

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Super Typhoon Yutu - Polrep/Sitrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IX

**Subject:** SITREP #26  
Super Typhoon Yutu  
Saipan, MP  
Latitude: 15.1778000 Longitude: 145.7509000  
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2/27/2019  
**Thru:**  
**From:**  
**Date:**  
**Reporting Period:**

**Executive Summary**

EPA has, to date, received 3 ESF-10 Mission Assignments (MAs) from FEMA under this incident:

- MA 01 originally issued for \$3 million and is for activation to staff the FEMA Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) and to support FEMA's Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) / Joint Field Office (JFO) in the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI). The original MA 01 has been extended with an expiration date of 4/30/2019; We have received confirmation on the extension for MA01.
  - MA 02 originally issued for \$5 million and is to conduct oil and hazardous materials field operations in CNMI. The original MA 02 has been extended with an expiration date of 6/30/2019 and the ceiling increased to \$8 million a second extension of MA 02 has been approved expiring 3/1/2019 and the ceiling increase to \$15 million; Currently, MA02 has been approved to be extended to 6/30/19 and the ceiling increase to \$23.5 million.
  - MA 03 originally issued for \$1 million and is to provide Drinking Water and Wastewater subject matter expertise in support of territorial, local and utility representatives to restore these services. The original MA 03 has been extended with an expiration date of 4/30/2019. We have received confirmation on extension for MA03.
- To date, the EPA continues to collect white goods, e-waste and hazardous waste at Lower Base and As Gannon collection pads.

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>
<b>Response Authority:</b> Stafford Act	<b>Response Type:</b> Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b> FEMA	<b>Incident Category:</b>
<b>NPL Status:</b> Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>
<b>Mobilization Date:</b> 10/28/2018	<b>Start Date:</b> 10/26/2018
<b>Demob Date:</b>	<b>Completion Date:</b>
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	<b>State Notification:</b>

On October 25, 2018, Super Typhoon Yutu (ST Yutu) passed over the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI) causing significant damage to Saipan and Tinian. ST Yutu was the strongest storm ever to impact US soil, with sustained winds of 180 mph and the eye of the storm passing directly over Tinian. FEMA has issued mission assignments to the EPA for activation, assessment, collection, and disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW); and subject matter expert (SME) support to the CNMI government for restoration of drinking water and wastewater services. EPA has deployed several OSCs and water SMEs to Saipan and Tinian, and contractor resources continue to be deployed as needed.

Similar to EPA's experience responding to Typhoon Soudelor in CNMI and other large storm events, the ESF-10 mission consists of four main areas – collection and disposal of: (1) downed transformers; (2) hazardous waste; (3) white goods/electronic waste and; (4) activities related to restoration of the water/wastewater infrastructure. In addition to residential properties we are also performing work at public schools, other public buildings, and NGO facilities (e.g. private schools).

**1.2 Incident Objectives**

1. Ensure the Health and Safety of all response personnel under this command.
2. Conduct Rapid Needs Assessment to determine scope and magnitude of impacts from hazardous materials and household hazardous waste.
3. Initiate removal of hazardous materials and household hazardous waste.
4. Coordinate activities with local, Territorial, and Federal response partners.
5. Determine strategic plan for the removal, transportation and disposal of downed leaking transformers and impacted soil, hazardous waste, electronic waste and white goods.
6. Support and coordinate with water team personnel regarding assessments of drinking water and waste water resources.

**1.3 Critical Resource Needs**

Need barge to off load waste containers from Tinian and brought to Saipan for manifest for transportation and disposal. EPA is continuing to work on this issue and should be accomplished the week of March 10, 2019.  
Need to acquire 550 1-cubic-yard soil boxes. Once acquired we need transportation of some boxes to Tinian. Plan to have boxes by the week of March 10, 2019.

**1.4 Strategic Considerations**

Logistics are challenging with any response in the western Pacific due to the remote location. Infrastructure on both Saipan and Tinian are heavily compromised and will only support a limited response structure in the near term.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

Personnel on site, are discussed in table located in section 4.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

##### 2.1.2.1 Power Transformer Collection (all dates and times are Chamorro Time)

###### Saipan

EPA began collecting transformers on Saipan on November 3, 2018. Each collected transformer is bagged in a drum liner and taken to the transformer staging area. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) has estimated a total of 801 downed transformers on Saipan,

###### Tinian

EPA began collecting transformers on Tinian on November 9, 2018. Operations on Tinian were interrupted on 2/22 & 2/23 due to the forecast path for Typhoon Wutip. Normal operations resumed on Monday 2/25.

