

# Gil Birnbrich named deputy AG

(Press Release) — CNMI Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas named Gilbert Birnbrich as the deputy attorney general effective Dec. 30, 2013. The post has been vacant since then-Deputy

AG Viola Alepuyo resigned in April 2013. Birnbrich served as the chief of the civil division for the last two years.

“It is with great confidence that I announce the delegation of

deputy attorney general to Gilbert Birnbrich,” said the AG. “He demonstrates professionalism and is a diligent individual. I can attest to his capabilities and his commitment to serve the people

of the CNMI.”

As a deputy AG, Birnbrich’s duties and responsibilities will be that of administering the day to day operations of the department, in addition to acting as attorney general in the absence of the attorney general.

“I am honored and humbled to be appointed deputy AG. I know that it is a big responsibility that not just for the office but for the entire CNMI. I promise the AG and the people of the commonwealth that I will work hard to

fulfill my duties and justify the confidence the AG has of my abilities” Birnbrich said.

Birnbrich, a native of Columbus, Ohio received his undergraduate degree from Ohio State University and law degree from the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio. He arrived in the CNMI in 2003 and served as a law clerk for Judge Alex Munson at the federal District Court. In 2006, Birnbrich entered private practice and, in Feb. 2010, joined the AG’s office.



Gilbert Birnbrich

## Guam and NMI US Attorney’s Office collects \$575K in civil and criminal actions

HAGÁTÑA (Press Release)

— U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco announced today that the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands collected \$575,199.11 in criminal and civil actions in fiscal year 2013. Of this amount, \$542,674.11 was collected in criminal actions and \$32,525 was collected in civil actions.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder announced on Thursday that the Justice Department collected \$8.1 billion in civil and criminal actions in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2013.

The more than \$8 billion in collections in FY 2013 represents nearly three times the appropriated \$2.76 billion budget for the 94 U.S. Attorney’s offices and the main litigating divisions in that same period.

“The department’s enforcement actions help to not only ensure justice is served, but also deliver a valuable return to the American people,” said Attorney General Holder.

“It is critical that Congress provide the resources necessary to match the department’s mounting caseload. As these figures show, supporting our federal prosecutors is a sound investment.”

“During this time of economic and fiscal challenges, these collections are more important than ever,” said U.S. Attorney Limtiaco. “The U.S. Attorney’s Office is dedicated to protecting the public and recovering funds for victims of federal crime and for the federal treasury. We will continue to hold accountable those who seek to profit from

their illegal activities.”

The U.S. Attorney’s Offices, along with the department’s litigating divisions, are responsible for enforcing and collecting civil and criminal debts owed to the U.S. and criminal debts owed to federal crime victims. The law requires defendants to pay restitution to victims of certain federal crimes who have suffered a physical injury or financial loss. While restitution is paid to the victim, criminal fines and felony assessments are paid to the department’s Crime Victims’ Fund, which distributes the funds to state victim compensation and victim assistance programs.

The largest civil collections were from affirmative civil enforcement cases, in which the United States recovered government money lost to fraud or other misconduct or collected fines imposed on individuals and/or corporations for violations of federal health, safety, civil rights or environmental laws. In addition, civil debts were collected on behalf of several federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Housing

and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, Internal Revenue Service, Small Business Administration and Department of Education.

Additionally, the U.S. Attorney’s office in Guam, working with partner agencies and divisions, collected \$36,220.00 in asset forfeiture actions in FY 2013. Forfeited assets deposited into the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund are used to restore funds to crime victims and for a variety of law enforcement purposes.



Alicia A.G. Limtiaco



**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
**Office of the Executive Director**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**CUC-RFP- 14-001**  
**SAIPAN GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified firms to collect and evaluate scientific data to better determine the potential for development of geothermal energy on Saipan. Available information suggests that the geothermal gradient beneath Saipan may be sufficiently steep to develop geothermal energy to generate electricity.

The technical complexity of the Project and the need to collect and evaluate extensive data will require the successful Proposer to provide the expertise from various professional disciplines, conduct exploratory drilling, and provide equipment and materials necessary to complete the Scope of Work.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one RFP package set. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by February 10, 2014 to be considered.

