No. **SOP-048** Issued: GUAM POWER AUTHORITY Prepared By: Standard Operating Procedure JOAQUIN C. FLORES, P.E., AGMO Title: Temporary Pole Attachment Guidelines for Approved By: \(\) Side-Post Banner Installation, Signs, and Posters JOHN M. BENAVENTE, P.E., General Manager Effective Date: 8-25-03 Supersedes No. SP-048 dated 09/23/91 Page 1 of 4

1.0 PURPOSE

To establish the guidelines necessary for the placement of side post banners, posters, and signs on GPA poles. Signs, posters, and banners shall not remain for more than 60 days (21 GCA, Div. 2, Chap. 61, Art. 5, §61541 (d)) for charitable, religious, and civic groups. In the case of political signs, Public Law 24-55 states 15 calendar days after the conclusion of any general or special election the signs must be removed.

2.0 SCOPE

The placement of side-post banners, posters, and signs on the Authority's poles by public, private, or government agencies is a practice allowed by GPA <u>subject to certain conditions</u>. This policy shall cover requests from any charitable, religious and civic organization or political entity whether work is to be completed by GPA or the requestor's contractor.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

3.1 DPW Highway Encroachment Permit

A permit issued by the Department of Public Works.

3.2 Side Post Banners

Banners attached to an upper and lower post/arm attached to the sides of the Authority's pole by means of a banding strap or clamp.

3.3 NESC

National Electrical Safety Code, Latest edition.

3.4 Required Aid

Payment due to the Authority for services rendered by GPA. The Required Aid is based on equipment, man-hours, and materials used to supply such service.

3.5 Hold Harmless Clause

A written statement holding GPA harmless from any liability claims, or charges resulting from any injuries or damages caused by this installation.

4.0 PROCEDURES

- 4.1 Signs, Posters, notices, and other attachments shall not be placed on the Authority's poles without the concurrence of the Guam Power Authority. (Rule 217A2c, NESC) A written request shall be submitted to the General Manager for his/her approval.
- 4.2 The request shall include the following information:
 - 4.2.1 Desired Location
 - 4.2.2 Date of installation
 - 4.2.3 If installation is to be performed by Contractor or GPA
 - 4.2.4 Message contained on banner
 - 4.2.5 Description and design of banner: Dimension, material composition, etc.
 - 4.2.6 "Hold Harmless Clause"
 - 4.2.7 Date of removal
- 4.3 Upon approval by the General Manager, the Customer Services Division shall create a work order and notify the customer to coordinate with the Department of Public Works for the approval and issuance of a Highway Encroachment Permit. The work order will then be forwarded to GPA's Engineering Division.
- 4.4 The Engineering Division shall review, inspect, and approve the site location(s) and construction of the side post banner, etc. for compliance with all NESC and local regulations. Any construction requirements, as determined by GPA Engineering, for support of the poles shall be the requestor's responsibility.
- 4.5 The Engineering Division shall prepare an estimate of costs to the requestor for services provided by the Authority.
 - 4.5.1 The required aid is comprised of:
 - a. Inspection (Labor and equipment)
 - b. Construction (Labor, equipment, and materials)
 - c. Removal (Labor and equipment)
 - 4.5.2 Charges assessed shall be paid <u>in advance</u> prior to installation unless otherwise approved for deferred payment or waived by the GPA General Manager or his/her designee. Deferred payment shall be based on actual labor, material, and equipment costs.

4.5.3 In the event the customer has obtained the services of a contractor; only the removal charge shall be applied and paid in advance. This charge will be refunded upon removal of the banner, poster, or sign by the requestor within the time frame specified by GPA.

