



AMERICAN SAMOA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. Box PPA

Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

LOLO M. MOLIGA
Governor

LEMANU P. MAUGA
Lt. Governor

AMEKO PATO
Director

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Information Release Authorization Form
Thursday, June 13, 2013

- Newspapers (Advertisement/Public Notice/Press Release)
- Radio Stations
- Televisions

Attached is an Information Release issued by our office (AS-EPA). We would like to ask your assistance in making this information available to the public immediately, via your broadcasts or news publications. For additional information, kindly contact the AS-EPA Director, Ameko Pato or Deputy Director, Faamao Asalele, or Tumau Lokeni, Environmental Awareness & Education Program Manager at 633-2304.

Fa'afetai lava.

- Governor's Office, ASG Weekly
- Director, Department of Public Information (KVZK-TV)
- Samoa News
- Samoa Post
- KHJ FM 93.1 Radio Station
- WVUV FM 103.1 Radio Station
- KSBS FM 92.1 Radio Station
- KNWJ FM 104.7 Radio Station

Title/Heading:

"AS-EPA FIRST 100 DAYS REPORT"

Approved by: _____

Ameko Pato, Director
American Samoa – EPA

Date: _____

6/13/13



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April 23, 2013

Honorable Lolo M. Moliga, Governor
Governor of American Samoa
Office of the Governor
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Re: FIRST 100 DAYS REPORT

Dear Honorable Governor:

This report is a compilation of cost containment initiatives and significant accomplishments performed in the first 100 days of the administration.

Cost containment measures are as follow:

INTERNAL PAPER LESS SYSTEM: Developed an e-filing system within our data base network system. This will eliminate the need for manual filing and the need to purchase additional paper, folders, and bulky file cabinets.

FREE LONG DISTANCE CALL: We are in the process of implementing a free long distance plan by taking advantage of our increased internet bandwidth. This free long distance phone system uses applications from google aps that is linked to our network data base system and will serve as our primary long distance phone system and our regular ASTCA phone system will serve as our secondary long distance phone system. We recently completed a trial run with our free long distance system, and as a result, we will launch our new free long distance phone system immediately. Access to both primary and secondary long distance plans are limited to upper management and middle management. Although we don't have any statistical numbers to report at this time, we are anticipating more than 50% reduction in our long distance monthly bill once this system is established. This will significantly reduce our ASTCA monthly phone bill and demonstrate compliance with our cost containment policy.

CELL PHONE USAGE: After a thorough review of our cell phone usage and distribution, we have deactivated two of our cell phones. Implemented a stringent monitoring program to monitor all cell phone usage on a monthly basis. Cell phones are only used during working hours and are to be turned in before close of business every day with the exception of the Director and our 24 hour emergency response personnel. New internal policy and guidelines have been implemented to hold everyone accountable for misuse and abuse of government cell phones. This initiative has significantly reduced our ASTCA monthly cell phone bill.

FUEL CONSUMPTION: After a thorough review of our vehicle fleet, we have recently surveyed two of our oldest (more than 10 years old) vehicles and requested that the vehicles be transferred to the Department of Health as they are in dire need of vehicles. Further, we have reduced our 24 hour emergency response capability to one vehicle instead of two. As of today, other than the Director's vehicle, only one vehicle (EPA 15) has been issued a 24 hour pass to meet our 24 hour emergency response responsibilities.

Additionally, we have implemented in an internal policy to monitor vehicle usage by tracking mileage use on each vehicle on a weekly basis. This will develop a baseline for each vehicle usage in order to determine average mileage usage on a weekly and monthly basis. By establishing average mileage usage on a weekly and monthly basis, it will determine fuel consumption on a monthly basis. Also, this will offer calculated numbers for projection and planning purposes on next fuel purchase.

In addition, we have recently purchased two Ford Fusion Hybrid vehicles to solidify our commitment to reducing our dependency on fossil fuel and minimizing our overall fuel consumption and to demonstrate our commitment to cost containment measures. The newly acquired vehicles are rated at 47 MPG (Miles Per Gallon), and are the first of many hybrid vehicles that AS-EPA will be transitioning into the upcoming years. AS-EPA and US EPA's overall plan is to replace our existing vehicle fleet with hybrid vehicles in the next 5 to 10 years. This initiative will start with our remaining vehicle fleet that are more than ten years old.

