no significant health hazard to be concerned about with regard to EMF. Mr. Young indicated that various research into EMF has been inconclusive. Mr. Young questioned where the 100 feet setback requirement began at, whether it was from the equipment itself or from the wall surrounding the substation.

Mr. Merfalen testified about the potential health hazards which individuals would be exposed to, specifically those individuals whose homes were adjacent to transformer substations. Mr. Merfalen also cited the numerous cases of people with cancer who lived in close proximity of high voltage transmission lines and transformers. He stated that his cancer was caused by "electric magnetic force" (EMF) exposure.

Mr. Quinata testified in support of the bill and in support of the five families from Umatac who were in opposition to the construction of the Umatac substation on Lot No. Parcel "G", Tract 3321. He felt that it would be best if the substation were relocated to an alternate site.

Mr. Gofigan testified on behalf of his family and those residents of the Umatac subdivision who lived adjacent to the proposed site of the Umatac Substation. He stated that they were concerned with the unknown health hazards that they might be exposed to.





Mr. Gofigan also indicated that those residents who were adjacent to the proposed substation had no wish to relocate, contrary to the reports from the Governor's Office.

The proposed Umatac substation has been the subject of much controversy because of its close proximity to several homes in the Umatac subdivision. Under the proposed plans for the substation's construction, the transforming equipment would be within 30 feet of several adjacent residential lots.

In addition, an oversight hearing of the Guam Power Authority was held February 20, 1996 at the Umatac Community Center to address the construction of the Umatac Substation on Lot. No. Parcel "G", Tract 3321... Seventeen (17) individuals testified in opposition to the construction of the substation on the proposed site.

A major concern cited by the residents was the very close proximity of the substation to several homes. The substation would be immediately adjacent to five house lots in the Umatac Subdivision. In one case, the retaining wall of the substation would be within 10 feet of the home of Mr. Jesus Gofigan.

With relation to the proximity of the substation to the subdivision, the unknown effects of electromagnetic force (EMF) radiation on human beings was another major concern for those testifying. Although there is no conclusive scientific documentation linking EMF radiation to cancer or other related illnesses, residents voiced their concern for the future health and safety of the residents in the subdivision.

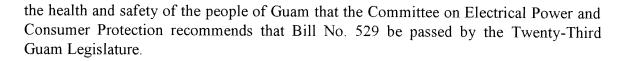
Another issue which was raised by several residents was the possible depreciation of property values in the area. Though the improvement of infrastructure normally increases property value, residents felt that the substation was obstructive and ruined the view from the subdivision thus possibly depreciating the value of their properties

The final issue that was raised was that there was no input from the residents of Umatac as to where the substation would be built. Although a public hearing was held to transfer the property to GPA's inventory, the hearing was held outside the village, specifically in Harmon in 1992. The sentiment of the community was that adequate notice was not given to the residents of Umatac regarding GPA's intention to build a substation on Parcel "G".

In addition, a petition was submitted signed by 68 individuals, a majority of whom resided in Umatac.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION:

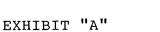
The Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection finds that despite the inconclusive evidence that EMFs are a potential health hazard, it is better to err on the side of caution rather than ignore the potential hazards from placing transformer substations in close proximity to a residential area. Therefore, it is in the best interest of



EXHIBITS:

- Exhibit "A" Committee on Rules Referral of Bill No. 529
- Exhibit "B" BBMR Fiscal Note for Bill No. 529
- Exhibit "C" Written Testimony from Mr. Fred Gofigan regarding Bill No. 529
- Exhibit "D" Written Testimony from Mr. Tony Quinata regarding Bill No. 529
- Exhibit "E" Written Testimony from Mr. Paul Merfalen regarding Bill No. 529
- Exhibit "F" Witness Sign In sheet for Bill No. 529
- Exhibit "G" Public Hearing Notice for Bill No. 529





COMMITTEE ON RULES

Twenty-Third Guam Legislature 155 Hesler St., Agana, Guam 96910

MEMORANDUM

- **TO:** Chairman, Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection
- **FROM:** Chairman, Committee on Rules

SUBJECT: Referral - Bill No. 529

The above Bill is referred to your Committee as the principal committee. Please note that the referral is subject to ratification by the Committee on Rules at its next meeting. It is recommended you schedule a public hearing at your earliest convenience.