A pre-proposal Conference will be held on January 27, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST), at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC RFP 14-001 Saipan Geothermal Resource Assessment” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 24, 2014.** Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 10, 2014 to Manny B. Sablan, Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org. Responses to Questions will be provided no later than February 18, 2014.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER  
Executive Director,  
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN  
Manager, Procurement & Supply  
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
**Office of the Executive Director**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**CUC-RFP- 14-009**  
**INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN & ENERGY SUPPLY ANALYSIS**

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to develop CUC’s Integrated Resource Plan, which is a long-range plan that will select the most cost-effective mix of energy resources, both supply-side and demand-side, following a review of commercially available base load and renewable energy alternatives. This project will also include the design and development of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for total system power supply, the design and implementation of financial models to be used for comparing both energy supply and renewable power integration options, along with Independent Evaluator (IE) services to develop and administer third-party, technical and financial review of received energy supply proposals, for the purposes of advising the CUC during the energy supply proposal selection process.

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A pre-proposal Conference will be held on January 28, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST), at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC RFP 14-009, Integrated Resource Plan & Energy Supply Analysis” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 26, 2014.** Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

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/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER  
Executive Director,  
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN  
Manager, Procurement & Supply  
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

# Obama honors Sharon's dedication to Israel, Biden to go to funeral

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — President Obama on Saturday lauded the late Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's dedication to the Jewish state and reaffirmed an "unshakable commitment" to Israel's security as Vice President Joe Biden prepared to attend the funeral.

Obama called Sharon — who died at age 85 on Saturday and had been in a coma for the entirety of Obama's presidency — "a leader who dedicated his life to the state of Israel." He said he sent his "deepest condolences" to Sharon's family.

The United States has long been a critical ally of Israel. But Obama has had a strained relationship with the current Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, on issues including Israel's settlement policies — championed by Sharon — and the current U.S. diplomatic drive to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons capability.

At the same time, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is leading a renewed effort to broker an agreement on a "two-state solution" in which Israel would exist peacefully alongside a new Palestinian state created in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, lands seized by Israel in the 1967 war.

"We reaffirm our unshakable commitment to Israel's security and our appreciation for the enduring friendship between our two countries and our two peoples," Obama said in a statement released by the White House.

"We continue to strive for lasting peace and security for the people of Israel, including through our commitment to the goal of two states living side-by-side in peace and security," the Democratic president added.

Obama will not attend the memorial service for Sharon, with Biden instead leading the U.S. delegation. Sharon had been in a coma since suffering a stroke at the height of his power as prime minister in January 2006. Obama took office in 2009.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Kerry also will not attend the funeral "due to previously scheduled meetings in Paris focused on the situation in Syria and the Middle East peace process."

Kerry issued a more personal statement concerning Sharon, referring to him by his nickname, Arik.

"During his years in politics,



Maj. Gen. Ariel Sharon, right, views a map together with Maj. Gen. Haim Bar-Lev in the Sinai desert, during the Middle East war on Oct. 10, 1973. AP

it is no secret that there were times the United States had differences with him. But whether you agreed or disagreed with his positions — and Arik was always crystal clear about where he stood — you admired the man who was determined to ensure the security and survival of the Jewish State," Kerry said in a statement.

"I will never forget meeting with this big bear of a man when he became prime minister as he sought to bend the course of history toward peace, even as it meant testing the patience of his own longtime supporters and the limits of his own, lifelong convictions in the process," Kerry said of the burly Sharon.

Obama's remarks about Sharon also were restrained compared with a statement by former President George W. Bush, who formed a close alliance with Sharon during his time in the White

House and offered full-throated praise.

"I was honored to know this man of courage and call him friend. He was a warrior for the ages and a partner in seek-

ing security for the Holy Land and a better, peaceful Middle East. Laura and I send our heartfelt condolences to Ariel's family and all who will dearly miss him," Bush said.

Sharon was a controversial figure who was despised by many over a massacre of hundreds of Palestinian civilians in refugee camps by Israeli-allied Christian Lebanese militiamen, for championing Jewish settlement building on captured land and other issues.