5.0 REMOVAL OF BANNERS, SIGNS AND POSTERS

- 5.1 GPA shall be responsible for immediately removing such installations at such time as is necessary for the public good and in the interest of the Authority.
- 5.2 The following constitutes conditions for immediate removal:
 - 5.2.1 If the signs, banners, or posters are an immediate and substantial hazard and threat to public health and safety.
 - 5.2.2 If the signs, banners, or posters constitute a safety hazard
 - 5.2.3 If the signs, banners, or posters become a hindrance to the maintenance of the Authority's poles and system.
 - 5.2.4 Anytime Guam is in Typhoon Condition 1 or 2. The requestor may retrieve signs from GPA as soon as Guam returns to Typhoon Condition 4.

6.0 RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS

Charitable, Religious and Civic organizations and Political candidates (Reference 21 GCA, Div. 2, Art. 5 §6154 b) 3; NESC; and P.L. 24-55)

- 6.1 No banner or advertisement shall be strung on any of the Authority's poles.
- 6.2 Poles are not to be used to support signs. No support braces requiring nailing (wood poles) or other means of attachment onto the poles are allowed.
- No <u>political</u> sign or other thing may be erected upon, or within any GPA building, or nailed to any tree or attached to any fence on GPA property.
- 6.4 No <u>political</u> sign may be posted on any utility pole.
- 6.5 No <u>political</u> sign or other thing may be attached to any of the Authority's poles that will create a hindrance to the poles accessibility for line repair maintenance work.
- Posters taped or glued are allowed for charitable, religious or civic organizations. Posters are to be located no higher than six feet from ground level. Climbing on or around poles to attach posters is prohibited.

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STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE	No.: SOP-048 Issued:	8	125	03	Page 4 of 4
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- 6.7 Signs shall be located no closer than ten feet from a GPA pole.
- 6.8 Signs erected under energized power lines must be placed a minimum of ten feet below the lines.

Distribution List:

A, B and C

Copy to:

Internal Auditor

SOURCE: GC §17402.1 enacted by P.L. 15-100:2.

§61546. Signs on School Bus Stop Shelters. Notwithstanding any law in this Chapter to the contrary, it shall not be illegal for the Department of Education to place a sign on any school bus stop shelter to identify and commemorate a public business or individual who contributed money to provide for the erection and maintenance of such shelters. Such signs shall be non-moving and non-flashing and not larger than the dimensions of the bus stop shelter.

SOURCE: GC §17403 enacted by P.L. 15-144:5.

Part 6 Junk Yards

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§61561. Permits Required. No person shall establish a junk yard or extend the boundaries of an existing junk yard without obtaining a permit from the Territorial Land Use Commission. Junk yards which are established on the effective date of this Part shall be governed by the provisions of §61566.

- §61562. Improvement Standards. (a) The minimum enclosed area for a junk yard shall be forty thousand (40,000) square feet.
- (b) The junk yard shall be enclosed by a fence not less than eight (8) feet in height.

CH. 61 - ZONING LAW ART. 5 - YARD & AREA REGULATIONS - 1994 UPDATE - P. 50

drawings and specifications shall be submitted to the Building Official, who will review said plans and grant permit for the erection of said sign, free-standing or attached. The Building Official shall refer said plans to the zoning inspector to assure conformity to the provisions of this Chapter.

SOURCE: GC §17401.

§61544. Signs in Other Than English or Chamorro Language. Any permitted sign erected, displayed or maintained pursuant to §61541(b)(1) and (2) of this Chapter which contains a message in a language other than English or Chamorro in Roman alphabet characters shall contain a meaningful translation in the English or Chamorro language which shall be printed on the sign using Roman alphabet characters. The Chamorro Language Commission shall assist in translating and approve all Chamorro translations required by this Section for existing and new signs. The English or Chamorro translation must predominate the sign.

SOURCE: GC \$17402 enacted by P.L. 15-100:2 as amended by P.L.

COURT DECISIONS: This section, requiring that covered by either 15-147:10. in English, Chamorro or have a translation, is contrary to the owner's rights of free speech and, thus, void. Govt. of Guam v. Wang & Tung Hua Trading Co., Ltf., 2 Guam R. 102 (1980).

