



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Development

451 Seventh Street, SW

Washington, DC 20410

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Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5

Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)

Project Information

Project Name: PR-ESP-00327 Colmado El Resuelve (Luis Acevedo Jimenez)

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Grant Recipient: Department of Economic Development and Commerce (DEDC)

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Lares, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty, Environmental Specialist

Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com

787-783-0290

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers:

Aldo A. Rivera Vazquez, PE - Director, Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

Angel G. López Guzmán - Deputy Director, Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

Maria T. Torres-Bregón - Permits and Environmental Compliance Manager

Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist: Sally Z. Acevedo-Cosme, Limary Vélez

Marrero, Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres, Mónica Machuca Rios, Janette I. Cambrelen, Santa Ramírez Lebrón, Abdul Feliciano Plaza, Pedro de León Rodriguez, Javier Mercado Barrera, Priscilla Toro Rivera

Consultant (if applicable): Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Direct Comments to: Puerto Rico Department of Housing at

comentariosambiental@vivienda.pr.gov

Project Location: Calle Emilio Castro Num 4, Lares PR, 00669

Coordinates: 18.292940, -66.890803

Parcel cadastral: 158-058-046-33-000

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.21 & 58.32]:

The subject property is a commercial building located in Lares, PR serving as a grocery store. The project is located at Calle Emilio Castro Num 4, Lares PR, 00669, Latitude: 18.292940, Longitude: -66.890803. A Site Map is included in Figure 1 in Appendix 1, illustrating the location of the building. The area is characterized by being urban, near family residences and commercial buildings. The nearest road with access to the building is PR-111.

A field visit was conducted on March 26, 2025, to document existing conditions of the project site. The Field Visit Report is included in Appendix 2. The project scope includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries) on a lateral wall, with all improvements limited to the roof, floors, and walls of the existing structure. The proposed system includes 32 Solar Panels (400 Watts) and two Tesla PowerWall batteries, part of the equipment will be privately financed by the applicant. The system will be interconnected with the LUMA Energy distribution network under the Net Metering Program. The proposed project Scope of Work quote is included in Appendix 3.

Level of Environmental Review Determination:

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5: 58.35(a) [3(iii)]. In the case of non-residential structures, including commercial, industrial, and public buildings: (A) The facilities and improvements are in place and will not be changed in size or capacity by more than 20 percent; and (B) The activity does not involve a change in land use, such as from non-residential to residential, commercial to industrial, or from one industrial use to another.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR): Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2) (Energy Support Incentive Program 2.0 Set-Aside)	Energy Support Incentive Program 2.0 Set-Aside - \$30,000,000 set aside from ER2 Total – \$1,316,406,180.00.

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$27,000.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$45,000.00

Privately funded by the applicant: \$18,000.00

Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The project site is not located within 2,500 ft of a civil airport or 15,000 ft of a military airport. The site is located 87,913 feet from the nearest civil airport, Eugenio María de Hostos and 307,932 feet from the nearest military airport, Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan. This topic is in compliance with HUD's Airport Hazard Regulations without further evaluation.</p> <p>Refer to Airports Map Zone, Figure 2 included in Appendix 1.</p>
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 70,737 feet southwest of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-79. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact on a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.</p> <p>Refer to Coastal Barrier Resource System Map, Figure 3 included in Appendix 1.</p>
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>As per FEMA's FIRM Panel 72000C0570H, effective April 19, 2005, this project is located within Zone X. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. The project is in compliance with the Flood Insurance section without further evaluation.</p>

		Refer to Flood Insurance Rate Map, Figure 4 included in Appendix 1.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.5		
Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The project is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, Toa Baja). The structure located in the Municipio of Lares. This project includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries). The project activities do not create new sources of air pollution. As described, the project does not involve new construction or a change in land use to facilitate the development of public, commercial, or industrial facilities, nor does it involve five or more dwelling units. Accordingly, under HUD's environmental review procedures, the project is presumed to result in emissions below de minimis levels and is considered compliant with the Clean Air Act (CAA).</p> <p>The project is located 76,270 feet from the nearest Non-attainment area. The proposed project activities will not create new air emission generator sources. Furthermore, under Puerto Rico's air quality regulations, the project meets the exemption criteria outlined in Rule 206 of the RCAP (1995), Regulation No. 5300, and is therefore in compliance with the Clean Air Act and all applicable federal, state, and local air quality standards. The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation.</p> <p>See attached published list of Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for each country by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 4.</p> <p>Refer to Clean Air Map, Figure 5 included in Appendix 1.</p>

<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 66,166 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.</p> <p>Refer to CZMA map, Figure 6 included in Appendix 1.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries) on a lateral wall. The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field inspection on March 26, 2025, to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris, potential contamination regarding lead-based paint or asbestos, etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards.</p> <p>In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAssist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project site was located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation. The desktop review found two sites within 3,000 feet of the project area. The sites are registered as RCRA facilities with no violation. Therefore, the sites do not present a risk to the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PUERTO RICO IND DEVELOPMENT CO, REGISTRY ID: 110012259732, EMILIO CASTRO URBAN – RCRAINFO –

		<p>The site is inactive. No violations identified. – 77 feet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEXACO PUERTO RICO INC, REGISTRY ID: 110007820064, PR-111 KM 34.3 PUEBLO WARD – RCRAINFO – The site is inactive. No violations identified. – 1,142 feet <p>Refer to the ECHO Reports included in Appendix 5.</p> <p>The lead-based paint review is subject to the Lead Safe Housing Rule (LSHR) under 24 CFR Part 35, the EPA's Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule under 40 CFR Part 745 Subpart E, and Puerto Rico DNER Regulation 9098. A lead-based paint inspection and/or risk assessment is not required if the building was constructed after January 1, 1978. The subject property was built in circa 1960; therefore, it is required to perform a screen for lead-based paint prior to starting the work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The work must be performed by RRP Certified Renovation Firm. At least one RRP-Certified Renovator must be at the job site or available when work is being done. Workers at the job site must receive on-the-job training from the Certified Renovator. Lead Safe Work Practices are recommended if paint disturbance is "di minimis". Lead Safe Work Practices are required if paint disturbance exceeds "di minimis" but not EPA's minor repair and maintenance threshold. Property Risk Assessment and abatement of all lead-based paint hazards are required prior to commencing work if paint disturbance is significant. <p>The proposed activities are minor in scope and involve limited surface penetration (e.g.,</p>
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drilling to mount equipment). They do not include demolition or renovation activities that would disturb significant quantities of ACM. The systems being installed have been consistently evaluated as non-invasive and do not trigger permitting thresholds under NESHAP.

While minimal dust or particulate emissions may result from surface drilling, these emissions are expected to remain well below de minimis thresholds and do not result in the release of regulated asbestos fibers. Additionally, the program does not include new construction or land conversion.

Under Puerto Rico's air quality regulations, these activities qualify for permitting exemptions under Rule 206 of the Regulation for the Control of Atmospheric Pollution (RCAP), Regulation No. 5300, confirming compliance with the Clean Air Act and all applicable federal, state, and local air quality standards.

The Energy Support Incentive Program 2.0 – Set-Aside Program, funded through CDBG-DR, does not involve construction activities that would require a building or use permit. According to Planning Board Joint Regulation 9473, approved on June 16, 2023, Section 9.4.1.3.a.1 states: "Photovoltaic solar installations that are installed on the roofs of structures and whose capacity is up to one megawatt do not require a construction or use permit. Nor will a building permit be required for systems up to one hundred kilowatts above ground."