As prime minister from 2001 to 2006, he served during a Palestinian uprising that erupted

in 2000 and presided over an Israeli military crackdown after peace talks collapsed. But he also broke sharply with his former allies in Israel's settlement movement when he

withdrew Israeli soldiers and settlers from Gaza in 2005 in a pursuit of dialogue with the Palestinians.

Former President Bill Clinton and his wife, former Secretary

of State Hillary Clinton, said in a statement that "it was an honor to work with him, argue with him, and watch him always trying to find the right path for his beloved country."

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Request for Proposals

RFP-14-GOV-043

### GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude S. Hofschneider are soliciting proposals in compliance with NMIAC § 970-30.3-210 (Competitive Sealed Proposals) for the provision of sealed proposals from qualified insurance companies and firms to provide group life insurance coverage in accordance with the scope of benefits identified in the Request for Proposals. The Request for Proposals will be available after December 17, 2013 from the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund, Capitol Hill Saipan, MP 96950 (670) 664-8080.

Proposals will be evaluated based on four criteria: (1) experience of firm in the provision of group life insurance (25%); (2) financial capacity of firm and its reinsurance partners (25%); (3) proposed coverage (25%); and (4) costs (25%). The Commonwealth is seeking a firm with significant experience in the provision of group life insurance coverage with financial background to provide adequate assurances of coverage capacity and low cost for the requested benefits. These three evaluation factors are summarized in the table below.

Evaluation Factor	
Experience	25%
Financial Capacity	25%
Proposed coverage	25%
Costs	25%

Proposals must be submitted by January 18, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. to:

Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund  
P.O. Box 501247 GK  
Saipan, MP 96950-1247

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any nonmaterial imperfections in a proposal if doing so is in the best interest of the Fund. All proposals shall become the property of the NMI Retirement Fund.



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-14-008

#### SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FUEL FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of approximately 18,000,000 US gallons annually of Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel (Grade No. 2-D S15) for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel shall be uniform, first quality, ultra low sulfur type, which shall conform in all aspects to the requirements, as set forth in "Standard Specification for Diesel Fuel Oil" ASTM D975-11 or the latest revision.

The RFP package may be obtained upon completion of registration and receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective Proposers must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on January 16, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-14-008, Supply & Delivery of Fuel for Power Generation", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than February 6, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST). Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The Proposal Price shall remain the same throughout the term of the contract except for the variation in the MOPS and government taxes, duties and fees. Note that the CNMI Government at present exempts the fuel supplier from paying liquid fuel tax (currently, \$0.15/gallon).

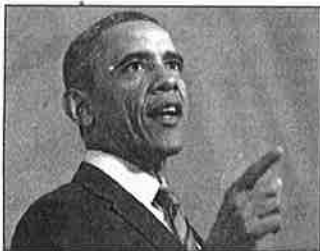
Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than January 21, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer, via email charles.warren@cucgov.org and Walton Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email walton59@yahoo.com.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER  
Executive Director



Barack Obama

# Obama begins a renewed political push for immigration reform in 2014

WASHINGTON (AP) — His agenda tattered by last year's confrontations and missteps, President Obama begins 2014 clinging to the hope of winning a lasting legislative achievement: an overhaul of

immigration laws.

It will require a deft and careful use of his powers, combining a public campaign in the face of protests over his administration's record number of deportations with

quiet, behind-the-scenes outreach to Congress, something seen by lawmakers and immigration advocates as a major White House weakness.

In recent weeks, both Obama and

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, have sent signals that raised expectations among overhaul supporters that 2014 could still yield the first comprehensive change in immigration laws in nearly three decades. If successful, it would fulfill an Obama promise many Latinos say is overdue.

The Senate last year passed a bipartisan bill that was comprehensive in scope that addressed border security, provided enforcement measures and offered a path to citizenship for 11 million immigrants in the United States illegally. House leaders, pressed by tea party conservatives, demanded a more limited and piecemeal approach.

Indicating a possible opening, Obama has stopped insisting

the House pass the Senate version. And two days after calling Boehner to wish him happy birthday in November, Obama made it clear he could accept the House's bill-by-bill approach, with one caveat: In the end, "we're going to have to do it all."