§61545. Penalty. Any person who violates the provision of §61544 of this Chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for each such violation. Actions to recover the penalty provided for in this Section shall be brought by the Attorney General at the request of any person in the territory of Guam. All penalties recovered in any such action shall be paid into the General Fund.

than the single One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) deposit required to be posted with the Department of Public Works. No additional deposit or fees may be charged by the government of Guam, the Guam Power Authority, the Guam Telephone Authority, or any other department or agency.

- (h) Any excess deposits previously paid, whether before or after the effective date of this Act, by any candidate, group or person for the purpose of posting signs and held by Guam Power Authority or Department of Public Works shall be refunded within ten (10) days of the effective date of this Act.
- (i) If any candidate, person, or group has had any deposit forfeited which was posted for purposes of placing signs, by Department of Public Works or by the Guam Power Authority, such deposits which were forfeited shall be returned to the candidate, group or person posting such amount within ten (10) days after the effective date of this Act.
- (j) Any signs which have been previously confiscated before the effective date of this Act shall be returned to the group, person or candidate that put them up.

SOURCE: GC §17400.1 added by P.L. 18-40:36.

§61543. Erection of Signs. All permitted signs shall be erected in such a manner as not to create a hazard to public safety or property, and shall be resistant to winds, typhoon, earthquake or other natural phenomenon. Engineering design shall be based on applicable sections of the Building Law of Guam (Chapter 66 of 21 GCA).

The Building Official shall set specific engineering design standards. Application, accompanied by detailed

person concerned, because it violates the provisions of this Section.

- (6) A public official may move a sign to a nearby location if the sign constitutes an immediate and substantial hazard and threat to the public health and safety; or if it significantly blocks drivers' visibility of other vehicles and constitutes a safety hazard to safe locations nearby. In such a case, the owner of the sign shall be notified.
- (7) In the case of utility poles, by a utility employee because the sign or poster constitutes a hinderance to the maintenance of the poles or utility system.
- (8) A public official may remove wooden or metal freestanding signs anytime Guam is in typhoon condition 1 or 2. Said sign shall be held and returned to the persons who put them up as soon as Guam returns to typhoon condition 4.
- (9) If for any reason a government official or employee needs to temporarily take down a sign, they shall put it back up within two (2) days.
- (e) Political signs may not be erected pursuant to this Section earlier than one hundred eighty (180) days before any special, general, or primary election.
- (f) Any confiscated sign may be picked up by the group, candidate, or person who put it up. The treasurer or candidate involved shall be promptly notified of the confiscation so that sign may be picked up.
- (g) No other deposit or fee may be required from a candidate or person posting political signs, other

- (4) Small-sized paper, plastic or cloth signs or posters, not to exceed eighteen inches (18") by twenty-four inches (24"), may be stapled, taped or glued to the Authorities' poles, provided that the person placing the sign shall remove the same no later than two (2) weeks following the election. Under no circumstances, however, may roofing tacks or nails of any size be used in attaching the signs or posters to the authorities' poles.
- (c) No building permit shall be required for political signs on private property; provided, that the person erecting the sign has the permission of the private property owner first; and further provided, that all such signs shall be removed within two (2) weeks after the election.
- (d) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to remove, knock down, or take down a political sign, except:
 - (1) A private property owner upon whose land the sign is posted.
 - (2) The person who put up the sign.
 - (3) In the case of a sign advocating the election of a candidate, that candidate or his designee.
 - (4) Any government employee or any other person, commencing two (2) weeks after the general election or special election.
 - (5) A public official or employee may remove a sign, after fifteen (15) days prior notice to the

for or against candidates, or other matters to be considered by the electorate, on government property upon payment of a single One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) deposit to the Department of Public Works to insure that the signs are removed within two (2) weeks after the election, subject to the following restrictions only:

- (1) Wooden or metal freestanding signs may not be posted within eight (8) feet of the paved traveled portion of the roadway or in such a manner that they impede drivers' visibility of other traffic.
- (2) Signs shall not be nailed to trees on government property.
- (3) Signs may not block any sidewalk, road, or driveway.
- (4) Wooden or metal freestanding signs may be placed in parks adjacent to Marine Drive in a zone not less than eight (8) feet nor more than twenty-five (25) feet from the paved traveled portion of the roadway.
- (5) No building permits shall be required for temporary political campaign signs, other than the One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) deposit required in Subsection (a) of this Section.
 - (6) Nothing in this Section shall be construed as authorizing the posting of campaign material of any kind on or in any government building.
 - (7) No wooden or metal freestanding sign may be posted at any intersection if it will in any way impede visibility of drivers and traffic.