A summary of the number of transformers that have been collected is provided in Section 2.1.3. A much more detailed inventory is being maintained including transformer's pickup coordinates, size, manufacturer, sampling status, etc.

The last day of transformer pick up was expected to be Thursday February, 28, 2019, however, EPA retrieved transformers on March 5 and expect have been notified by CUC to expect delivery of additional transformers on March 8.

##### 2.1.2.2 Collection of HHW / E-waste / White Goods

###### Saipan

EPA opened its two drop-off collection pads (at the Lower Base Transfer Station and the former Kobler Airfield at As Gonno) on November 12, 2018. Right-of-way (ROW) collections continued during this reporting period with the assistance of local government teams. See the metrics table below at Section 2.1.3 for more detail

EPA will stop accepting drop-offs at Lower Base and As Gonno collection pads for white goods, e-waste, and hazardous waste on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

###### Tinian

EPA opened its drop-off collection pad (at the Port) on November 14, 2018. On Tuesday November 20, 2018, recovery efforts were augmented by personnel and equipment from the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Mayor's office, with that assistance continuing during this reporting period.

EPA will stop accepting drop-offs at the Tinian Port collection pad for white goods, e-waste, and hazardous waste on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

##### 2.1.2.3 Schools and Gov't Buildings

In coordination with the CNMI Public School System (PSS), EPA began conducting assessments and collecting materials from public facilities (primarily schools) on Saipan on November 15, 2018. EPA continued to collect materials from schools and public buildings. Assessments have been completed on all schools for removal of damaged air conditioner units, except for Garapan Elementary. Once power is restored to Garapan Elem, the AC assessment will be completed on all school buildings. The sub-contract to address air conditioner removals will be awarded soon. This will be for removal of air conditioner units, capture of freon and transport of units to As Gonno. Government building assessments and removal of white goods, e-waste, and hazardous waste is ongoing.

A table in Section 2.1.3 provides a summary of facilities visited and total number of items collected. A more comprehensive list is being maintained that includes an inventory number and make/model of e-waste collected from public facilities.

##### 2.1.2.4 Drinking Water & Waste Water

###### Yutu Water Task Force Update

###### Summary:

On Friday February 22, 2019 a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), between BECQ and the Bureau of Environmental Health ("BEH"), was signed. The MOU memorializes BECQ and BEH efforts to cooperatively engage in post-Typhoon microbial water quality monitoring at food service establishments (FE), a public health vulnerability on the Islands. The MOU was signed by Administrator, Eli Cabrera, BECQ and Chief Executive Officer, Ester Muna, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation. With the signing of the MOU, all unfinished water and wastewater response efforts by the WTF are completed or transitioned and to BECQ. The remaining ESF-10 Water Task Force member demobilized from Saipan on Saturday, February 22.

###### Public Water Systems

The CUC public water system on Saipan is providing 24 hour a day service for the entire system. Essentially the distribution system is operating at 100%, similar to pre-typhoon efficiency. 91 percent of wells are operating.

###### Wastewater

CUC wastewater collection system on Saipan: 37 or 37 lift stations are operating and all have returned to the power grid. Agingan WWTP may still be on generator power.

### 2.1.3 Progress Metrics

The following table summarizes the progress metrics for EPA ESF-10 activities on CNMI through March 5, 2019:

ESF-10 Progress Metrics					
	Saipan		Tinian		
	This Period	Total	This Period	Total	Combined
Transformers Collected	12	1248	0	181	1429
Transformer Excavation Started <sup>1</sup>	14	258	17	78	336
Transformer Excavations Backfilled	47	47	32	32	79
Facility Assessments	0	70	0	47	117

Number of Items from Facilities	45	28476	0	2314	30790
Number of Items to HHW Staging Areas	11	40149	0	1732	41870
Total Number of Items	56	68625	0	4046	72671
Number of Containers	39	126	0	2	128

Notes:

1. Transformer excavations started does not include continuation of digs from the previous day or re-digs due to results from confirmation sampling. As a result this activity, although conducted during the reporting period, would not be reflected in this table.

2. Hazardous debris collected from Tinian is brought to Saipan and managed, consolidated and containerized with Saipan hazardous debris before being sent to the Port for shipping. As a result, no Tinian container metrics are reflected in this table.

## 2.2 Planning Section

The Region 9 REOC and the ICP are providing Planning Section support to field operations on CNMI.

## 2.3 Logistics Section

Logistics support is currently mobilized to CMNI to provide support to the field operations.

