



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

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April 9, 2020

Jay Nunenkamp
NOAA Office of Coast Survey for:
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Douglas Wood
NOAA Office of Coast Survey
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Waiver of Water Quality Certification – Tide Buoys, Tanapag Lagoon, Saipan and Maug, WQC-2020-001

Dear Mr. Nunenkamp:

We have received your cover letter and Water Quality Certification application for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) waiver on March 13, 2020 for the **Tide Buoys** to be installed in the waters of Tanapag Lagoon, Lower Base, Saipan, and at Maug, 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 and has determined that the proposed installation of tide buoys is a “minor and non-controversial” project. USACE has stated that they intend to authorize your project under Nationwide Permit No. 05 (NWP-05 for Scientific Measurement Devices). Therefore, 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 larrymaurin@becq.gov.mp.

Sincerely,

Eli D. Cabrera,
Administrator

cc: Director, DCRM, Director, DFW, Albert Williams-USACE