24TH GUAM LEGISLATURE

Senator Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson Public Safety and Consumer Protection

July 31, 1997

Mr. Ricardo S. Unpingco General Manager Guam Power Authority 2nd Flr. Sunny Plaza Bldg. 125 Jesus Crisostomo St. Tamuning, Guam 96911

> Political Campaign Signs RE:

Dear Mr. Unpingco:

Please find enclosed a copy of Public Law 24-55, a newly enacted law amending the statute on posting of political campaign signs. I particularly draw the Authority's attention to Section 61542 (c) (4) which specifically prohibits posting of political campaign signs on any utility pole. The new law further defines "utility pole".

I hope you will find the new law refreshing. It was an effort to help control what is sometimes referred to as the politicians form of graffiti, "political campaign signs".

Please note that although enforcement is placed in the hands of the Department of Public Works and the Mayors, I encourage the Guam Power Authority to work cooperatively with these entities to enforce any violation upon GPA property.

Sincerely,

Chairperson

Enclosure



JUN 25 1997

The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco Speaker Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature Guam Legislature Temporary Building 155 Hesler Street Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Speaker Unpingco:

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT
Received By ##
Time /: 50 pm
10-25-97

Enclosed please find a copy of Bill No. 113 (COR), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT §61542 OF PART 5 OF ARTICLE 5 OF CHAPTER 61 OF TITLE 21 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO POSTING OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS.", which I have signed into law today as Public Law No. 24-55.

This legislation prohibits the placement of campaign signs within 100 feet of a school's entrance. In addition, the legislation contains a number of other changes to the current campaign signs law. The following are some of the changes:

old law

a) deposit of \$100 required.

new law

- a) non refundable permit fee of \$100 required, plus \$200 deposit for a total of \$300.
- b) signs have to be 8 feet from the edge of the pavement or in such a way as to not obstruct
- b) signs have to be 8 feet from the pavement and in such a way as to not obstruct.
- c) no sign can be placed on a traffic median strip

Office of the Speaker ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO Date: 6.25-97

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c) no sign can be placed on a traffic median strip and on a sidewalk, road, or driveway.

- d) signs can be attached to utility poles if they do not create a hindrance to repair or maintenance work, and small paper, plastic, or cloth signs (18" X 24") can be stapled, taped, or glued to utility poles.
 - d) no signs can be put on any utility pole.

- e) no sign can be put up more than 180 days before an election.
- e) no sign can be put up more than 90 days before an election
- f) persons who remove, knock down f) provision penalizing persons or take down political signs are subject to misdemeanor.
 - for removing, knocking down, or taking down signs deleted.
- g) size of signs is regulated in §61541 of Title 21, Guam Code Annotated.
- g) upper limit of size of political signs is restricted to 192 square feet. This size does not conform to other size regulations contained in §61541 of Title 21, Guam Code Annotated, which are different in some instances.

There are some difficulties presented in the language of the legislation which will need to be clarified in either subsequent legislation or cleared up in rules and regulations. For example:

- The bill uses some definitions, but the definitions are confusing 1) because different language is used in different places. There is a definition of Government Property which includes "tangible and real" property. Tangible and Real property includes both land and personal property. The legislation states that "no political sign may be erected upon, on or within any government building, or nailed to any tree or attached to any fence on government property."
- The definition of political sign includes "billboards, posters, banners 2) or displays which advocate a candidate for political office or any matter to be presented to the electorate for vote." There is no definition for the language "display". This could possibly mean a brochure or other item.