Boehner, for his part, in December hired Rebecca Tallent, a former top aide to Sen. John McCain and most recently the director of a bipartisan think tank's immigration task force. Even opponents of a broad immigration overhaul saw Tallent's selection as a sign legislation had suddenly become more likely. Boehner also fed speculation he would ignore tea party pressure, bluntly brushing back their criticism of December's modest budget agreement.

"The question is what are the core things that Republicans can't move away from, what are the core things that Democrats can't walk away from," said Republican pollster David Winston, who regularly consults with the House leadership. "You may have preferences and then you may have core elements. That's part of the process of going back and forth."

If successful, an immigration compromise could restore some luster to Obama's agenda, tarnished in 2013 by failures on gun legislation, bipartisan pushback on his efforts to take military action

against Syria and the disastrous enrollment start for his health care law.

Obama has repeatedly argued that final immigration legislation must contain a path toward citizenship for immigrants who are in the United States illegally. Opponents argue citizenship rewards lawbreakers, and many Republicans are loath to support any measure granting citizenship no matter how difficult and lengthy that path may be.

But some advocates of reform are beginning to rally around an idea to grant immigrants legal status in the U.S. and leave the question of citizenship out of the legislation. In other words, they can work, but not vote.

"I don't think this is a good idea because citizenship is important, but I don't think it is a big deal breaker either," Rep. Luis Guterrez, D-III., a leading congressional advocate for overhauling U.S. immigration law, said in a

speech last month. "Right now we have to stop the deportations that are breaking up families. And if we do not get citizenship this year, we will be back next year and the year after that."

While strong majorities of Hispanics continue to back a pathway to citizenship, a Pew Research Center poll last month found that being able to live and work in the U.S. legally without the threat of deportation was more important to Latinos by 55 percent to 35 percent.

"Is the sticking point going to be we have to have immediate voting privileges for those who came here illegally?," Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, a Republican who voted against the Senate immigration bill, said Sunday on ABC. "If the Democrats are willing to come halfway, I think we can pass something, some meaningful reform that would help the 11 million who are here."

That the immigration argument is now over legalization versus citizenship is remarkable enough. A 2005 Republican House immi-



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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

### Office of the Executive Director

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

##### CUC-RFP- 14-001

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#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 12, 2014 to Manny B. Sablan, Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org). Responses to Questions will be provided no later than February 18, 2014.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER  
Executive Director,  
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN  
Manager, Procurement & Supply  
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

# Iran, big power nuclear talks hit snag on centrifuge research

**UNITED NATIONS (Reuters)**— Negotiations between Iran and six world powers on implementing a landmark November deal to freeze parts of Tehran's nuclear program in exchange for easing some sanctions have run into problems over advanced centrifuge research, diplomats said.

The dispute over centrifuges highlighted the huge challenges facing Iran and the six powers in negotiating the precise terms of the November 24 interim agreement. If they succeed, they plan to start talks on a long-term deal to resolve a more than decade-long dispute over Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Among the issues to be resolved in political discussions due to begin in Geneva later this week is that of research and development of a new model of advanced nuclear centrifuge that Iran says it has installed, diplomats said on condition of anonymity.

Centrifuges are machines that

purify uranium for use as fuel in atomic power plants or, if purified to a high level, weapons.

"This issue (centrifuges) was among the main factors in stopping the previous technical discussions on December 19-21," a Western diplomat told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

Other Western diplomats confirmed that centrifuges remained a "sticking point" in the talks with Iran but noted that last month's discussions were understandably adjourned ahead of the December holidays — not because of the centrifuge issue.

"As part of the (November 24) agreement, Iran is permitted to engage in R&D (research and development), but that is tempered by the fact that it is prohibited to

install new centrifuges, except as required by wear and tear," the first diplomat said.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said the United States was keen to see the interim deal implemented, though she declined to predict the outcome of the latest talks.

She said U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman will be in Geneva on Thursday to discuss the issue with her European Union counterpart, Helga Schmid, and Iran's negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi.

In December, Al-Monitor, a news website focusing on the Middle East, cited a former U.S. official as saying Iran had notified the six powers it wanted to install additional "IR-2m" centrifuges,

modified versions of second-generation machines. The website also said the former U.S. official suggested this may have played a role in the dispute.

But diplomats now say Iran has told the six countries it wants to press ahead with the development of even more advanced centrifuges than the IR-2m.