As such, the proposed activities do not trigger construction permit requirements and do not involve regulated asbestos disturbance. No renovation or demolition activities that would exceed ACM thresholds are included in the program.

On January 11, 2024, HUD issued Notice CPD-23-103, Departmental Policy for Addressing Radon in the Environmental Review Process, which requires the

Responsible Entity (RE) to consider radon as part of the site contamination analysis for projects subject to HUD's contamination regulations at 24 CFR 58.5(i), unless the project qualifies for an exemption. According to the notice, radon must be addressed in environmental reviews for projects involving structures that are or will be occupied for at least four (4) hours per day. The eligible business activities under the Energy Support Incentive Program 2.0 – Set-Aside Program are expected to meet this occupancy threshold and thus would typically require radon consideration as part of the environmental review. However, there is currently no large-scale dataset available for Puerto Rico that meets HUD's standards for determining radon hazard levels. On March 6, 2024, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) formally consulted with HUD to document the absence of reliable scientific data and to explain that radon testing in Puerto Rico would be impractical and infeasible. This determination was based on prior research efforts that lacked adequate laboratory support, making it difficult to obtain accurate or consistent results.

Additionally, there is a limited number of trained radon testing professionals on the island, which presents another barrier to compliance with HUD's testing requirements. In response, on May 15, 2024, HUD requested that PRDOH consult with relevant agencies—including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), United States Geological Survey (USGS), University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus, and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER)—to further document the lack of scientific data, as outlined in Section III.C. of Notice CPD-23-103. On August 20, 2024, PRDOH conducted formal consultations with the above-mentioned agencies and submitted information requests to state and federal entities. Responses were received from the

		<p>following: United States Geological Survey (USGS); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Puerto Rico Department of Health; United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).</p> <p>All responding agencies confirmed the absence of reliable, large-scale radon data for Puerto Rico and acknowledged the technical and logistical challenges associated with radon testing on the island. Based on these consultations and findings, radon testing is deemed infeasible and impracticable for the Energy Support Incentive Program 2.0 – Set-Aside Program. Therefore, no further consideration or evaluation of radon is required as part of the environmental review, in accordance with HUD Notice CPD-23-103. Supporting documentation is provided in Appendix 5. In conclusion, after reviewing the program in the context of the site contamination analysis requirements under 24 CFR 58.5(i), PRDOH has determined that radon testing is impractical and infeasible, and no further evaluation is required for radon.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances requirements.</p> <p>Refer to Contamination and Toxic Substances, Figure 7 included in Appendix 1.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>After reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC), the Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>) could be found in the project area. The scope of work includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries) on a lateral wall. Since the work to be carried out is limited to the roof and wall of the structure, it does not involve any type of ground disturbance or removal of vegetation. The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of</p>

		<p>the IpaC, the Caribbean Dkey in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit on March 26, 2025, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have "No Effect" (NE) for this species.</p> <p>The nearest Critical Habitat is 40,999 feet from the project site. USFWS "No Effect" Memo was submitted on May 8, 2025, and the Agency response was received on May 15, 2025. The project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline. https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf</p> <p>Refer to Threatened and Endangered Species Map, Figure 8 included in Appendix 1.</p> <p>See USFWS "No Effect" Memo and supporting documentation in Appendix 6.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries) on a lateral wall and will not result in increased densities, conversion to residential uses, or making a vacant building habitable.</p> <p>The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility, nor will the project increase residential densities or result in land conversion. The project is in compliance with HUD Explosive and Flammable Hazards.</p>

<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries). This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The project is in an area designated as Not prime farmland. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.</p> <p>Refer to Farmland Protection Map, Figure 9 included in Appendix 1.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan, Trujillo Alto and Rio Grande. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Lares. Therefore, PFIRM information is not available for the area and not considered in the review.</p> <p>As per the FEMA Advisory Based Flood Elevation Maps (ABFE), the project site is located within Zone X (area of minimal flood hazard). As the project site is not located within the FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Areas for the 1 percent (100-year) or 0.2 percent (500-year) flood zones, it is not classified as being within the floodplain. The project is in compliance with the HUD Floodplain Management Regulations and the Executive Order 11988.</p> <p>Refer to Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map, Figure 10 and Preliminary FIRM Figure 11, included in Appendix 1.</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building's roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries). The State Historic Preservation Office reviewed the proposed project location in accordance with 54 U.S.C. 306108 (commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act) and 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties.</p>

		<p>Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 7). The property was built circa 1960. In response from PR SHPO dated September 16, 2025, SHPO concurred with a finding of “<i>No Historic Properties Affected</i>” within the project’s Area of Potential Effects. The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 12). Therefore, this activity is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.</p> <p>Refer to Historic Preservation Map, Figure 12 included in Appendix 1.</p>
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>This project includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system on the existing commercial building’s roof and appurtenant storage system (batteries). The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site is urban developed and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. This topic is in compliance with Noise abatement and Control without further evaluation.</p> <p>Refer to Noise Abatement and Control Map, Figure 13 included in Appendix 1.</p>
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>According to the USEPA’s Source Water Protection, Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. Therefore, the proposed project site is not located within a sole source aquifer, nor will it directly or indirectly impact one. Therefore, the project is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 C.F.R. Part 149 without further evaluation.</p> <p>Refer to Sole Source Aquifer Map, Figure 14 included in Appendix 1.</p>
Wetlands Protection	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The project does not involve new constructions and/or activities that may have a direct or indirect adverse impact on any on</p>

Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5		site wetlands, there are no wetlands within or in the vicinity of the project area. The closest wetland is located 1,342 feet from the Project Site. The project does not have the potential to impact wetlands. The project is in compliance with E.O. 11990. Refer to Wetlands Map, Figure 15 included in Appendix 1.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within proximity of the NWSRS river. The project is located 381,902 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River (De la Mina River). The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Wild and Scenic Rivers Map, Figure 16 included in Appendix 1.

Field Inspection: March 26, 2025, by Egon Gonzalez and Patricia Carmenatty.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there a requirement for further consultation with any agency. There is no environmental review topics addressed that result in the need for formal compliance steps or the requirement for mitigation.

Mitigation Measures and Conditions

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	The subject property was built circa 1960; therefore, it is required to perform a screen for lead-based paint prior to starting the work. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work must be performed by RRP Certified Renovation Firm. • At least one RRP-Certified Renovator must be at the job site or available when work is being done. • Workers at the job site must receive on-the-job training from the Certified Renovator.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Safe Work Practices are recommended if paint disturbance is "di minimis".
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Safe Work Practices are required if paint disturbance exceeds "di minimis" but not EPA's minor repair and maintenance threshold.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Risk Assessment and abatement of all lead-based paint hazards is required prior to commencing work if paint disturbance is significant.

Determination:

- This categorically excluded activity/project converts to Exempt, per 58.34(a)(12) because there are no circumstances which require compliance with any of the federal laws and authorities cited at §58.5. **Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part** for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR
- This categorically excluded activity/project cannot convert to Exempt because there are circumstances which require compliance with one or more federal laws and authorities cited at §58.5. Complete consultation/mitigation protocol requirements, **publish NOI/RROF and obtain “Authority to Use Grant Funds”** (HUD 7015.16) per Section 58.70 and 58.71 before committing or drawing down any funds; OR
- This project is now subject to a full Environmental Assessment according to Part 58 Subpart E due to extraordinary circumstances (Section 58.35(c)).