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	Date/Time Rec'd	3/1/1/ 11:00am	
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March 6, 1996



Introduced

TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLTURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

FEB 2 2 1996

Bill No. <u>529(</u>(5)

Introduced by:

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

Section 1. Legislative Finding and Intent. The Legislature takes due note of 2 the intense public debate being waged world wide over the issue of electro-magnetic 3 fields (EMF) and their potential hazards to public health. The Legislature further notes 4 that the scientific community remains divided on this matter with numerous supposedly 5 credible arguments continuing to be presented on both sides of the issue. This has left $2^{1.50}$ 6 the public thoroughly confused and extremely concerned. 7

8 On Guam, concerned citizens have strongly appealed for the exercise of caution in the placement of public utility facilities and equipment which generate electro-9 magnetic fields. In this light, pending any conclusive scientific resolution of the EMF 10 debate, the Legislature has decided to exercise due caution by the establishment of 11 safety standards intended to protect public health. 12

13 The Legislature recognizes that these standards will have a direct economic 14 impact on the development of certain public utility facilities. If these standards are later found to be excessive, they can always be repealed or amended. On the other 15 hand, no future Act of this Legislature could ever undue an injury or illness or the loss 16 of a life should electro-magnetic fields in fact be a serious public health threat. It is, 17 therefore, the position of the Legislature that if it is to err, it so chooses to err on the 18 conservative side of safety. 19

> Page 1 of 2 SUBSTAT.DOC

Section 2. A new Section 8119 is added to Chapter 8 of Title 12, Guam Code
 Annotated to read:

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"Section 8119. No substation utilizing or transforming electrical power at 13 kV or higher may be built nor operated within One Hundred (100) feet of any building which is regularly or customarily occupied for residential purposes, including any buildings or structures within the curtilage which are regularly used in conjunction with or as a part of the residence."

SUBSTAT.DOC

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Bill No.	529					eceived:	03/
Amendatory Bill:	NO	-			Date R	eviewed:	03/
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Department/Ageno Department/Ageno	Sy Affected:		Guam Power Au				
Total FY Appropria			Richard L. Your N/A	ig			
Bill Title (preamble NEW Gl	e): AN ACT JAM POWER A	TO ESTABLIS AUTHORITY 1	SH SAFETY SETI RANSFORMER S	BACK REQUIF SUBSTATION	Rements for S.		
Change in Law:		N/A					
Bill's Impact on Pr	esent Progran	n Funding:					
Increase XX	<u>kx</u>	Decrease		Reallocation		No Change	
Bill is for:							
Operations			Capital Impro	ovement:	XXX	Other:	
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			MULTI-YEAR R		er Bill)		
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ANALYST <u>: Stiple</u>	- Guerrero	und	C	DATE:	03/06/96		

FOOTNOTE: _1/ See attached comments.





Comments on Bill No. 529

Bill No. 529 if passed, will have a fiscal impact on the Authority's funding. The bill will mandate the Authority to reevaluate it's current operation and all future projects to insure compliance with the proposed mandate. The bill will require changes to the existing system as there could substations in operation that many not meet the provision of the law. As a result, the Authority will be required to renovate or even relocate existing substations which will definitely incur additional cost to the Agency.





TESTIMONY ON BILL 529

Good afternoon, Speaker Parkinson and members of the Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection. My name is Fred Gofigan representing my parents Mr. & Mrs. Jesus A. Gofigan. I am submitting my testimony in support of Bill 529. "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS".

My parents are located within 100 feet from the proposed GPA substation on Lot No. Parcel "G", Tract 3321 in the Municipality of Umatac. We want the proposed GPA substation to be relocated. We are not against the construction of GPA's substation, because we know that the residents of the Southern most villages of the islance are in dire need of one. However, we want the substation located where it will not endanger lives of the residents.

