

## Jerrick Hernandez < jhernandez@guamopa.com>

## OPA-PA-23-004, In the Matter of the Appeal of Dooik Eng, Co., Ltd.

Camarine Hopkins <camarine@camachotaitano.law>

Wed, Nov 15, 2023 at 4:53 PM

To: Jerrick Hernandez < jhernandez@guamopa.com>

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Hafa Adai Jerrick,

Camacho & Taitano LLP through Shannon Taitano, Esq., hereby submits this email filing regarding the above subject procurement appeal. This email consists of one (1) filing, as follows:

• Protest of Substantial Interest Determination (3 pages)

Please let me know if you have any questions. Enjoy the rest of your day.

Thank you, Camarine

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Camarine Ann S. Hopkins Office Manager



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Protest of Substantial Interest Determination.pdf

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## THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPEAL OF	) Docket No. OPA-PA-23-004 )
DOOIK ENG CO., LTD.,	) PROTEST OF SUBSTANTIAL ) INTEREST DETERMINATION
Appellant.	) ) )

Dooik Eng. Co., Ltd. (Dooik) sympathizes with the ongoing load shedding Guam's people have endured while Guam Power Authority (GPA) continues to restore generation capacity. Dooik fully supports a quick resolution to this matter and is not interested in unnecessarily delaying this procurement. However, GPA has not met its burden of proving that a substantial interest exists to allow this procurement to proceed before this protest has been resolved.

Pursuant to 5 GCA § 5425(g), Dooik respectfully submits the following reasons to resolve the protest without lifting the stay<sup>1</sup>.

1. GPA has not met all the legal requirements to have the stay lifted.

GPA cannot proceed with the award of a contract prior to final resolution of this protest absent a written concurrence of the General Manager (GM) and the Attorney

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Dooik is submitting this under your statute, but reserves the right to submit or supplement an opposition.

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General (AG) or his designee that award of the contract without delay is necessary to protect the substantial interests of Guam. 5 GCA § 5425. GPA concedes that it had not obtained the Attorney General's written substantial interest concurrence when it filed its request.

Furthermore, it's unclear if GPA has followed the legal procedure set out under Guam law. Substantial interest is determined after consultation with and written concurrence of the GM and AG. 5 GCA §5425(g)(1). In this instance, the GM has submitted a written determination of substantial interest and served a copy of the Motion for Confirmation of Substantial Interest to the AG for his concurrence. GPA has not demonstrated whether there has been a consultation because it would have resulted in the written concurrence of both officials. This has been done in past procurements such as the government of Guam health insurance determination of substantial interest to proceed with the procurement pending a protest. Should GPA present a written determination of substantial interest concurred by the GM and the AG, then the Public Auditor may consider the request to confirm the substantial interest. Dooik would be unfairly prejudiced if the stay is lifted at this stage of the procurement process.

2. <u>Dooik would be unfairly prejudiced if the stay is lifted at this stage of the procurement process.</u>

This appeal will cause minimal delay. The hearing on the merits of this matter is set in approximately one month. GPA has not demonstrated how the delay of an additional month or two warrants permitting it to proceed with the procurement without delay.

Dooik should not be prejudiced by GPA's delay in promptly reissuing the performance management contract (PMC) procurement. In 2020, GPA determined there was a need to procure a PMC contract and issued a multi-step IFB. GPA canceled the procurement even though the procurement committee recommended the contract be awarded to Dooik. GPA then waited for several years before re-initiating the procurement. Events that now give rise to this emergency could have been avoided if GPA had been diligent with issuing the procurement.

Dooik is merely asking for the opportunity to move forward with the procurement process by reevaluating its technical proposal. GPA's decision to deny Dooik this opportunity appears arbitrary considering Dooik was eligible for the same procurement in 2020. GPA's position that the contractor may have to supply the personnel is not a significant change in the scope to now deem Dooik ineligible.

For these reasons, Dooik submits this protest to the substantial interest determination.

Dated: November 15, 2023.

**CAMACHO & TAITANO LLP** Attorneys for Appellant

By: Shew Wei fre

**SHANNON TAITANO**