Preparer Signature: 

Date: 10/24/2025

Name/Title/Organization: Patricia Carmenatty Santiago
Environmental Specialist,
Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:

Date: 10/30/2025

Name/Title: Abdul X. Feliciano Plaza, Permits and Environmental Specialist

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

Appendices

List of Appendices

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1	Figures
2	Field Visit Report
3	Scope of Work Quote
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5	RADON - Memorandum to File and Supporting documentation and ECHO Reports
6	USFWS "No Effect" Memo and supporting documentation
7	Section 106 Consultation Package

Appendix 1: Figures

List of Figures

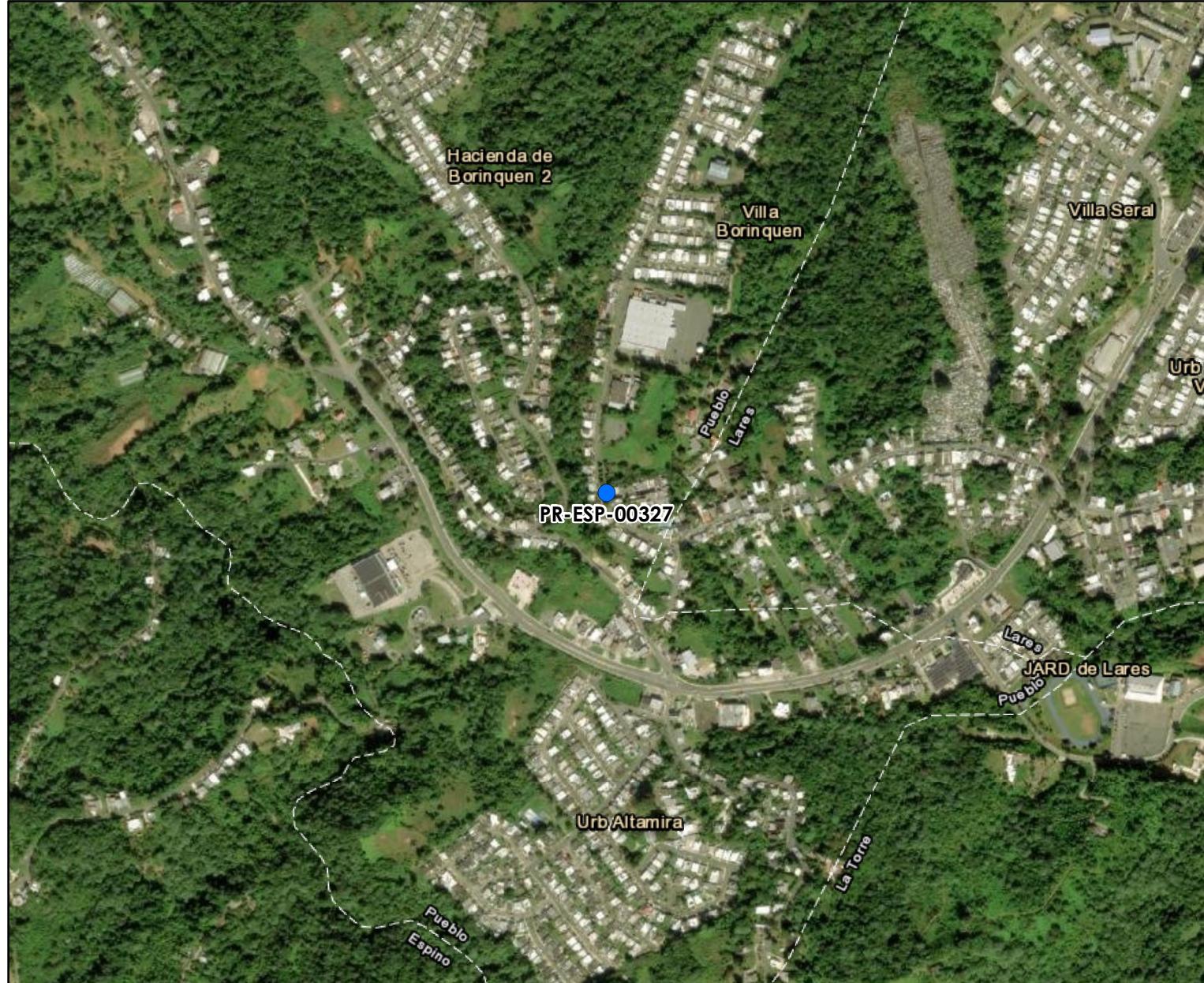
Figure Number	Appendix 1 Description
1	Location: Aerial Map
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3	Coastal Barrier Resource System Map
4	Flood Insurance Rate Map
5	Clean Air Map
6	Coastal Zone Management Map
7	Toxic and Hazardous Facilities Map
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11	Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map
12	Historic Preservation Map
13	Noise Abatement and Control Map
14	Sole Source Aquifer
15	Wetlands Map
16	Wild and Scenic Rivers Map

Figure 1

Location: Aerial Map

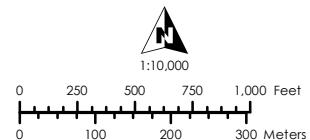
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327



Service Layer Credits:

Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

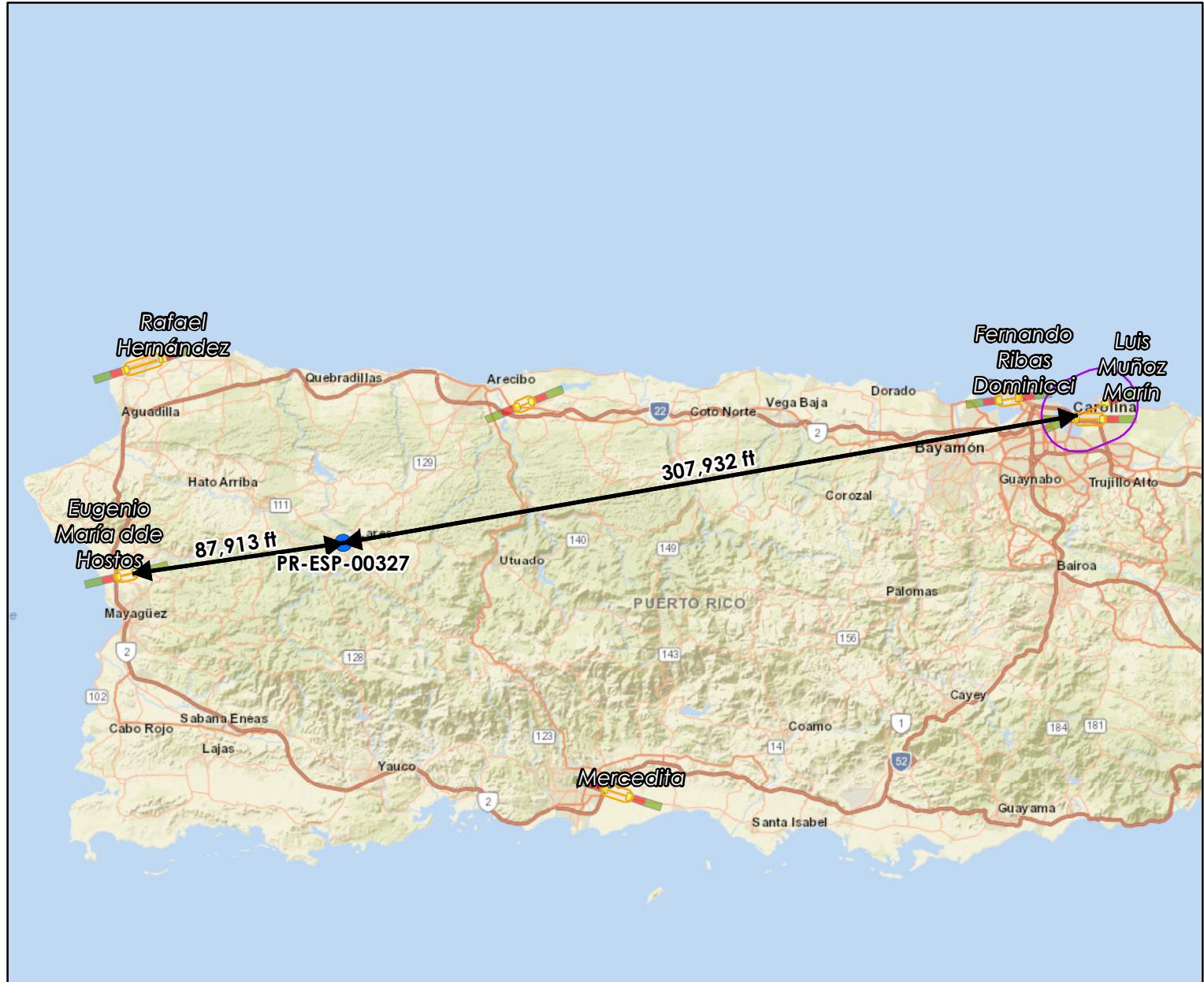
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdrpc/>

