



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eloy S. Inos
Governor

Jude U. Hofschneider
Lieutenant Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2014-02

DECLARATION OF STATE OF SIGNIFICANT EMERGENCY ON ROTA

WHEREAS, the weather conditions have made it dangerous for barges to enter the Rota's West Harbor to deliver essential goods and commodities; and

WHEREAS, the last shipment of goods arrived on Rota on November 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, scheduled shipments have been repeatedly postponed because of the dangerous water conditions in West Harbor; and

WHEREAS, the stores on Rota are nearly out of stock of essential goods and commodities; and

WHEREAS, although some goods have been brought into Rota via air transportation, not all essential goods and commodities, such as gas, can be transported via air; and

WHEREAS, the shortage of goods and commodities has led to a sharp increase in prices (for example, \$58 for a sack of rice), leaving the people of Rota to choose between purchasing food or paying their utility bills; and

WHEREAS, the next shipment of goods is scheduled for February 17, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the CNMI Homeland Security issued a high-surf advisory warning that is effective through February 19, 2014;

WHEREAS, the predicted water conditions will again impede the shipping company's scheduled delivery, and the people of Rota will be left to wait another month for a shipment that may again be disrupted; and

WHEREAS, the shortage of food and other essential goods on Rota has created a calamity in the Commonwealth that must be addressed; and

WHEREAS, section 10 of Article III of the Commonwealth Constitution and Public Law § 18-04 provide that the Governor has the authority and duty to take necessary steps to respond to impending disasters;

NOW THEREFORE, I, ELOY S. INOS, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by Article III, § 10 of the Commonwealth Constitution and PL 18-4, do hereby declare a State of Significant Emergency for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands due to the shortage of food and other goods on Rota and the danger that such a condition poses to public health and safety.

It is hereby **ORDERED** that:

This Declaration of a State of Significant Emergency shall take effect immediately and all memoranda, directives, and other measures taken in accordance with this Declaration shall remain in effect for thirty (30) days from the date of this Executive Order unless I, prior to the end of the thirty (30) day period, terminate the declaration of a state of significant emergency.

Further, under the authority of this Declaration, I hereby invoke my authority to take all necessary measures and use all available resources to address the emergency on Rota.

Done this 14TH day of February 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eloy S. Inos', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

ELOY S. INOS
Governor