Iran is already testing several different new, more efficient centrifuge models at its Natanz

research facility, according to the U.N. nuclear watchdog. Iran's statements last month that it was testing a new advanced centrifuge have not made clear whether it is an entirely new model or a modified version of an installed one.

Western diplomats said they were uncomfortable with the idea of Iran pressing ahead with the development of more advanced centrifuges. But Iran says centrifuge research is crucial.



## Obama...

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gration bill, instead of legalizing immigrants, would have made them felons if they were not authorized to be in the U.S.

"That's seismic shift in the debate," said Randy Johnson, senior vice president of the pro-overhaul U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Obama, whose support among Latinos has dropped from nearly 80 percent to 55 percent, has been under increasing pressure to use his executive powers to limit deportations. Obama's Homeland Security Department has deported 1.9 million people during the president's nearly five years in office, prompting protests ranging from a 22-day fast by activists in Washington to

outbursts at Obama public events.


"As long as we have a failure to achieve immigration reform, combined with the record-breaking level of deportations, there will continue to be great dissatisfaction in the Latino community with the president," said Janet Murguia, the president and CEO of the National Council of La Raza, a leading Latino advocacy group.

A House Republican retreat later this month could help GOP leaders devise a strategy. Some Republicans and Democrats say Boehner could wait until after the filing deadlines for 2014 primary elections, thus protecting some incumbents from tea party or other conservative challenges. That would mean no meaningful votes until after April.

The White House's own strategy has not impressed before.

Immigration advocates and Democratic lawmakers say the White House last year mistakenly assumed that the bipartisan Senate bill would create enough momentum to bulldoze its way through the House.

"They completely misunderstood the impact that the Senate bill would have," said Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California, a key Democrat on immigration who sits on the House Judiciary Committee. "To think that that would magically transform the House of Representatives was never in the cards."



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
 Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
 P.O. Box 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950-1055  
 Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962  
 Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF PTZ CAMERAS AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**  
 PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-006-14

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement, installation & commissioning of PTZ cameras and security and surveillance systems at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Proposal Package and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning January 10, 2014 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement, Installation & Commissioning of PTZ cameras and Surveillance System, Project No. CPA-RFP-006-14". One original and four copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, February 7, 2014, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All Proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m., January 23, 2014 at the Port of Saipan Conference Room. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only those vendors present at the pre-proposal conference will be allowed to submit proposals. A site visit may be conducted immediately after the conference or may be requested by making appointments with the CPA Seaport Manager to ensure that proposers submitting a proposal are aware of the general area where the cameras are to be installed.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals, or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejections or cancellations; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA.

CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
 Acting Executive Director



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
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**PROCUREMENT, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF TWO (2) ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL AIR CONDITIONING CONDENSING UNITS**  
 PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-005-14

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites submission of proposals from qualified individuals or firms to furnish, deliver, and install two (2) Energy Efficient Commercial Air Conditioning Condensing Units at the Port of Saipan, Seaport Building.

The proposal package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning December 13, 2013.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement, Delivery of Two (2) Energy Efficient Commercial Air Conditioning Condensing Units, Project no. CPA-RFP-005-14."

One (1) original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, January 10, 2014, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile transmission will not be accepted. Any proposals received after the proposal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of CPA. The CPA further reserves that right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This Request for Proposals shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama  
 Executive Director



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
 State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
 P.O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



**INVITATION FOR BID**  
**PSS IFB 14-013**

**"iPad Air & Accessories for SPED"**

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase of **"50 iPad Air & Accessories for Special Education Program (SPED)."**

Specifications are available beginning January 10, 2014 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office, located on the 1st floor of the PSS Central Office, Susupe, Saipan, MP. Fax requests may be sent to (670) 664-3791.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Ms. Rita B. Dela Cruz, Acting Procurement Officer via fax to (670) 664-3791 or e-mail to the following address: rita.delacruz@cnmpss.org no later than February 05, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Response to questions will be on February 10, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 14-013"** containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submit to PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **February 13, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.**, at which time, bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D. /s/ Rita B. Dela Cruz  
 Commissioner of Education Acting Procurement & Supply Officer