Figure 2

Airports Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- SJU Military Runaway
- SJU Civil Runaway
- Militaryl Airport Buffer (15,000 Fts.)
- Civil Airport Buffer (2,500 Fts.)

Accident Potential Zone

- | | |
|--------------|---------|
| ■ APZ 1 | ■ APZ 2 |
| ■ Clear Zone | |



1:750,000

0 25,000 50,000 75,000 Feet
0 5,000 10,000 15,000 20,000 25,000 Meters



Service Layer Credits:

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

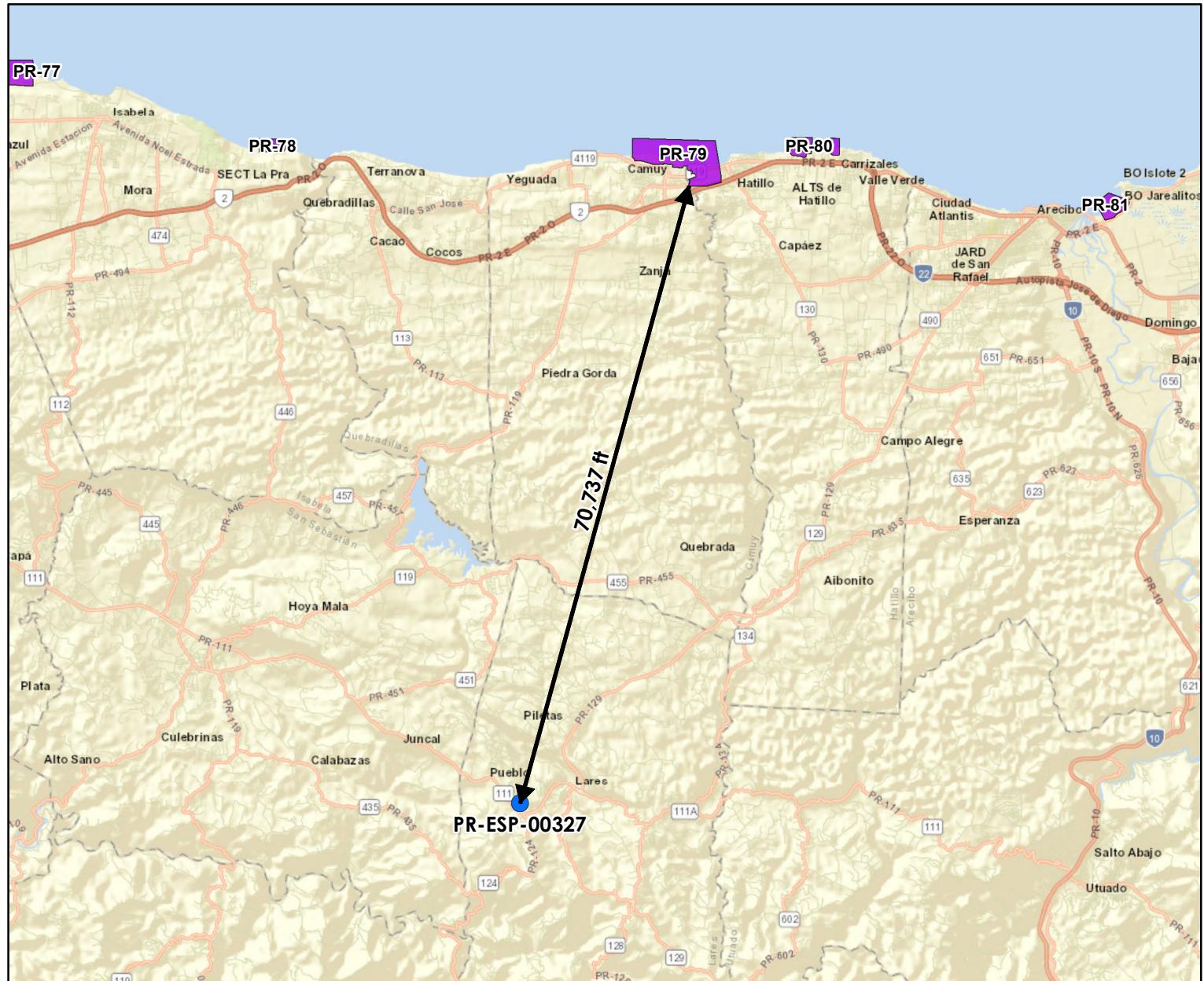
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
<https://adds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/>
The Environmental Protection Agency
<https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist>

Figure 3

Coastal Barrier Resource System Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

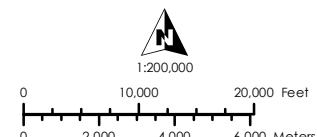


Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327

Coastal Barrier Resources System

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit



Service Layer Credits:

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

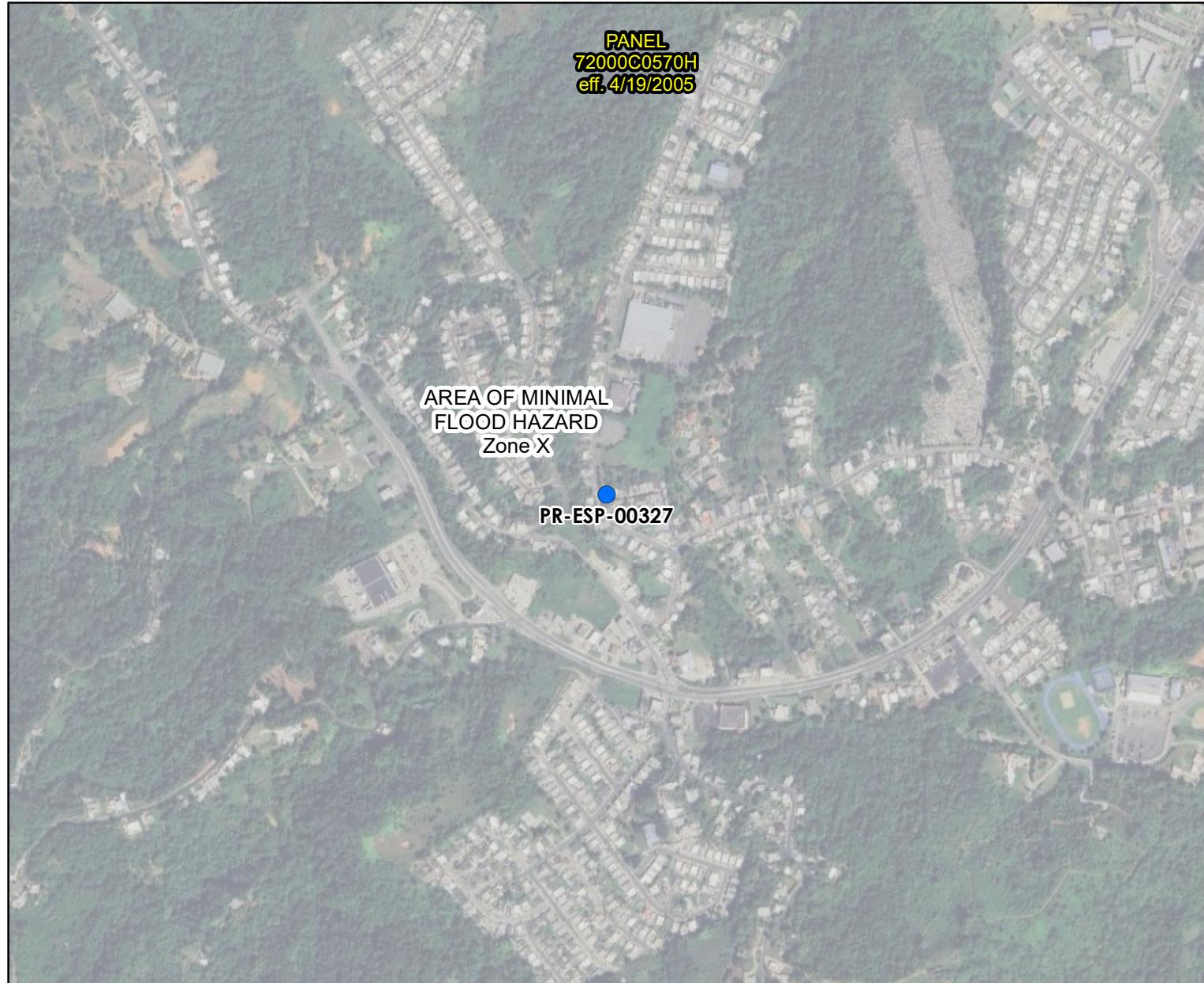
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
<https://www.fws.gov/program/coastal-barrier-resources-act>

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

Figure 4

Flood Insurance Rate Map

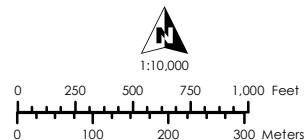
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- FIRM Panel
- Floodway
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Zone D Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard

- Zone A
- Zone AE
- Zone AH
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Zone X



Service Layer Credits:
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

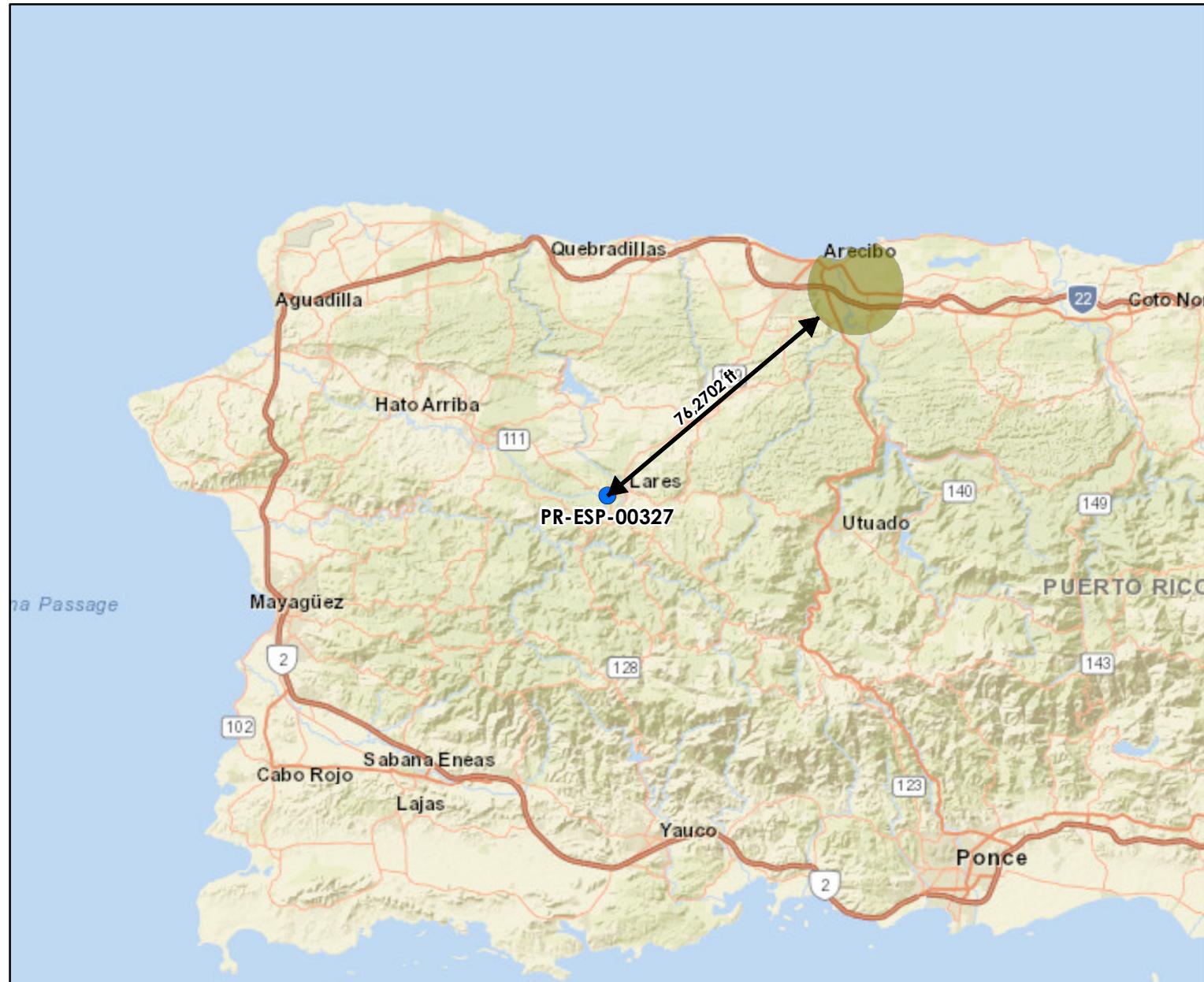
Source:
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Figure 5

Clean Air Map

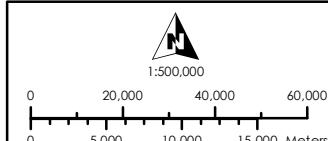
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Clean Air Areas - SO2
- Clean Air Areas - Lead



Service Layer Credits:

