CHAPTER 15
GUAM COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE
PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCY

SOURCE: Entire chapter added by P.L. 34-017: 2 (June 8, 2017)

§ 15101. Short Title.
This Chapter shall be known as the “Guam Climate Change
Preparedness and Resiliency Act.”

§ 15102. Creation.
The Guam Council on Climate Change Preparedness and Resiliency
(Guam C³PR) is hereby established for the sole purpose of developing policy
direction and recommendations relative to ensuring that the government of
Guam focuses its vast resources on preparing and planning for, and
mitigating, adverse impacts of climate change on Guam.

§ 15103. Definitions.
As used in this Chapter, unless the context in which they are used
requires a different meaning:

(a) Council means the Guam Council on Climate Change
Preparedness and Resiliency.

(b) Climate change means any significant change in the measures
of climate lasting for an extended period of time such as major changes
in temperature, precipitation, or wind patterns, among other effects, that
occur over several decades or longer.

(c) Global warming means the ongoing rise in global average
temperature near Earth’s surface that is caused mostly by increasing
concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

§ 15104. Membership.

The composition of the members of the Guam C³PR shall be as follows:

(a) the legislative chairperson with oversight over environment, or his/her designee from among the members of I Liheslaturan Guåhan, who shall serve as the chairperson of the C³PR;

(b) the President of the University of Guam, or his or her designee, who shall serve as the vice chairperson of the C³PR;

(c) the legislative chairperson with oversight over appropriations, or his/her designee;

(d) one (1) majority member of I Liheslatura appointed by the Speaker, who may appoint him/herself, or a designee;

(e) one (1) minority member of I Liheslatura appointed by the Speaker;

(f) the chairperson of the Guam Climate Change Task Force designated by I Maga’låhi pursuant to Executive Order No. 2015-08;

(g) one (1) member from the Climate Change Advisory Committee appointed by I Maga’låhi pursuant to Executive Order No. 2015-08;

(h) the Chairperson of the Consolidated Commission on Utilities, or his/her designee;

(i) the Executive Director of the University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability, or his/her designee; and

(j) all other members of I Liheslaturan Guåhan, as ex-officio members.

§ 15105. Duties.

The Guam C³PR shall work collaboratively to create policy recommendations to I Liheslatura relative to how the government of Guam can utilize its departmental and agency resources to:

(a) plan and prepare for and adapt to the impending impacts of climate change on the island and people of Guam;

(b) understand and address the contribution to climate change
and global warming from local activities, to include, but not limited to, government of Guam and local federal activities;

(c) mitigate the contribution of the government of Guam to climate change and global warming;

(d) support I Maga'la’hi’s efforts pursuant to Executive Order No. 2015-08 on his creation of the Guam Climate Change Task Force (Task Force) and the Climate Change Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee);

(e) review the discussions, reports, and recommendations by I Maga'la’hi’s Guam Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and other outputs and reports from the Task Force and Advisory Committee;

(f) recommend policies to promote clean air and clean water for the people of Guam;

(g) recommend policies for the advancement of the use of renewable energy from an individual and governmental perspective toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

(h) recommend policies to address climate-induced migration and displacement;

(i) prioritize and focus policy recommendations on climate change resilience, ecosystem and biodiversity protection, waste management and pollution control, and environmental governance; and

(j) recommend to I Liheislatu policy and funding recommendations to incorporate the needs and focus necessary to ensure climate change impacts to the people and island of Guam are planned and prepared for, addressed and/or mitigated.

§ 15106. Authority.

Government of Guam agencies and departments, including autonomous entities, shall make available to the Guam C³PR in a timely manner such data and technical support as is necessary for it to perform its duties as provided in this Chapter. The Guam C³PR shall be authorized to:

(a) receive, compile, and examine the records and work products of the Task Force and the Advisory Committee created pursuant to Executive Order 2015-08;
(b) request, receive, and examine reports, data, and information from government of Guam departments and agencies, including autonomous agencies, relating to fiscal, environmental, and socioeconomic impacts of climate change on the people and island of Guam in association with the duties set forth in this Chapter;

(c) solicit information and advice from various sources on the technical and scientific impacts of climate change on a local, regional, national, and international level;

(d) meet from time to time pursuant to this Chapter, as determined by the Chairperson, to execute its duties; and

(e) create and establish subcommittees as deemed appropriate to facilitate the work of the Guam C³PR.

§ 15107. Administration.

For administrative purposes, clerical support, and necessary funding, the Guam C³PR shall be accommodated as necessary by I Liheslatura.

§ 15108. Conduct of Meetings, Quorum.

The Guam C³PR shall meet quarterly to discuss and assess the progress of providing recommendations to I Liheslatura. A simple majority of the members of the Guam C³PR shall constitute a quorum to do business, and any action taken by the Guam C³PR shall be by a simple majority of the members present.

§ 15109. Severability.

If any provision of this Chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid, or contrary to law, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Chapter that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Chapter are severable.