## 2.4 Finance Section

### 2.4.1 Narrative

FEMA was able to extend all three MA's expiration dates and increase the amount for MA02 as shown below. EPA Region 9 is currently operating under the following Mission Assignments received from FEMA:

4404DR-MP- EPA-01 (Activation) in the amount of \$3,000,000 and an expiration date of April 30,2019.

4404DR-MP- EPA-02 (Oil & HazMat operations) in the amount of \$23,500,000 and an expiration date of June 30, 2019.

4404DR-MP- EPA-03 (Water/Wastewater SMEs) in the amount of \$1,000,000 and an expiration date of April 30, 2019.

The table below summarizes incident response costs to date. Updated EPA indirect costs were not available at the time of this report.

### Mission Assignment Summary:

FEMA - Typhoon Yutu 31W										
MISSION ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY										
Report Date	3/5/2019									
Mission Assignments	MA Ceiling	Set Aside for Indirect Costs	Estimated Payroll Cost To-Date	Estimated Travel Cost To-Date	Estimated Contract Obligations To-Date	Estimated Interagency Agreements	Estimated Costs To-Date	Remaining Available MA Ceiling	Current Daily Burn-Rate	Estimate % of MA Utilized
<b>4404DRMPEPA01</b> Support/Activation Typhoon Yutu 10/20/2018 - 4/30/2019 09K0XFD	\$3,000,000	\$317,597	\$197,523	\$134,796	\$1,128,000	\$0	\$1,460,319	\$1,222,085	\$15,680	54.44%
<b>4404DRMPEPA02</b> Cleanup Operations Typhoon Yutu 10/24/2018 - 06/30/2019 09K0XFE	\$23,500,000	\$1,587,982	\$240,348	\$391,580	\$15,150,000	\$335,000	\$16,116,928	\$5,795,090	\$111,786	73.55%
<b>4404DRMPEPA03</b> Water Operations Typhoon Yutu 11/01/2018 - 4/30/2019 09K0XFF	\$1,000,000	\$105,866	\$18,723	\$70,181	\$350,000	\$0	\$438,904	\$455,230	\$1,160	49.09%
<b>TOTAL MAs</b>	<b>\$27,500,000</b>	<b>\$2,011,444</b>	<b>\$456,594</b>	<b>\$596,557</b>	<b>\$16,628,000</b>	<b>\$335,000</b>	<b>\$18,016,151</b>	<b>\$7,472,405</b>	<b>\$128,626</b>	

All contracting strings (START and ERRS) have been funded to date.

Extramural and Intramural cost table information was not received in time for this Sitrep #26 and will be posted on Sitrep #27

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

## 2.5 Other Command Staff

### 2.5.1 Safety Officer

USCG personnel had served as ASOs in the field through Saturday, Jan 11, 2019 and demobilized on Sunday, Jan 12, 2019. USCG demobilization was due to the lapse in appropriations.

### 2.5.2 Liaison Officer

There was no acting LNO on CNMI during this reporting period.

### 2.5.3 Information Officer

Margo Perez-Sullivan is acting as PIO, serving from the Region 9 REOC.

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

EPA field staff are working and coordinating with FEMA, USACE, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., CNMI BECQ, CNMI DEQ, and other local government entities.

## 4. Personnel On Site

### Updated Mission Assignment Allocations

Friday, March 7, 2019

Organization	MA-1 (REOC, plus IC, RIC, LNO/ESF10)	MA-2 (TFLs on Saipan/Tinian)	MA-3 (WET)	Totals
R9 SFD	Dan Meer(remote) Kay Lawrence(remote) Mary Matthews(remote)			3
R9 Water Division	Howard Kahan(remote)		Corine Li (remote) Karl Banks (remote)	3
R9 Enforcement				
R9 OPA	Margo Perez-Sullivan (remote)			1
R9 Air				
ERT	Gerald Ball (SPN)			1
Region 2	Carl Pellegrino (SPN)	Keith Glenn (TIN)		2
Region 4				0
Region 6	Althea Foster (SPN) Eric Delgado (remote)			2
Region 7	Megan Schuette (SPN)			1
Region 8	Luke Chavez (SPN)	Pete Stevenson (TIN) David Romero (SPN) Joyel Dhieux (SPN)		4
Region 10				0
START Contractors		14		14
ERRS Contractors		38		38
SERAS Contractors	1			1
Totals	12 (5 EPA on Saipan)	56 (4 EPA on Saipan)	2 (0 EPA on Saipan)	70

Total Personnel in Saipan:

09 EPA Personnel

53 Contractors

61

## 5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

## 6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

## 7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.