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

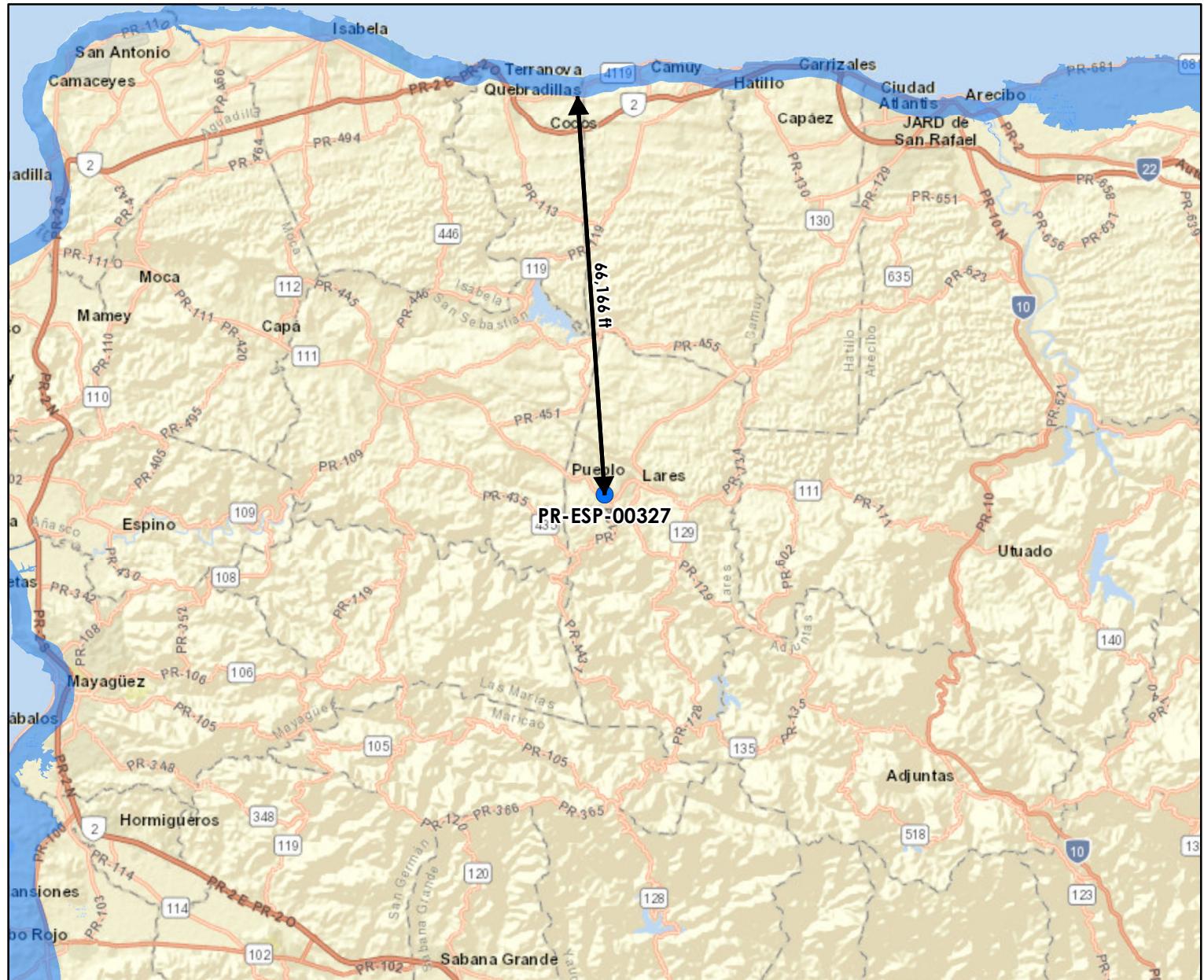
Source:
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov>

Figure 6

Coastal Zone Management Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

● PR-ESP-00327

Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary



0 5,000 10,000 15,000 20,000 25,000 Feet
 0 3,000 6,000 9,000 Meters



Service Layer Credits:

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/53132>

Figure 7

Toxic and Hazardous Facilities Map

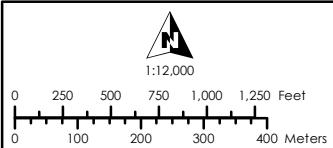
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ● PR-ESP-00327 | ◆ NPDES - Major |
| □ Buffer (500 Ft.) | ◆ RADINFO |
| □ Buffer (3,000 Ft.) | ▲ RCRA |
| ■ AIR | ▲ RCRA - Active |
| ◆ NPDES | ▲ RCRA - Inactive |
| | ▼ TRI |



Service Layer Credits:
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

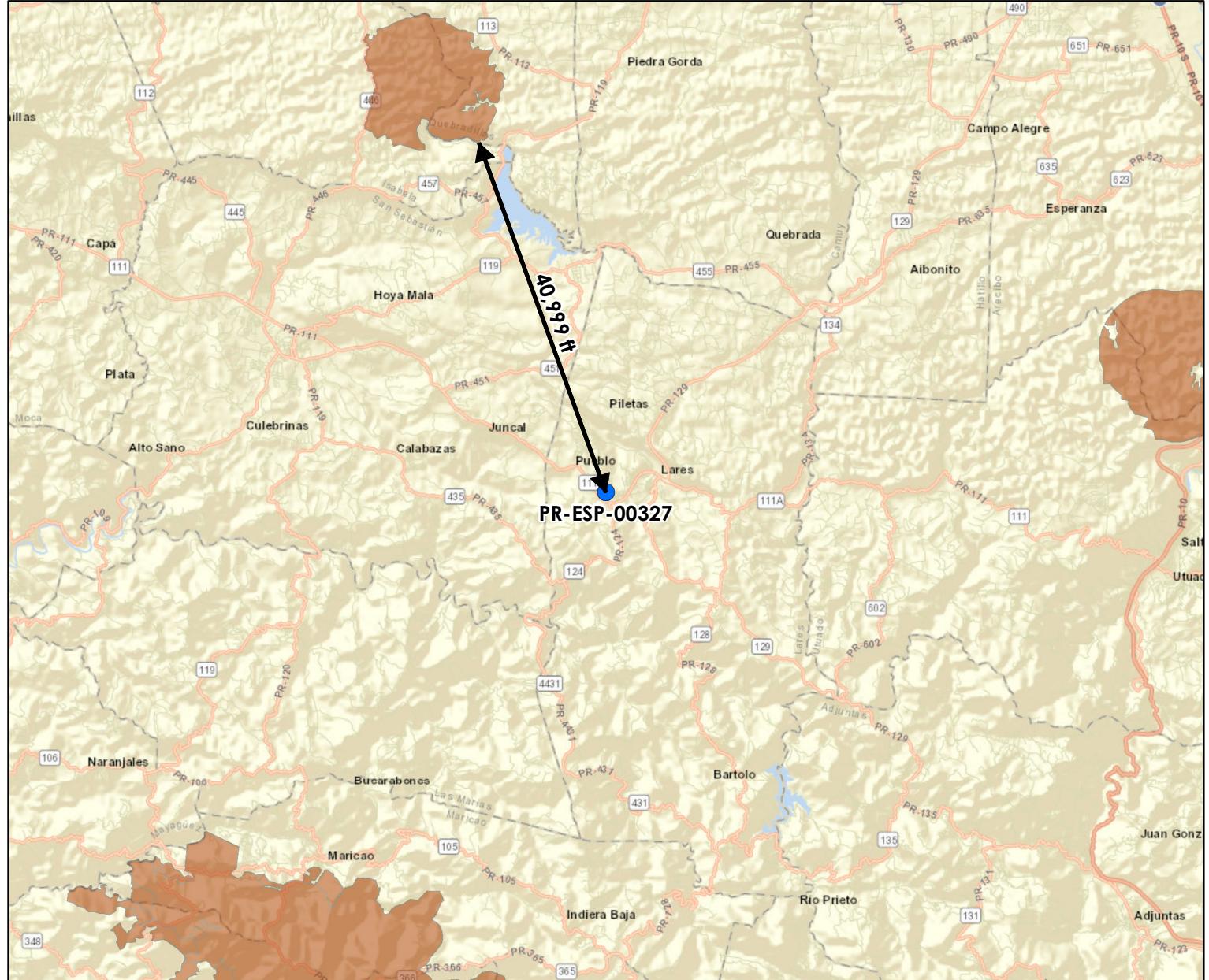
Source:
 EPA Facility Registry Service (FRS)
<https://www.epa.gov/frs>