· Speaker/B113/PL24-55 June, 1997 - Page_3

- There is ambiguity in the definition of a government building. Is a government building a building which is owned by the government, leased by the government, a building in which any personal property of the government is placed, or all of the above?
- A) No signs can be within 100 feet of the entrance to a school. The definition of the "entrance to a school", or even "school", are not defined. Is the entrance to a school the doorway, the opening in a fence where a driveway leads to the property, or where? Does "school" apply to every level of school, including the University of Guam and the Guam Community College?
- Signs can be put within 100 feet of the entrance of a school "after 6:00 p.m. on the day before the election date." This does not provide for the placement of signs within 100 feet of the entrance of a school on election day. Additionally, no provision is made for the existence of concurrent legislation on this same subject contained in §9113 of Title 3, Guam Code Annotated, which states:

"§9113. Electioneering at Polling Place Prohibited. No person shall do any electioneering on election day within one hundred feet (100') of any entrance and/or exist of any polling place. In the case of the use of a school the entrance is defined as the gate to the fence, if the school is fenced."

Although this legislation provides for more restrictions on the use of campaign signs, which will assist in the beautification of our island both for our visitors and residents alike, there remain some difficulties in interpreting the specifics of situations which can be anticipated to arise.

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez Governor of Guam

Attachment

00306

cc: The Honorable Joanne M. S.-Brown Legislative Secretary

TWENTY-FOURTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1997 (FIRST) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO THE GOVERNOR

This is to certify that Bill No. 113 (COR), "AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT §61542 OF PART 5 OF ARTICLE 5 OF CHAPTER 61 OF TITLE 21 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE POSTING OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS," was on the 7th day of June, 1997, duly and regularly passed.

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO Speaker

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO Speaker

This Act was received by the Governor this 13T day of 1997, at 8:10 o'clock A.M.

Assistant Staff Officer Governor's Office

CARL T. C. GUTTERREZ
Governor of Guam

Date: 6-25.97Public Law No. 24-55

TWENTY-FOURTH GUAM LEGISLATURE 1997 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 113 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Rules, Government Reform and Federal Affairs, and as amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

A. C. Lamorena, V E. Barrett-Anderson F. B. Aguon, Ir. A. C. Blaz J. M.S. Brown Felix P. Camacho M. C. Charfauros E. J. Cruz Mark Forbes L. F. Kasperbauer C. A. Leon Guerrero L. Leon Guerrero V. C. Pangelinan J. C. Salas A. L.G. Santos F. E. Santos A. R. Unpingco J. Won Pat-Borja

AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT §61542 OF PART 5 OF ARTICLE 5 OF CHAPTER 61 OF TITLE 21 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO THE POSTING OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS.

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

1	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY OF GUAM
2	Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. The Guam Legislatur
3	finds that the safety of the children of Guam is its highest priority and the
4	practices that may jeopardize this priority should be prohibited. The Guar
5	Legislature further finds that the safety of the children may be comprised by
6_	the posting of signs within one hundred (100) feet of a school's entrance.
7	Billboards, signs, posters, banners and other informational postings may
8	obstruct traffic by blocking the view of motorists, including bus drivers
9	creating an accident laden scenario. The Guam Legislature intends to take a
10	proactive position by prohibiting the posting of billboards, signs, posters,
11	banners and other paraphernalia within one hundred (100) feet of a school's
12	entrance.
13	Section 2. Section 61542 of Part 5 of Article 5 of Chapter 61 of Title 21
14	of the Guam Code Annotated is repealed and re-enacted to read:
15	"Section 61542. Regulation of Political Signs. Candidates for
16	public office or other persons having an interest in an election may place
17	political signs which advocate voting for or against candidates, or other
18	matters to be considered by the electorate, on government property in
19	accordance with the following provisions
20	(a) Definitions.
21	(1) "Candidate" means a person seeking public office.
22	(2) "Government property" means any tangible or real
23	property held by the government of Guam.
24	(3) "Organization" means any political organization or
25	political action group-advocating an issue in a special or general

election.

