

David M. Apatang
Governor



Dennis James C. Mendiola
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2026-020

SUBJECT: Termination of Price Freeze as to Saipan and Tinian and Continuation of Freeze as to Rota.

AUTHORITY: NMI Const. art. III, § 10 provides that the “governor may declare a state of emergency in the case of invasion, civil disturbance, natural disaster, or other calamity as provided by law, and may mobilize available resources to respond to that emergency”; and 4 CMC § 5142 provides that “[u]pon the Governor’s declaring that the Commonwealth is in typhoon condition two, or tropical storm condition one, or in case of the Governor’s declaration of a state of significant emergency or a state of major disaster, pursuant to his or her constitutional power to do so, the Governor may declare a price freeze, which shall last until the Governor rescinds the price freeze, or the declaration of emergency or disaster is terminated.”

WHEREAS, substantial progress has been made in restoring critical infrastructure, reopening businesses, and resuming economic activity on the islands of Saipan and Tinian in the months since the landfall of Super Typhoon Sinlaku on April 13–15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, with volatile commodity prices shaped by geopolitical conflict and the need of businesses to recover costs as normal economic activity begins to resume, enterprises on the islands of Saipan and Tinian which were spared the worst of Super Typhoon Bavi must transition to the operation of market forces; and

WHEREAS, Super Typhoon Bavi devastated the island of Rota with its landfall on July 6, 2026, many residents remain displaced with widespread devastation to homes and property, provision of essential goods remains precarious, and rebuilding of power and water infrastructure is still proceeding;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVID M. APATANG, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, hereby order as follows:

The price freeze declared by Executive Order 2026-005 and authorized pursuant to the declaration of a state of significant emergency for Typhoon Sinlaku by Executive Order 2026-004 is hereby rescinded as to the islands of Saipan and Tinian.

The price freeze declared by Executive Order 2026-005 remains in effect as to the island of Rota, consistent with the declaration of a state of significant emergency for Typhoon Bavi by Executive Order 2026-012.

The price freeze as declared by Executive Order 2026-005 will remain in effect as to Rota until rescinded or until the termination of a state of significant emergency for Typhoon Bavi as to Rota.

It is so Ordered,

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED on this 23rd of September 2026.



David M. Apatang
Governor