



**ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.**

Executive Order No. 2019-19

**RELATIVE TO CREATING THE CLIMATE CHANGE
RESILIENCY COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, climate change is the defining issue of our time, and we are at a defining moment in the history of our island and our planet; and

WHEREAS, the impact of climate change will pose serious challenges to our infrastructure, our economy, and our natural resource base upon which all life on our island depends; and

WHEREAS, it is clear that our stewardship of Guam's natural resources is our responsibility to the future generations and it is therefore incumbent upon us to act now to protect our people, our community and our way of life; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change include but are not limited to: the increasing intensity and frequency of typhoons and tropical storms, increased danger from brushfires, adverse impacts on our water supplies, erosion of coastline infrastructure throughout our villages, warmer surface temperatures affecting agricultural production, warmer and more acidic seas affecting fisheries and the life of our coral reefs; and

WHEREAS, climate change, and the attendant rise in temperature will have a serious impact on public health, particularly for communities such as ours that reside in our planet's equatorial regions; and

WHEREAS, climate change factors such as increasingly intense weather events, sea-level rise, and environmental degradation and the resulting impacts on our livelihoods, public health, food security, and water availability are expected to generate increased regional migration and population movements across borders; and

WHEREAS, to meet these monumental challenges together will require a coordinated effort by the policy, infrastructure, environmental, health and safety, natural resource management, planning, and academic research institutions of the Government of Guam as well as our federal and private sector partners; and

WHEREAS, we must commit to substantive action on climate change and building resiliency locally at the grassroots level, while also coordinating our efforts regionally, nationally and with the international community; and

WHEREAS, there is a clear urgency to accelerate action on climate change and implement specific measures to build resiliency, a commission should be established to integrate and direct these efforts strategically utilizing a collaborative, adaptive management approach that will broaden the participation of the entire community in confronting this enormous challenge to our island's sustainability; and



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NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES AFLAGUE LEON GUERRERO, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do order as follows:

Creation of the Climate Change Resiliency Commission.

The Climate Change Resiliency Commission is hereby created and Executive Order 2015-08 is revoked. The Climate Change Resiliency Commission is tasked with the following mission, purposes, and operational parameters:

1. **Mission Statement.** It is the objective of the Climate Change Resiliency Commission to develop an integrated strategy to build resiliency against the adverse effects of climate change and to reduce contributing factors such as greenhouse emissions. The Commission shall develop and coordinate an effective, data-based response to climate change focusing on eight key climate change outcomes:
 - a. **Energy** - including renewable energy, conservation, and aviation, surface transportation and maritime fuel sources;
 - b. **Water Resources** - including aquifer protection, surface water sources, water quality, conservation, and drought preparedness;
 - c. **Ocean and Land Resources** - including coral reefs, fisheries, forestry, mangroves, plant and wildlife ecosystems, tourism and recreational water use, and erosion control;
 - d. **Infrastructure and Community Resiliency** - including tropical storm preparedness, rising sea levels, coastal infrastructure and development, storm water management, hardening of important public and private sector facilities and infrastructure, coastal erosion and construction standards;
 - e. **Development Planning** - including land use planning, economic development planning, transportation systems, recycling, and solid waste management;
 - f. **Food Security** - including food distribution systems, agriculture, fishing and aquaculture;
 - g. **Public Health and Safety** - including hazards to human health and safety resulting from rising temperatures, changing disease vectors, and increased risks of brushfires; and
 - h. **Greenhouse Emissions and Carbon Footprint** - including pollution control, green economy alternatives, revegetation for carbon uptake, and expanded use of green infrastructure.



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2. To address these eight key climate change outcomes, the Climate Change Resiliency Commission shall empanel a working group for each of these outcomes. The working groups shall be composed of representatives from the relevant government agencies and invite participation from federal and private sector partners with the Chair of each working group selected on a rotational basis. The working groups shall report their recommendations, findings, and status updates to the Commission on a biannual basis.
3. The Climate Change Resiliency Commission shall also develop appropriate means to broaden public participation, awareness, and education regarding the task of addressing climate change.
4. The Climate Change Resiliency Commission shall be comprised of the following members:
 - a. A Chair and Vice Chair appointed by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*;
 - b. Administrator of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency or his designee;
 - c. Director of Statistics and Plans or his designee; and
 - d. Two (2) public members appointed by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

The Chair of the Legislature's Committee on the Environment is additionally requested to participate as a member of the Climate Change Resiliency Commission.

Signed and Promulgated at *Hagåtña*, Guam, this 8th day of August, 2019.



Lou Leon Guerrero

LOURDES AFLAGUE LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

Joshua Franquez Tenorio

JOSHUA FRANQUEZ TENORIO
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam