

Office of the Governor of Guam

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Felix Perez Camacho
Governor

APR 29 2003

Kaleo Scott Moylan
Lieutenant Governor

The Honorable Vicente C. Pangelinan
Speaker
Mina 'Bente Siete Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Twenty-Seventh Guam Legislature
155 Hesler Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Pangelinan:

Transmitted herewith is Bill No. 35 (COR), "AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE CONSOLIDATED COMMISSION ON UTILITIES TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THE SPEED AND REDUCING THE COST OF POWER RECOVERY FROM NATURAL DISASTERS BY PLACING CERTAIN POWER LINES UNDERGROUND AT THE SAME TIME THAT MAJOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND WATER/WASTEWATER PROJECTS ARE UNDERTAKEN," which I have signed into law on April 26, 2003 as Public Law 27-14.

Sincerely,

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga 'Lahen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attachment: copy attached of signed bill

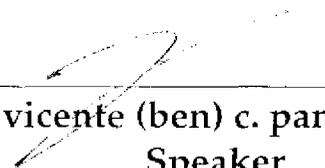
cc: The Honorable Tina Rose Muña-Barnes
Senator and Legislative Secretary

Document No. 03-02168/1c

I MINA'BENTE SIETE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2003 (FIRST) Regular Session

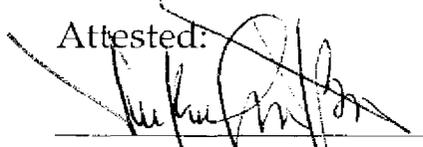
CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUÅHAN

This is to certify that Bill No. 35 (COR), "AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE CONSOLIDATED COMMISSION ON UTILITIES TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THE SPEED AND REDUCING THE COST OF POWER RECOVERY FROM NATURAL DISASTERS BY PLACING CERTAIN POWER LINES UNDERGROUND AT THE SAME TIME THAT MAJOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND WATER/WASTEWATER PROJECTS ARE UNDERTAKEN," was on the 11th day of April, 2003, duly and regularly passed.



vicente (ben) c. pangelinan
Speaker

Attested:



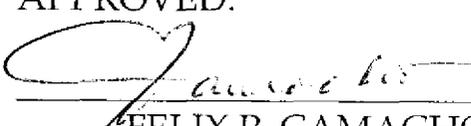
Tina Rose Muña-Barnes
Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'lahen Guahan* this 15 day of April, 2003, at 5:30 o'clock
 P .M.



Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahi's Office

APPROVED:



FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'lahen Guahan

Date: April 26, 2003

Public Law No. 27-14

MINA'BENTE SIETE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2003 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 35 (COR)

As amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

T. R. Muña-Barnes
v. c. pangelinan
R. J. Respicio _____
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
J. M.S. Brown
F. R. Cunliffe
C. Fernandez
Mark Forbes
L. F. Kasperbauer
R. Klitzkie
L. A. Leon Guerrero
J. A. Lujan
J. M. Quinata
Toni D. Sanford
Ray Tenorio

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE CONSOLIDATED
COMMISSION ON UTILITIES TO EXAMINE THE
FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THE SPEED AND
REDUCING THE COST OF POWER RECOVERY FROM
NATURAL DISASTERS BY PLACING CERTAIN POWER
LINES UNDERGROUND AT THE SAME TIME THAT
MAJOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND
WATER/WASTEWATER PROJECTS ARE UNDERTAKEN.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
3 finds that when major typhoons strike our island, the strong winds and
4 storm surge will often wreak havoc with our island's infrastructure,

1 especially our power system, causing millions of dollars of damage and
2 leaving residents without basic utility services for many weeks at a time.

3 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, research by the Public Utilities Commission
4 and experience of the Guam Power Authority and power utilities across
5 the country have found that if certain power lines were placed
6 underground, recovery could take place much more quickly, and this
7 faster restoration of service would benefit the people of Guam, our island's
8 economy, and the Guam Power Authority. One prohibitive factor in
9 placing certain power lines underground is the cost of digging the
10 necessary trenches for the power lines. However, a golden opportunity
11 exists when highway construction takes place, or when water/wastewater
12 lines are being buried, because trenching will already be taking place. The
13 costs associated with placing power lines below ground could be reduced
14 dramatically by sharing the costs for trenching equipment and labor.

15 It is the understanding of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that not all power
16 lines can be placed underground, due to safety and other concerns.
17 However those lines that can be buried, should be buried whenever the
18 opportunity arises. Current road projects in Yona and several other
19 projects around the island already announced for this year present the
20 perfect opportunity to begin placing these lines out of harm's way.

21 It is therefore the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to require that the
22 Consolidated Commission on Utilities closely examine the feasibility of
23 planning the underground placement of certain power lines whenever
24 major highway and water/wastewater projects are undertaken, to take
25 advantage of the savings in both time and labor.

26 **Section 2. Consolidated Commission on Utilities to Conduct**
27 **Study.** The Consolidated Commission on Utilities ("CCU") shall study the

1 feasibility of placing certain power lines underground. The CCU shall, in
2 the course of that study, determine the feasibility of burying certain power
3 lines whenever major road and water/wastewater projects are underway
4 in order to take advantage of the excavation required, and determine the
5 cost savings possible through sharing the costs. The CCU should also
6 consider allowing the inclusion of other lines, including but not limited to
7 telephone, cable television and data services for additional sharing of costs.

8 The CCU will also investigate and report to *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
9 within one hundred eighty (180) days on potential sources of federal funds
10 in order to put power lines underground throughout Guam, and said
11 report shall describe all federal agencies contacted by the CCU and results
12 of each inquiry.

13 **Section 3. Cooperation of Government Entities.** Departments and
14 agencies of the government of Guam, including the Department of Public
15 Works, shall extend their cooperation to the CCU for the purposes of the
16 study.

17 **Section 4. Report Findings.** The CCU shall report its findings and
18 recommendations to *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan* and *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, within
19 one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this Act. The
20 recommendations shall contain, in draft form, legislation the CCU believes
21 may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this Act.