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April 07, 2021

The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva
Chair, Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD

Dear Chair Grijalva:

Thank you for inviting me to appear before your Committee on March 24, 2021, to present testimony on "*How the Biden Administration's Build Back Better Plan Can Benefit the U.S. Territories.*" Please find my written responses to the additional questions submitted by members of the Committee for inclusion in the final hearing record.

1. Have the EIC program and funding grants helped Guam lower electricity costs and reduce reliance on fossil fuels?
 - The Energizing Insular Communities (EIC) program grants have been awarded to the Guam Power Authority (GPA), the Guam Energy Office (GEO), and the Guam Contractors Association (GCA) Trades Academy.
 - GPA used the grant funding to perform an LED lighting retrofit at various buildings within the campus grounds of George Washington High School in Mangilao, Guam and Southern High School in Santa Rita, Guam. The projects included executing lighting audits, the procurement of lighting equipment and installation of materials, installation of LED lighting and fixtures, and proper disposal of replaced lighting equipment through an EPA-certified lighting vendor. The projects delivered on bringing energy solutions to schools by reaching the goal of applying energy-efficient practices and creating power consumption savings to lower electricity costs.
 - GEO used the grant funding to develop the Guam Tropical Energy Code (GTEC), which was passed by the Guam Legislature and signed into law by myself as Public Law 35-145 on January 22, 2021. GEO partnered with the Guam Building Code Council and Guam Community College to finalize and promote the Guam Tropical Energy Code, which was the culmination of years of collaborative work of local experts, including architects, engineers, construction representatives, developers,

and realtors to develop building energy regulations to complement the modernized building code. Its implementation will result in lower electricity costs by improving efficiency in buildings.

- GCA Trades Academy is using the grant funding for a high-priority energy project to design and construct a full-size commercial solar photovoltaic (PV) panels array and storage facility, otherwise known as a Solar Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Laboratory. The facility is expected to reduce operational costs of the GCA Academy in addition to providing a real-life laboratory to train technicians in PV installation and maintenance. Currently, the GCA Trades Academy's curriculum consists of solar installation and maintenance; however, it lacked a facility to test and train on.
2. How would an investment in water infrastructure under President Biden's Build Back Better plan help Guam to mitigate the problem of "non-revenue water"?
- Leaks account for the largest source of non-revenue water for the Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA). The anticipated investment from President Biden's Build Back Better plan to upgrade and modernize water systems will provide GWA the resources to accelerate leak repairs, rehabilitate and upgrade main lines, install monitoring and measuring devices, including master flow meters and production meters, to accurately measure water production, demand, and pressure in water service areas. These measures will help GWA correctly align water pressure within each service area of the system to avoid over-pressurization, which leads to main breaks, increased line leakage, and more frequent pipe repairs and replacement. With the anticipated investment, GWA will also be able to dedicate additional personnel to its leak detection and repair unit to manage water loss, enhance leak detection efforts, and improve its leak repair performance.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Senseramente,



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