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Governor

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Lt. Governor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
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Eli D. Cabrera
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February 2, 2021

Rebecca Skeele
Pacific Coastal Research & Planning
PMB 140 PO Box 10001
Saipan, MP 96950

RE: Waiver of Water Quality Certification – Lady Carolina Vessel Removal, Saipan Lagoon, Saipan, WQC-2021-001

Dear Ms. Skeele:

We have received your cover letter and Water Quality Certification application for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) on January 12, 2021 for the **Lady Carolina Vessel Removal** project to be undertaken in the waters of Saipan Lagoon, Saipan, CNMI. NMIAC 65-130-615(g) of the CNMI Water Quality Standards authorizes the Administrator of BECQ to waive the requirement for a Section 401 WQC for activities which receive a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) nationwide permit, and which are considered by DEQ to be “minor and non-controversial.”

BECQ has reviewed your application package, including a Water Quality Monitoring Program, and has determined that the proposed removal of the vessel is a “minor and non-controversial” project. On January 28, 2021, USACE issued a Provisional Nationwide Permit Verification under Nationwide Permit No. 22 (NWP-22 for Removal of Vessels). BECQ hereby waives the requirement to obtain a Section 401 WQC for this project as authorized under NMIAC 65-130-615(g) of the CNMI Water Quality Standards. You must notify BECQ of any substantial changes to the project that may require reconsideration of this waiver determination.

If you have any questions regarding this Water Quality Certification waiver, please contact our office at telephone number (670) 664-8531 or email Larry Maurin at larry.maurin@becq.gov.mp.

Sincerely,

Eli D. Cabrera,
Administrator

cc: Albert Williams-USACE