I understand that numerous studies have been made on the effects of electro-magnetic fields on human beings. To date, nothing conclusive has been derived. I don't want members of my family to be known as a statistic of electro-magnetic fields, an its effects on human beings. I am sure that this body agrees with me. Two public hearings were heldby this body in the village of Umatac on the construction of the GPA substation on the proposed site. A petition opposing the construction of the proposed site was given to this body in which the residents unanimously testified against the construction.

I beg this body to intervene in the continuos construction of the substation on Lot No. Parcel "G", Tract 3321. On February 28, PDN published an article, "Umatac families may be moved". This body was misled by the article. Then acting Governor, Madeleine Bordallo stated, "This is a creative way of trying to save money by moving the families rather than finding a new site for the substation". "Government officials will spend about \$600,000 to build new homes for the five families, the power authority could spend up to \$700,000 to move the substation". Senators, the appraised value on my parents home alone was \$210,000 (not including the improvments on the yard) and this appraisal was done two years ago by the Department of Revenue and Taxation. A three bedroom home in the area was sold at \$160,000. Let us look at a little mathematics: \$160,000 (estimated appraised value) multiplied by Four (four families) equals \$640,000 plus \$210,000 (my parents residence) equals \$810,000. \$810,000 minus \$700,000 (cost to move substation) equals \$110,000. I believe that the Acting Gov. made a little mistake on her calculations. It would cost less to move the substation than to move the families. Senators, I sit before you

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to tell you that my parents are not in agreement with the Governors proposal.

Let us look at another scenario, if development was to expand in the area, GPA has no way of expanding the substation on the proposed site to meet the increase of demand. If the road needs to be expanded in the future the expansion is limited due to the location of the substation. Therefore, the only solution is to relocate the substation. In the future it would cost the Government of Guam more money to relocate.

I know that members of this body were misled by the article, that the residents affected are agreeing to the Governors proposal. Senators, we met with the families on Wednesday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. and they stand on their previous agreement and that is not to move. But to move the substation. Members of the Governors Cabinet painted a rosy picture, however, they failed to address other concerns. For example . 1. Will the Government pay for mortgages that are financed by Farmers Home Association. If the answer is yes, will the government finance the existing balance at the current rate in which the families are paying or pay current markets demand. Will the finance include the early pay-off penalty.

Senators let us listen to this philosophy, there are three types of people in the world, those who are: 1. Stupid 2. Smart and 3. Wise. The Stupid people, are those that continue making the same mistakes. 2. Smart people, are those that learn from their mistakes. and 3. The wise people, are those that learn from other people mistakes. I believe that we are here today to show that we made a mistake and we want to prevent the same mistake from occurring in the future. Thus we are the smart ones. The introduction of Bill 529 is an indication of the people working with their leaders in correcting mistakes. If we continue on with the construction and someone is to get hurt were will that leave the families.

The introduction of this legislation shows that we want to be the smart and the wise.

Senators, on behalf of my parents and residents affected, I want to thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify before this body. Please don't let us down. Si Yu'us Ma'ase.



EXHIBIT "D"



Testimony of Mr. Tony A. Quinata, Umatac Resident

Before the 23rd Guam Legislature's Committee on Electrical Power and Consumer Protection

Regarding Bill 529

March 8, 1996

Mr. Speaker and honorable members of the committee:

I am in favor of Bill 529. I would also like to take this opportunity to convey the support of 5 affected residents of Umatac to Bill 529. I would also like to inform this committee that the home owners and land owner of Umatac who protested to relocate the GPA Substation elected to stay in their respective residence.

proceeding Speaker, Mr. with the construction of the substation on the proposed site will not serve the best interest of our community and GPA's operation, because parameters of the contained in **bill** 529. Ι understand that GPA has identified several other locations feasible for the construction of the substation.

Therefore, I humbly request the members of this committee's assistance, again, to address the funding source and to relocate the substation in order to meet GPA's obligations and a11 parties' concerns.

I thank the members of this committee for their consideration and understanding.