Figure 8

Threatened and Endangered Species Map

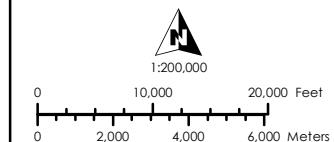
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- Critical Habitat



Service Layer Credits:

Service Layer Credits:
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GFCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

| Source:

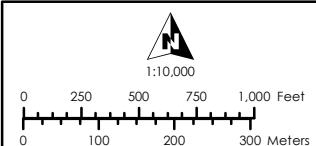
NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

Figure 9

Farmland Protection

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)



Service Layer Credits:
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

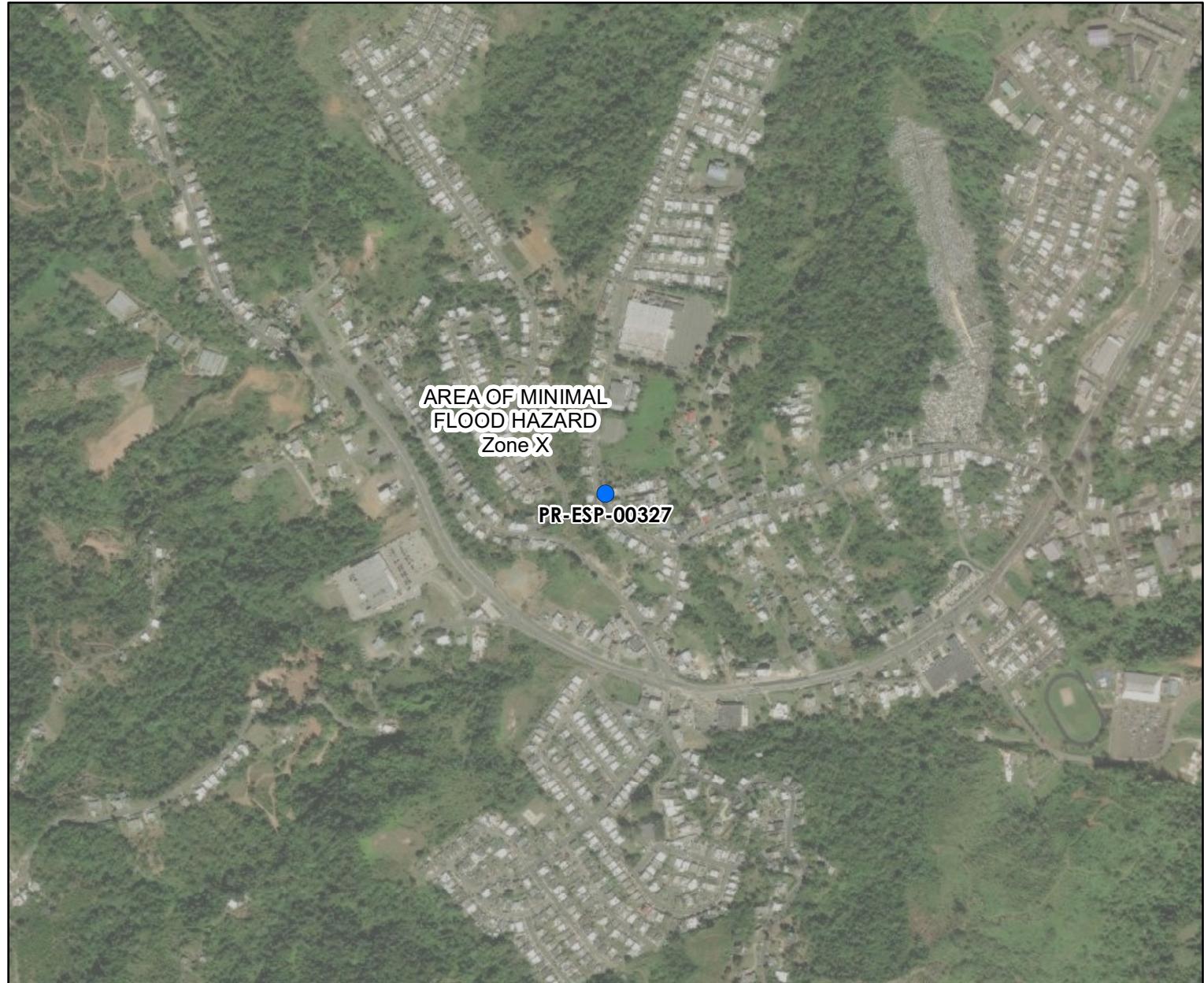
Source:
Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)
<https://www.epa.gov/ust>

Figure 10

Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Area Potential Effect (Building Footprint)
- CRIM-Parcel
- Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFE)
- 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood
- 1 % Annual Chance Flood

Flood Zone

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| Zone A |
| Zone AE |
| Zone AO |
| Zone VE |
| Zone X - Area of Minimal Flood Hazard |
| 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood |
| 1 % Annual Chance Flood |
| Floodway |



0 250 500 750 1,000 Feet
 0 100 200 300 Meters



Service Layer Credits:
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

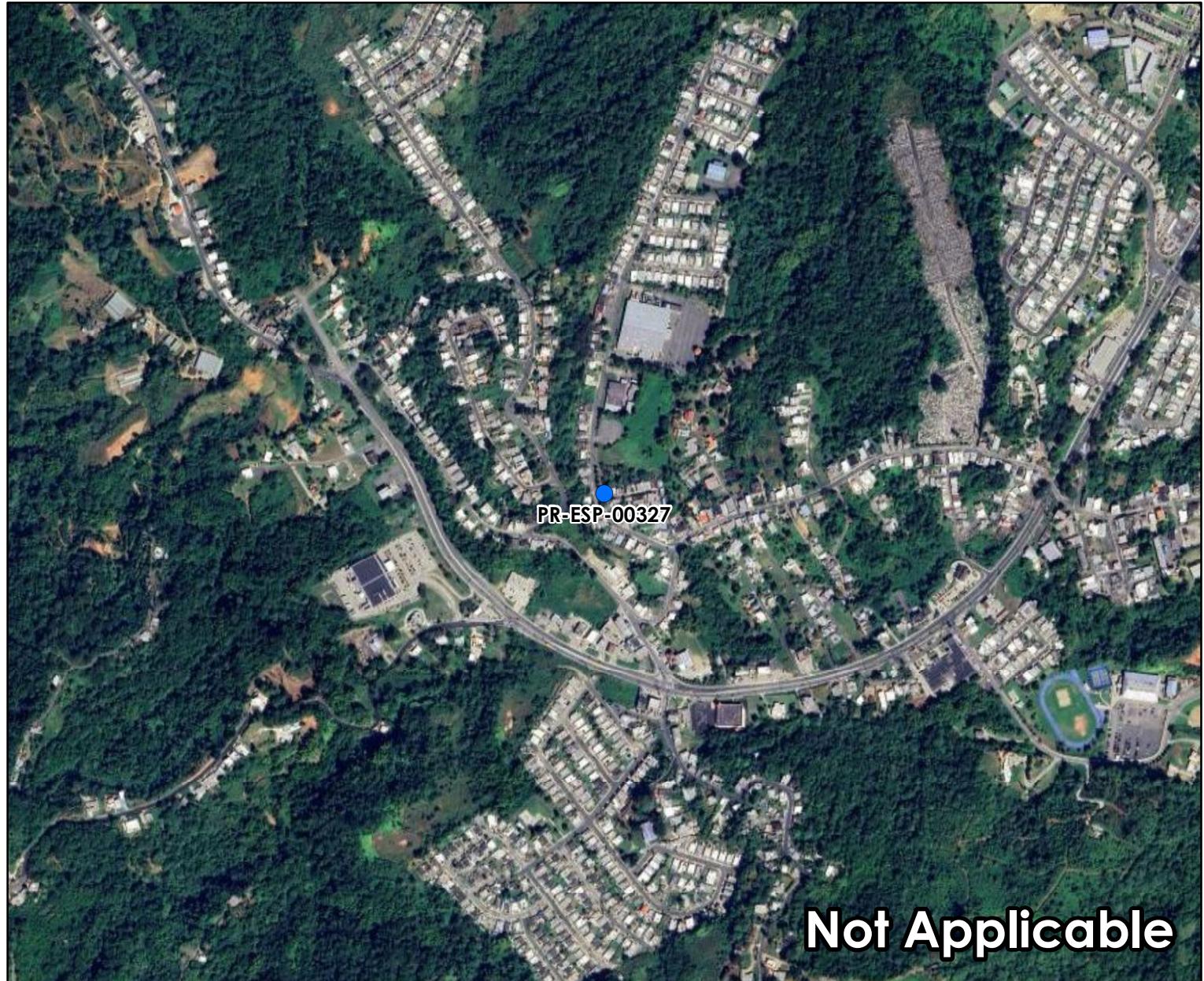
Source:
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),
<https://gis-r2.fema.hub.arcgis.com/>
 Junta de Planificación de Puerto Rico (JP), <https://maps.jp.pr.gov/>
 Mapas de Niveles de Inundación Base Recomendados

