**The Effectiveness of Donated Generators on Saipan after Typhoon Soudelor**

Michelle Lizama

Northern Marianas College

**Author Note**

Michelle P. Lizama, School of Liberal Arts, Northern Marianas College

Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to Michelle Lizama

School of Liberal Arts, Northern Marianas College, Saipan, MP 96950

Contact: michelle.lizama@my.marianas.edu

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**Abstract**

The research project was conducted by Northern Marianas College students as part of an assignment on The Effectiveness of Generators after Typhoon Soudelor. The research project gathers data on whether or not the generators that were distributed by the government around the island for water pumps were effective for water restoration in people’s homes. The information is collected by observations, interviews or questionnaires, and surveys. Observations were on the generators around the island used for water pumps, interviews or questionnaires were conducted on Ace Hardware store workers, and surveys mainly on NMC students of the ages 18 and above. With the overall data collected, it will result in a research paper.

**Introduction**

There are those that aided from the generators for the water pumps to restore water in their homes and those that did not receive the aid. Families that were aided did not stress and suffer as much as those that did not get the benefit of water restoration. Those that had running water in their homes did not worry about having to collect water at water stations for a daily basis. For those that did have to collect water at water stations had to line up in long lines for their turn to receive an essential amount of water for themselves and their families. Although majority of the island has restored power and water, there are still homes that have no restoration of some sort. There are still families that are still struggling today and still suffering. This research essay provides a gathering of data on the effectiveness of water restoration with the aid of generators throughout the island of Saipan.

**Research Question**

1. Primary Question: How effective was the aid of generators after Typhoon Soudelor?
2. What was the most difficult part of being without water restoration?
3. What strategies were used to collect water for families?

**Methodology**

The information collected for The Effectiveness of Generators after Typhoon Soudelor was conducted by observations, interviews or questionnaires, and surveys. Surveys were recorded by distribution to 35 Northern Marianas College students, 19 males and 16 females all of the ages 18 and above. All students answered surveys with feedback. Questionnaires were conducted on Ace Hardware workers based on the shipments of generators they received and if they were sold after Typhoon Soudelor. Lastly, observations were taken around the islands, north and south on drive by to see if generators on water pumps are still being used for homes. With all data collected, majority of the surveys were shortly answered, yet most very helpful to prepare for a research paper.

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**Findings & Analysis:**

The government had provided the island with generators for water pumps to restore water restoration in homes throughout the island of Saipan; they had also aided the island with the water collecting stations. Although there are a few families that are still suffering from no power or water restoration today, results prove that generators on water pumps were effectively restored water in homes for most people. Twenty eight out of thirty-five NMC (Northern Marianas College) students found generators after Typhoon Soudelor effective; most purchased generators and were utilized for power and water. Majority of the surveyed students responded with the aid of generators for water pumps helpful for the island. Based on observations, a few families still do not have full water restoration in their homes and generators used for water pumps are still being utilized for aid.

**Conclusion**

Saipan had suffered from a devastating natural disaster, Typhoon Soudelor that affected many lives. With the help of the government, they had provided generators for water pumps for many homes, but for those that did not benefit from the aid had suffered more than those who did. Those that did not aid from water restoration had to find other ways to provide their selves and their families with water. Some families had to wait at long lines at water collecting stations that allowed every family a necessary amount of water, others had collected water from the beach, and several even lined up for gallons of drinking water at water companies. It is very difficult not having water to shower, flush toilets, and wash dishes for a daily basis. Water restoration is the most important at this devastating time of the islands recovery for power and water restoration. This essay compares and contrasts the experiences of Northern Marianas College students and their families that coped and are still coping with water restoration in their homes and the effectiveness with the aid of generators provided to the island by the government.

Appendix A

Survey: NMC Student Age 23

Question: Did you find the use of generators on water pumps affective in restoring water in your home? If not, what was the most difficult during no water restoration?

Answer: No, water pumps did not reach water restoration in my home. The most difficult would be having limited water for daily hygiene and cleaning or flushing toilets.

Appendix B

Survey: NMC Student Age 19

Question: Did you find the use of generators on water pumps affective in restoring water in your home? If not, what was the most difficult during no water restoration?

Answer: Yes it was helpful and restored water in my home in about 3 weeks after the typhoon had hit the island.

Appendix C

Survey: NMC Student 36

Question: Did you find the use of generators on water pumps affective in restoring water in your home? If not, what was the most difficult during no water restoration?

Answer: No, still no power or water restoration in my home till today. It is a hassle to always buy gallons of water at water companies and collect city water for everyday use.

AppendixD

Interview/Questionnaires: Kim, Ace Hardware Employee

Question: Were generators available for people to purchase after Typhoon Soudelor? If so, how long did it take for shipments to arrive, and on an estimate how much of generator stock were sold?

Answer: “Receiving shipments of generators did not take too long, generators were available after Typhoon Soudelor, and majority of generators were sold.”

Interview/Questionnaires: Loyce, Ace Hardware Employee

“There were generators available after Typhoon Soudelor”