EXHIBIT "E" Yaul A. Merfelen 111 N. Pika et. Sinajana, Guam 96926 472-8656 Good afternoon Senators, I come before this body to testify as a living testimony for Bill 529. I claim to be a living witness because I was stricken with cancer, Caused by "Electric magnetic field" exposure. My Name is Paul Mergelen, a resident y sinajana. A resident who lives right under navy and SPA transmusion lines, transmission lines that runs right by c. l. taitano' elementary school in sinajana, and by, Piti middle school in piti. Transmission lines that stands along residential homes from Piti; nimity hill, agana hyts outskirts, sinejana, agana springe area and mongmong. within these residential home are people who were, are, and will be stricken with cancer, due to electric magnetic field exposure. The residential areas due to the transmission lines and transformer boxes will have an economic and health disadvantage. The economic disadvantage is their homes are in areas of the transmission lines and would lower their home apprasials due to health hazard esposure. The economic disadvantage is in medical, hospital, travel and Lodging expanses off-island for such treatment beyond their imagination. Psychological nightmares that families will encounter due to Cancer sickness within One of the family.

Electrical generation plants, Power transmission lines, substations and transformers are dangerous to human beings and the environment around it. Do you really think that fuam birds are extinct because of the snakes. "I don't." Electrical magnetic fields are particles flowing in the air. Electrical particles that break up the human Chemical bond that keeps us humans healthy and energetic. When electrical particles breaks the human chemical bonds its Called extra ionization. The human molecules is a stable configuration of atomic nuclei and electrons bound together by matures electrical forces. When Mani EMF, electrical magnetic field exposure is added to the human molecules through electrical discharge, electrical radiation, or Chemical reaction. It causes effects in the human tissues. EMF, electrical magnetic discharge, and radiation will continually travel, until it embeds its radiation or its discharge on human or other objects in its path. EMF, electrical magnectic field breaks the bond in genetic materias of the human cells, Called DNA. Severe Lamage to DNA Kills the human cell, resulting in death. Less damage to DNA results in Cancer, Tuken changes Occur in the reproductive cells of humana, it is inherited by future generations through, DNA Mutation. Mutation meaning an alteration of the human genes or the chromosomes of a living Organism, damaging the bonds of fuman DNA. Daily exposure Causes EMF into the human body. I live in a house in singana where EMF exposure exist and their is no area, that is save in the house. I tested the rooms before Comming here, Lkoom 4.3 mg. - Hallway 2.6 mg. -Kitchen 2.6 mg. - Bloom 2.4 mg. - Bed Room Waries.

(671)	477-9126

EXHIBIT "F" [FAX (671) 477-5795]

(671) 472-3424

23RD GUAM LEGISLATURE 424 W. O'BRIEN DRIVE - JULALE CENTER, SUITE 222 AGANA, GUAM 96910

SPEAKER and CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICAL POWER AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

PUBLIC HEARING WITNESS SIGN-IN SHEET

- DATE: Friday, March 8, 1996
- **TIME:** <u>1:00 p.m.</u>
- PLACE: Legislative Public Hearing Room
 - RE: BILL NO. 529: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS.

<u>NAME:</u>	DEPT./AGENCY:	TESTIMONY <u>ORAL/WRITTEN:</u>	FOR/AGAINST:
Paul Merfala		V	dor
TONU Q : UN		. ~	Ruf
Fred Edigen			For

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enorio signs alien worker

Staff shortage: Law will allow three Canadian doctors to fulfill contract obligations at CHC

By GAYNOR DUMAT-OL

Friday.

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Daily News Staff SAIPAN — The Commonwealth Health Center plans to hire three more doctors now that Gov. Froilan Tenorio has signed a law that allows alien professional workers to work in government agencies, Public Health Secretary Isamu Abraham said yesterday.

Abraham said Tenorio's decision to allow alien workers to be hired by the commonwealth government has averted a shortage of doctors at the health center, which has a large number of Canadian physicians on staff.

The center would have been short of doctors for at least two weeks, while it tried to recruit more expensive doctors in the

doctors in the United States, Abraham said.

Hiring until 2000

Tenorio signed legislation Wednesday to extend alien professional hiring in government until the year 2000.

