

## **PORT OF GUAM**

ATURIDAT I PUETTON GUAHAN

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June 29, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel Acting Chairwoman Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554 Via Email: Jessica.Rosenworcel@fcc.gov

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel,

This correspondence is in reference to Emergency Petition WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42 and WC Docket No. 21-450 *In the Matter of Petition of TeleGuam Holdings, LLC for Waiver and Certain Other Relief* filed with the Federal Communications Commission on June 20, 2023.

As the General Manager of the Port Authority of Guam, I feel it is critical that I correct misinformation provided to your agency in the filing. Specifically, the filing states, "The local commercial port that imports 90 percent of all goods entering Guam was hobbled by physical and structural damage from the storm, which has impeded the transportation of goods and supplies onto the island."

GTA TeleGuam knows or should have known at the time of that filing that despite the damage done to the Port, the island's only commercial seaport was able to open up 100% operational only 3 days after the storm passed with normal operations and normal vessel sequence within 4 days. As such, the importation of goods and supplies into the island was not impeded. This was reported daily to all the media, on all social media accounts and via the Government of Guam's Joint Information Center.

I am shocked that GTA TeleGuam would provide misinformation in their federal FCC filings regarding the Port's operations as well as our successful and swift recovery from Typhoon Mawar. Many of our "Port Strong" employees left their families and homes to ride out the typhoon here at the Port and many reported in to begin cleanup immediately once the road was cleared for passage. Three days after the storm passed, U.S. Coast Guard Captain Nicholas Simmons, Captain of the Port, issued the all-clear to open from the waterway perspective and I immediately issued the all-clear from the dockside. This was done after Guam Governor Lou Leon Guerrero gave the directive to place the island back to COR 4. It was at this point – on May 28, 2023 - that we became fully operational. For GTA TeleGuam to say in their federal FCC filing, nearly one month later, that the importation of goods and supplies into the island was impeded is not only false, but unconscionable.

The statements by GTA TeleGuam are irresponsible as they create a false narrative about what really happened and this can have an extremely negative impact for the Port Authority of Guam in the bond markets. These false statements by GTA TeleGuam are also an insult to our hard-working men and women who showed their true "Port Strong" spirit and their dedication to public service and commitment to our island community by getting our Port fully operational in only 3 days.

Furthermore, the FCC filing by GTA TeleGuam provided more false information about the overall recovery of our island that has been remarkable and swift under the leadership of Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Joshua Tenorio.

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When this Emergency Petition was filed on June 20, 2023, GTA TeleGuam stated that half of our island residents were without power and water. This is also a false statement as nearly 80 percent of our island residents had their power restored prior to the filing and the Guam Waterworks Authority had 80 percent of operable wells on-line and was producing approximately 33.8 million gallons of water per day which is approximately 99 percent of pre-typhoon production.

In closing, these misrepresentations and untruths contained in the GTA TeleGuam FCC filing are reckless as they jeopardize the Port Authority of Guam's bond ratings and they are an insult to our government and private-sector employees, including non-profit organizations, all of whom have worked diligently and tirelessly to advance our island's recovery from Typhoon Mawar. We respectfully request that the filing be rejected or that GTA TeleGuam be required to amend their filing and remove the false and misleading statements contained within.

Sincerely,

RORY J. RESPICIO

General Manager

Cc: Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors

Paul Huntsman, President & CEO Huntsman Family Investments

Roland Certeza, GTA TeleGuam President & CEO

Dan Tydingco, GTA TeleGuam Executive VP of External and Legal Affairs