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GPA Briefs Staff Delegation from Congress on $1.5B Infrastructure Modernization Plan to Secure Island Grid and Support Military Readiness



(Fadian, Mangilao) – On Tuesday, October 13, 2026, management of Guam Power Authority (GPA) met with staff delegation from Congress during a visit to discuss a $1.5 billion Power Infrastructure Project. The project features a proposed 10-year programmatic agreement that relies on federal partnership to achieve system-wide resilience. Guam's Delegate, Congressman James Moylan, was also present for the discussion and a presentation given by GPA.

During the briefing, GPA emphasized the direct connection between civilian power grid reliability and national defense readiness in the Indo-Pacific region, highlighting that the Island Wide Power System (IWPS) allows the Department of War (DOW) facilities and assets to perform mission-critical functions. Military installations currently account for approximately 20% of Guam's total electricity demand. With projected military demand expected to increase by approximately 100 megawatts (MW) by 2030, upgrades to the IWPS will increase reliability and eliminate the need for a separate DOW power system.

GPA outlined a 3-Integrated Element 10-year Program totaling approximately $1.5 billion in critical grid investments:

- Grid Hardening & Underground Projects ($338 million): Funds central and northern transmission line undergrounding and a connection for the Naval Regional Medical Center.

- Critical Resilience Projects ($701 million): Covers facility power hardening and places power systems for Guam Waterworks Authority water wells underground.

- Capacity & System Reliability ($455 million): Supports utility-scale battery energy storage, liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure, and hardened indoor substations.

“These productive discussions with staff delegation from Congress could help secure funding for these projects to ensure our island’s power grid can support expanding defense missions while delivering reliable and resilient power to our entire community,” said GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. “Also, hardening our power infrastructure is essential to ensuring mission readiness and protecting Guam against natural disasters, cyber threats, and growing energy demands.”

“Modernizing and hardening Guam’s power grid is crucial for both our island community and our national defense readiness in the Indo-Pacific. I appreciated meeting with GPA leadership alongside the visiting congressional staff delegation,” said Congressman James Moylan. “These staffers play a pivotal role as they report back to their respective bosses in Congress to ensure Guam’s infrastructure priorities are fully understood and supported in Washington.”

Strengthening Guam’s power system is essential for the local community and strategically important for national defense. Bridging local utility priorities with federal defense resources allows GPA and federal partners to deliver a resilient, modernized power system that guarantees energy security for our island community while supporting the nation’s defense commitments throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

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Group Photo Caption: *(Top: Left to right) Senior Master Sgt. Miguel Rosario, Department of the Air Force Legislative Liaison; Master Sgt. Garrett Rogers, U.S. Pacific Command Legislative Affairs; Ishmael Abuabara, Senior Legislative Assistant for Rep. Joaquin Castro; Chris Lukas, Senior Military Advisor for Rep. James Moylan; Tim Achinger, Legislative Director & General Counsel for Rep. Jimmy Patronis; Beatrice P. Limtiaco, Assistant General Manager – Administration; (Bottom: Left to right) Jennifer G. Sablan, P.E., Assistant General Manager – Operations; John M. Benavente, P.E,. GPA General Manager; Tyler Fagan, Legislative Director for Speaker Mike Johnson.*