## LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO GOVERNOR



JOSHUA R. TENORIO LT. GOVERNOR

## UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

August 15, 2025

Lieutenant General Heath Collins Director Missile Defense Agency 5700 18th St., Building 245 Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-5573

Dear Lt. General Collins:

On behalf of the people of Guam and the Government of Guam, we are transmitting our response provided as an attachment to the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA) Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Enhanced Integrated Air and Missile Defense (EIAMD) system. We value the MDA's and Department of Defense's (DOD) commitment to this vital defense initiative, while ensuring Guam's people are not unduly burdened and our unique environment and cultural heritage are preserved.

Our January 8, 2025, letter on the Draft EIS urged adoption of the One Guam approach, considering the cumulative effects of this action and all other defense plans for Guam. We reiterated these concerns in further comments submitted on February 1, 2025, and during agency meetings on February 19–20, 2025. While these later inputs were not part of the official record, the importance of this initiative and its cumulative impacts require careful attention.

We acknowledge the revisions in the Final EIS but find it does not sufficiently address cumulative impacts on Guam's infrastructure, public services, economy, and natural and cultural resources. This concern is reinforced by two Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports issued after the Draft EIS comment period:

- GAO-25-108187: Identifies major uncertainties in personnel growth, shortages in military housing, and strain on Guam's housing, utilities, and public services.
- GAO-25-107453: Details critical health care deficiencies, including an overburdened Guam Memorial Hospital, limited infrastructure, workforce shortages, and reliance on local providers already at capacity.

These findings must be addressed. We remain committed to partnership and request that the Record of Decision (ROD) for the EIAMD system include the following commitments to safeguard Guam's infrastructure, environment, economy, and public services:

1. Assurance of a separate follow-on EIS for life support facilities and housing associated with the EIAMD system and any other DOD actions. The Government of Guam requests that the MDA commit to an expanded and sustained coordination to ensure the EIS

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accounts for local priorities and concerns and that the expertise of our agencies is fully integrated into the planning and implementation of projects affecting the island.

2. The MDA's inclusion in the Record of Decision to convene the Economic Adjustment Committee (EAC) pursuant to Executive Order 12789 (as amended) in this calendar year 2025 to identify and secure financial and technical assistance for shared infrastructure needs, using data and analyses from infrastructure project packages being developed by the Government of Guam as well as any other relevant, reliable data. Though the EIAMD system was the subject of the limited EIS prepared by the MDA, it is part of the broader military buildup on Guam and, therefore, must directly address cumulative impacts of additional DOD activity or specifically acknowledge them for further National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. The DOD's One Guam commitment promotes coordinated investment in military and civilian infrastructure for mutual benefit. The Government of Guam has requested the convening of an EAC pursuant to the authorities of the Secretary of Defense (SecDef) to address mitigations needed for the impacts of the military buildup on Guam.

Convening the EAC in 2025 will ensure no single agency bears the full cost of cumulative impacts and will avoid duplication of effort and fiscal burdens on our local government. Congress has repeatedly voiced support for an interagency, comprehensive approach to assist communities in Guam affected by the buildup of military activity. Guam must play a meaningful role in the EAC to ensure shared responsibility for necessary mitigations and prevent severe consequences for Guam and the DOD.

- 3. Protect Guam's natural resources by relocating construction to previously disturbed sites, avoiding new quarrying, and complying fully with Guam's Coastal Management Program. The ROD should acknowledge the Bureau of Statistics and Plans' conditional concurrence and commit to all associated mitigation measures.
- 4. **Preserve cultural resources** by adhering to the 2008 Programmatic Agreement (and amendments) and enforcing all mitigation measures for EIAMD projects, including those awarded before the ROD release.
- 5. Seek funding for mitigation through DOD-backed grants, including those authorized under FY25 NDAA Section 2875, to support regulatory agencies and expedite military construction projects in Guam.

Detailed rationales and additional recommendations are provided in the attached document. With the MDA's support for the EAC and the One Guam approach, Guam can host the EIAMD system while safeguarding our health, infrastructure, environment, culture, and economy. I remain

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committed to our partnership to achieve these goals. Should you have questions or require additional information my point of contact is Vera Topasna, Executive Director Community Defense Liaison Office who can be reached via email at <a href="mailto:vera.topasna@guam.gov">vera.topasna@guam.gov</a> or 671-475-4735.

Sincerely,

Senseramente,

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

Maga'hågan Guåhan Governor of Guam Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan Lieutenant Governor of Guam

Attachment:

Government of Guam Comments to EIAMD Final EIS