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2 "Political sign" means all billboards, posters, banners or displays which advocate a candidate for political office or any 3 matter to be presented to the electorate for vote.

- "Utility pole" means any pole erected for street lighting, power lines, and cable television lines.
- Permit: Fee; Deposit. Any candidate or organization may apply for a permit to post campaign signs with the Department of Public Works. The Director of Public Works is authorized to charge a nonrefundable permit fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and a deposit of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), or as increased from time to time by rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of Public Works in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law. Such rules and regulations shall provide for procedures governing approval or rejection of permits, manner and location of posting, maintenance of sign and surrounding area, procedures for notification, removal of signs, forfeiture of deposit of any sign found in violation of this Section, and any other rules or regulations necessary to ensure the safety of the public.
 - Restrictions on Posting of Political Signs.
 - No political sign may be erected or posted upon the shoulder of any roadway unless it is eight (8) feet from the paved portion of the roadway and in such a manner that would not impede traffic or a driver's visibility, or erected upon any traffic median strip, sidewalk, road, or driveway.

1 No political sign may be erected upon , on or with any government building, or nailed to any tree or attached to ar 2 fence on government property. 3 (3) No political sign may be erected or posted within on 4 5 hundred (100) feet of any entrance to a public school, or upon an public school property, including school fences and gates, excep 6 7 after 6:00 p.m. on the day before the election date. 8 No political sign may be posted upon any utility pole. 9 No political signs may be posted upon any public park within the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation, 10 the Department of Public Works, or the village Mayors. 11 12 No political sign may be erected or posted within one hundred (100) feet of any intersection. 13 Period for Posting of Political Signs. Political signs shall 14 not be erected any earlier than ninety (90) days before any special or 15 16 primary election. 17 Size Restriction. No political sign may exceed one hundred ninety-two (192) square feet in gross sign surface area. Any sign which 18 exceeds one hundred ninety-two (192) square feet shall be removed 19 immediately by the Department of Public Works, and all sign materials 20 and any deposit made shall be automatically forfeited to the 21 22 government of Guam. 23 Maintenance of Political Signs. It shall be the responsibility of every candidate or organization to maintain their sign in a manner 24 25 which does not impede the safety of the public, and which complies

with applicable rules and regulations as adopted by the Department Public-Works. Failure of a candidate or any organization to mainta campaign signs shall be grounds for forfeiture of any deposit and a sign materials.

(g) Removal of Signs. Any sign in violation of any of the provisions of Subsections (c), (d), (e) or (f) shall be removed within forty-eight (48) hours by the candidate or organization after notification by the Department of Public Works or a Mayor of the village in which the sign is located. A sign not removed within forty-eight (48) hours on notification may be removed immediately by the Department of Public Works or the village Mayor. Failure to remove any political sign in violation of this Section shall be grounds for forfeiture of any deposit. Every political sign shall be removed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the conclusion of any general or special election. Failure to remove any political sign within fifteen (15) days after the conclusion of any general or special election shall be grounds for forfeiture of any deposit."



GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

ATURIDAT ILEKTRESEDAT GUAHAN P.O. Box 2977 • AGANA, GUAM U.S.A. 96932-2977

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Effective immediately, the Guam Power Authority will discontinue installation of banners across highways. This action is necessary to ensure that the Guam Power Authority fully adheres to National Electrical Safety Codes (NESC) standards and regulations to eliminate undue stress on poles and conductors to reduce potential hazards on Guam's highways; but most importantly, protect the integrity and reliability of the Island Wide Power System (IWPS).

Other incidents involving banner installations have also resulted in unscheduled disturbances and forced outages. Therefore, please be advised that this policy will remain in effect until further notice.

Your understanding in this regard is most appreciated.

Put Respetu Yan Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

EFFECTIVE SEPT- 13, 2001 (PUBLISHED IN PON.)