

## LOCAL

Friday, March 18, 2011

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### New LED street lights brighten up NMI roads

The CNMI's roads just got brighter, thanks to a project being funded through stimulus funds provided under the State Energy Program of the U.S. Department of Energy.

The project will replace existing street lamps on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota with Light Emitting Diode, or LED, lamps. A total of 1,225 LED lamps will be installed with 919 lamps going to the island of Saipan, 68 to Tinian, and 238 to Rota. The initial shipment of 995 LED lamps arrived on Saipan on March 9, while the remaining LED lamps are slated to arrive on March 18.

The project has been segmented into five phases that will cover the following roads: Beach Road, Chalan Tun Thomas P. Sablan Road, Koblerville Road, Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road, Isla Drive, Kagman Road, Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Dandan Road, Chalan Tun Herman Pan Road, and Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road.

Installation on Saipan began on March 10 on Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road and will continue from the south end of the island working north until project completion.

Installation also began on the island of Tinian on March 15; Rota will begin installation on March 28.

“Our office is very pleased to see this project get underway,” said CNMI ARRA IT/communications manager Fred Camacho. “We have worked tirelessly in collaboration with the Department of Public Works’ Energy Division, the CNMI Executive Branch, and our project manager, RR Group, to get this project off the ground. We look forward to having all of the CNMI enjoy brighter safer roads.”

The new LED lamps are more energy-efficient and have a longer life span that will require less labor to maintain and will keep operating costs down. The new lamps are also much brighter than the previous ones, increasing visibility for CNMI drivers and lessening the chance for accidents.

“Our office wishes to thank all of the agencies involved in getting this project off the ground. We all put in a lot of hard work and it is very gratifying to see that the hard work will pay off and that the CNMI can now reap the benefits of these new LED lamps,” said Division of Energy director Thelma Inos. **(Office of the Governor)**

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