In addition to the hiring of doctors, the new law also allows the hiring of alien technical workers at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Public Auditor's Office, the Department of Public Works, the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College.

"Given the pressing need to redress the shortage of professional staff at both the Commonwealth Health Center and the Public Auditor's Office, I have decided to sign House Bill 10-173," Tenorio wrote to legislative leaders Wednesday.

Tenorio on Feb. 13 vetoed a similar hiring extension bill, in part, because he was opposed to a provision that prohibits the use of private manpower agencies. The bill Tenorio signed does not contain that prohibition.

Tenorio said his administra-

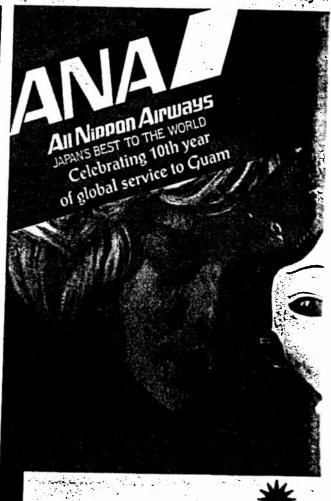
tion has "demonstrate lizing manpower servi certain circumstances government substantia of money and manag sources."

Recruiters critici

The use of manpowe for the hiring of Filipi has been criticized by 1 because the recruiters ey from the workers' p

Abraham said the specifies that the govern continue to hire alien r doctors and dentists b not mention nurses.

Despite the limita alien labor, Filipino nu been able to work at t. center because they w



TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLATURE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICAL POWER AND CONSUMER PROTECTION SPEAKER DON PARKINSON, CHAIRPERSON

<u>AGENDA</u>

I. GUAM POWER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appointment of Ms. Grace C. Low to serve as a member of the Board of Directors, term to expire March 26, 2001

II. BILL NO. 529: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS

ANYONE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING INPUT IS ENCOURAGED TO PRESENT TESTIMONY AT THE HEARING TO BE HELD ON:

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1996 AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE LEGISLATIVE PUBLIC HEARING ROOM GUAM LEGISLATURE, TEMPORARY BUILDING 155 HESLER STREET, AGANA, GUAM

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.





TWENTY-THIRD GUAM LEGISLTURE 1996 (SECOND) Regular Session

FEB 2 2 1996

Bill No. 529 (LS)

AN

ACT

REQUIREMENTS

Introduced by:

Parkinson Santos SAFETY SETB. aureno NEW GUAM POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORMER SUBSTATIONS.

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

TO ESTABLISH

FOR

Section 1. Legislative Finding and Intent. The Legislature takes due note of 2 the intense public debate being waged world wide over the issue of electro-magnetic 3 fields (EMF) and their potential hazards to public health. The Legislature further notes 4 that the scientific community remains divided on this matter with numerous supposedly 5 credible arguments continuing to be presented on both sides of the issue. This has left 21.996 7 the public thoroughly confused and extremely concerned.

On Guam, concerned citizens have strongly appealed for the exercise of caution 8 in the placement of public utility facilities and equipment which generate electro-9 10 magnetic fields. In this light, pending any conclusive scientific resolution of the EMF debate, the Legislature has decided to exercise due caution by the establishment of 11 safety standards intended to protect public health. 12

The Legislature recognizes that these standards will have a direct economic 13 impact on the development of certain public utility facilities. If these standards are 14 later found to be excessive, they can always be repealed or amended. On the other 15 hand, no future Act of this Legislature could ever undue an injury or illness or the loss 16 of a life should electro-magnetic fields in fact be a serious public health threat. It is, 17 18 therefore, the position of the Legislature that if it is to err, it so chooses to err on the conservative side of safety. 19

Section 2. A new Section 8119 is added to Chapter 8 of Title 12, Guam Code
 Annotated to read:

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3 "Section 8119. No substation utilizing or transforming electrical power
4 at 13 kV or higher may be built nor operated within One Hundred (100) feet of
5 any building which is regularly or customarily occupied for residential
6 purposes, including any buildings or structures within the curtilage which are
7 regularly used in conjunction with or as a part of the residence."