

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PUERTO RICO PLANNING BOARD
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

April 8, 2011

CZ-2011-0921-021
Joint Permit Application Number 1059
Federal Consistency Certificate with the
Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program

RESOLUTION

TO NOTIFY PARTIES ABOUT THE EMISSION OF A FEDERAL CONSISTENCY
CERTIFICATE ACCORDING TO COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT FEDERAL
CONSISTENCY REGULATIONS AT
15 CFR Part 930

The Puerto Rico Power Electric Authority (PREPA) submitted an application in order to obtain a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the infrastructure project named as Via Verde. The project consists in the installation of a 24 inches diameter steel natural gas pipeline of approximately 92 miles long. The pipeline corridor includes a 150 feet wide right of way that traverses the island of Puerto Rico from the Eco-Eléctrica Natural Gas Terminal, located at the Municipality of Peñuelas to the Cambalache Thermoelectric Plant in the Municipality of Arecibo and toward east coast to Palo Seco Power Plant in the municipalities of Toa Baja and San Juan. The total project area is about 1,672 acres and the pipeline will traverse 235 rivers and wetlands, covering 369 acres of jurisdictional waters of the United States. The purpose of the project is to provide an alternate fuel source to three existing power generating facilities located in Peñuelas, Arecibo and Toa Baja and lower energy production costs.

The proposed gas pipeline corridor will pass through the municipalities of Peñuelas, Adjuntas, Utuado, Arecibo, Barceloneta, Manati, Vega Alta, Vega Baja, Dorado, Toa Baja, Cataño, Bayamón and Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

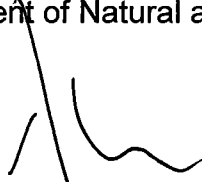
Copy of the application and submitted documents were send to Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, the Environmental Quality Board, the Puerto Rican Culture Institute, the State Historic Preservation Office, the Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Public notices were also issued and disclosed among affected municipalities, Non-Governmental Groups and landowners according to the address list provided by PREPA.

After the evaluation of the application, submitted documents and received comments the Puerto Rico Planning Board concluded the following:

- The proposed Via Verde infrastructure project complied with the required state endorsements according to the Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program (PRCZMP). During the Evaluation Period the EQB informed in letter dated march 24, 2011 informed that the project complied with Article 4B(3) of the P.R. Environmental Policy Law. The DNER, in letter dated February 24, 2011 informed that according their evaluation the proposed infrastructure project is Consistent with the PRCZMP.
- Concerns presented by FWS, community groups and other stakeholders are being addressed by PREPA. These environmental aspects will be adequately addressed within the USACE permit process and the final design of the project

Consider the above mentioned facts, the Puerto Rico Planning Board, in their meeting of April 8, 2011, determined that the proposed infrastructure project is **consistent with the Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program**.

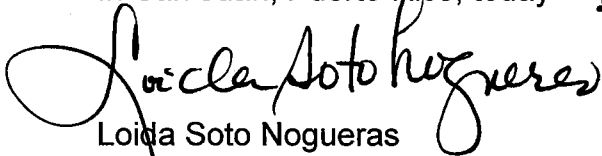
The following parties shall be notified: Eng. Francisco E. López, P.R. Electric Power Authority; **Mr. Sindulfo Castillo**, Chief, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; **Mr. Larry Evans**, BCPeabody Consulting, PA; **Mr. Ernesto Díaz**, Director, Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program, Department of Natural and Environmental Resources.



Rubén Flores Marzán
Chairman

Certify: That this Resolution is copy of the agreement adopted by Puerto Rico Planning Board (PRPB) in its meeting of April 8, 2011. I expedite and notify this copy to the parties under my sign and official Puerto Rico Planning Board stamp, for general use and knowledge.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today **15 ABR 2011**



Loida Soto Noguerras
Secretary