GREEN BUILDING: In our overall efforts to capitalize on the renewable energy technology and green feature designs on this new state of the art Green Building, we are proud to share with you the significant reduction in our electrical bill since this new building was occupied in October 2012. Since moving into the building AS-EPA's total net kWh (kilowatt hour) usage from ASPA is 1,350 kWh. While we have used power from ASPA we have put nearly 8 MWh (megawatt hours) back into the grid resulting in this low net total of 1,350 kWh. This means that our total liability to ASPA for power since moving into the building is approximately \$567. This is a significant reduction considering that the average kWh usage at our old office was at an alarming rate of 3,000 kWh per month. That is a significant reduction of more than 1200% on average, resulting in a substantial cost savings of nearly \$7000 over the past 6 months.

In addition, we have conducted occupancy awareness training with the staff to be more energy efficient and to change occupancy behavior. Occupancy awareness and behavior change consist of turning off lights, unplugging appliances and devices, turning off AC if they are to leave the office for an extended period of time or before close of business every day. Although these training seem minor, it has been proven in many studies conducted by

the Green Building Council, that these minor occupancy behavior can significantly reduce our electrical usage and our monthly bill. Our ultimate goal is to achieve NET ZERO, which is the ultimate designation for any green building. NET ZERO means that the building produces more energy through renewable power generation resulting in zero dependency on fossil fuel, and generates zero carbon emission annually.

GREEN TEAM: We have established a Green Team to spearhead all of our green building initiatives. These initiatives consist of enforcing occupancy rules, recycling program (plastic, paper, aluminum cans, and bottles), paperless system, training, and e-filing system. This team will work closely with our Energy Marshall that is tasked to monitor our energy load.

The following are a few significant accomplishments in the first 100 days:

RECERTIFICATION OF AS-EPA LAB: This is a significant accomplishment and milestone as it is the only USEPA certified laboratory in American Samoa. During the recertification, 4 of our lab analysts were certified in the process.

FAS LAB CERTIFICATION PROGRAM: AS-EPA participated in a humanitarian mission to conduct lab training and certification of islands in the Freely Associated States (FAS).

INTERNAL PERSONNEL CHANGES: Minor personnel changes were made in order to address ongoing administrative issues that carried over from the previous administration. These personnel changes resulted into significant shift and change in staff's morale.

In a period of federal cuts, AS-EPA worked collaboratively with USEPA to secure and lock in USEPA funding for ASPA's infrastructure improvement projects. AS-EPA is proud to report that USEPA funding for the following ASPA projects have been secured:

- **East Side Village (ESV) Wastewater Collection System Project: USEPA Funding 22,660,000**
- **Utulei and Fogagogo Wastewater Treatment Plants Improvement Project: USEPA Funding 14,297,400**
- **Malaimi Valley & Fagaima Wastewater Collection System Extension Project: USEPA Funding 2,284,375**
- **Upgrades to Well Head Water Disinfection Facilities Project: USEPA Funding 616,875**
- **Drinking Water Recovery Program (Leak Detection) Project: USEPA Funding 482,999**
- **Malaeimi Valley Wells Manifolding Project: USEPA Funding 1,719,994**
- **Fagaima and Tafuna Wells Manifolding Project: USEPA Funding 2,799,993**
- **Afono Wellfield Water Transfer Project: USEPA Funding 1,925,884**
- **Well Abandonment and Rehabilitation Project: USEPA Funding 235,644**
- **Significant Water Loss Distribution System Project: USEPA Funding 2,893,750**
- **Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) Upgrade Project: USEPA Funding 69,611**

It is anticipated that AS-EPA will continue to make strides in its cost containment initiatives and is more than happy to share any success stories through our bi-weekly reports.

If you have any questions or wish to acquire additional information on any of the aforementioned cost containment initiatives and/or accomplishment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pato', written over a horizontal line.

Ameko Pato, Director