



I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan  
30th GUAM LEGISLATURE  
Senator vicente "ben" c. pangelinan

**Press Release**

---

**GUAM EPA SEEKS GENERAL FUND AID**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—HAGATÑA, GU—(May 8, 2009)—** During the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's (GEPA) budget hearing yesterday, as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriation, Taxation, Banking, Insurance and Retirement, Senator vicente "ben" pangelinan (D) announced GEPA is seeking help from the general fund in order to meet its payroll expenditures in the next few months. The Administrator of GEPA, Lorilee T. Crisostomo advised the legislative committee that they have *not* received any formal grant award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), which is normally awarded in May. Ms. Crisostomo remarked, "The USEPA has not provided any written approval of Guam's \$3.2M funding request".

Senator pangelinan says, "GEPA is concerned that a budget shortfall will occur and other funding sources for payroll needs have already been tapped. Certain federal funding under the "continuous" year to year type outlay presently make up for the shortfall. If "bridge" funding is not set up soon, there will be an adverse effect on GEPA's day to day operations."

Senator pangelinan advised GEPA to begin working with the Governor and BBMR and return to the Legislature with a viable funding plan to keep GEPA in business.

"This funding shortfall will stifle Guam's ability to engage in any environmental programs or affairs. With the escalation of environmental impact studies underway for the military build-up, the damage from not solving this financial dilemma will be irreversible," added Senator pangelinan.

For further information, please contact the Offices of Senator ben pangelinan at 473-4236 or email at [senbenp@guam.net](mailto:senbenp@guam.net)

324 W. Soledad Ave.  
Suite 101, Hagatna, GU 96910  
Tel: (671) 473-4236 / 473-4237  
Fax: (671) 473-4238  
E-mail: [senbenp@guam.net](mailto:senbenp@guam.net)