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GPA Crew to Return Saturday Ahead of Typhoon Bavi

(Fadian, Mangilao) – The Guam Power Authority announced today that the team of lineworkers, engineers, and support personnel who have been assisting the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) with post-Typhoon Sinlaku recovery efforts will return home on Saturday afternoon, ahead of Typhoon Bavi's forecasted arrival this Monday.

While recovery work in Saipan is not yet complete, GPA said bringing the team home before the pending storm is an important step to help ensure their families have time to prepare and that the utility is fully positioned to respond.

"Our crews went where they were needed, and they have worked with skill, compassion, and dedication to help our Saipan neighbors recover," said GPA General Manager, John M. Benavente, P.E. "At the same time, we must take care of each other - especially our families. Bringing our GPA family home to their families before this next typhoon gives them the chance to prepare their own households while also strengthening our ability to protect and serve our island community."

With the crews' return, GPA will have the full complement of experienced personnel available, increasing its readiness to respond to any storm-related damage to the power system, including downed lines, damaged equipment, and service interruptions. The utility has been monitoring the forecast, reviewing response plans, and preparing crews, vehicles, materials, and equipment so it can move quickly and safely as the islandwide power system feels the impacts of Typhoon Bavi.

GPA emphasized that the decision reflects a balance between supporting neighboring islands and ensuring local families and customers are prepared for potential impacts at home. Utility leaders remain in communication with the neighboring community and will discuss the need for continued recovery assistance after the pending typhoon has passed and local damage assessments are completed.

"We are proud of our crews and grateful for the community's understanding," said Benavente. "This is what public service looks like: helping our neighbors when they are in need, and making sure we are ready to stand by our own community when the next storm comes."

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