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

Figure 11

Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map

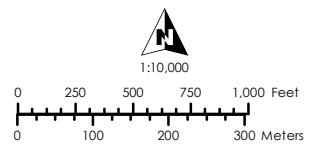
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Preliminary FIRM Panel
- Floodway
- Profile Baseline
- Base Flood Elevation (m)
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard (Zone X)

- Zone A
- Zone AE
- Zone AH
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Zone X



Service Layer Credits:
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

Figure 12

Historic Preservation Map

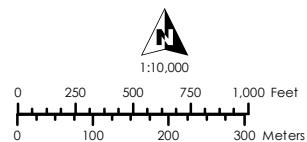
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Buffer (0.5 Mile)
- Cultural Resource Building
- Cultural Resource Structure
- Cultural Resource Object
- Cultural Resource Site

- Historic Centers
- Cultural Resource District
- Sensitive
- Archaeological Zones
- Archaeological Resource Zones
- Historic Communities
- Traditional Urban Center



Service Layer Credits:
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

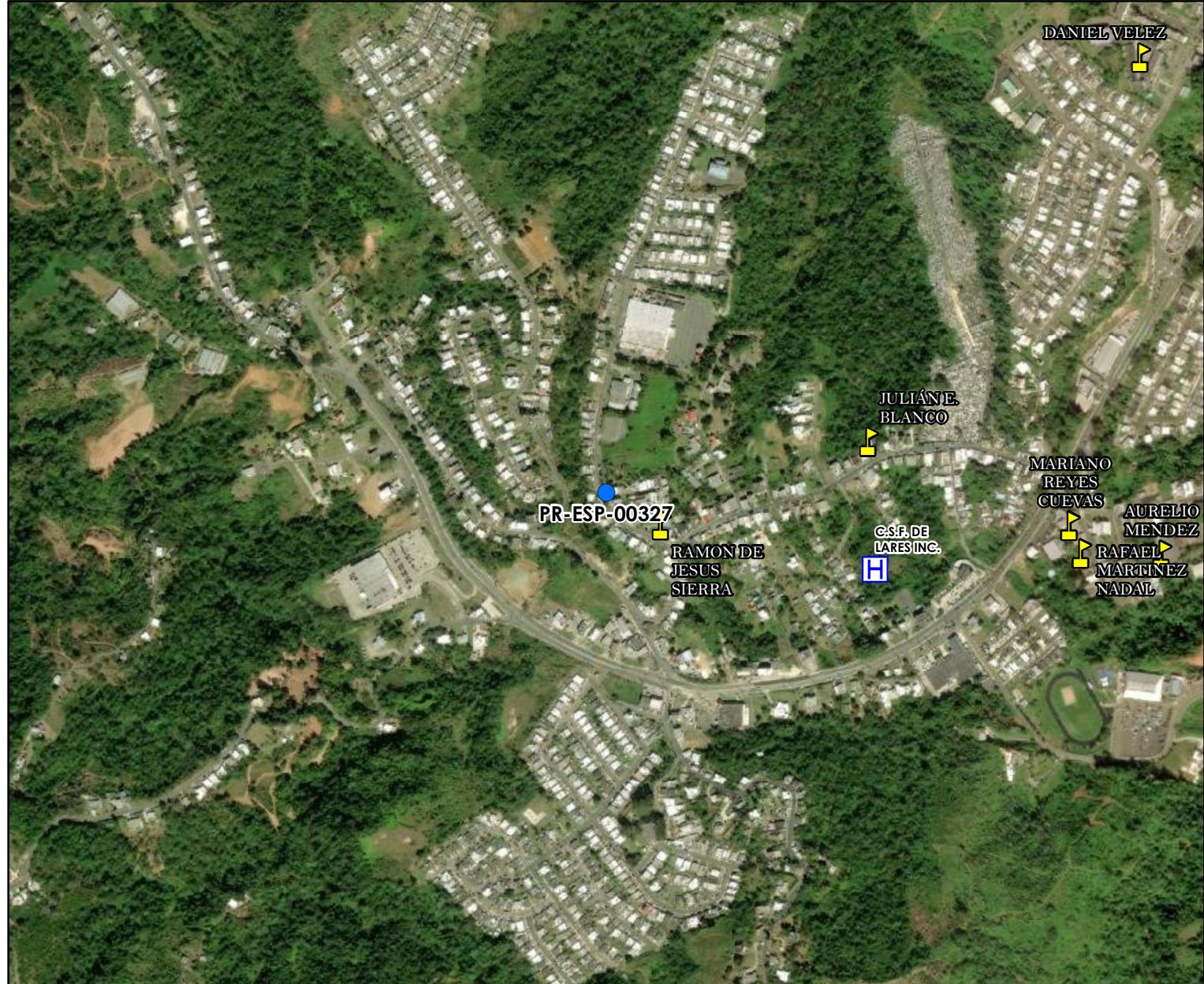
Source:
 National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places
 (NRHP)
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>
 State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
<https://oech.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Figure 13

Noise Abatement and Control Map

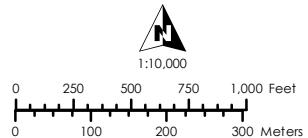
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- University
- School
- Hospital
- Emergency Hospital



Service Layer Credits:

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20201022>

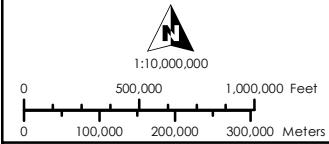
Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

Figure 14
EPA Sole Source Aquifers
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- EPA Sole Source Aquifers



Service Layer Credits:
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

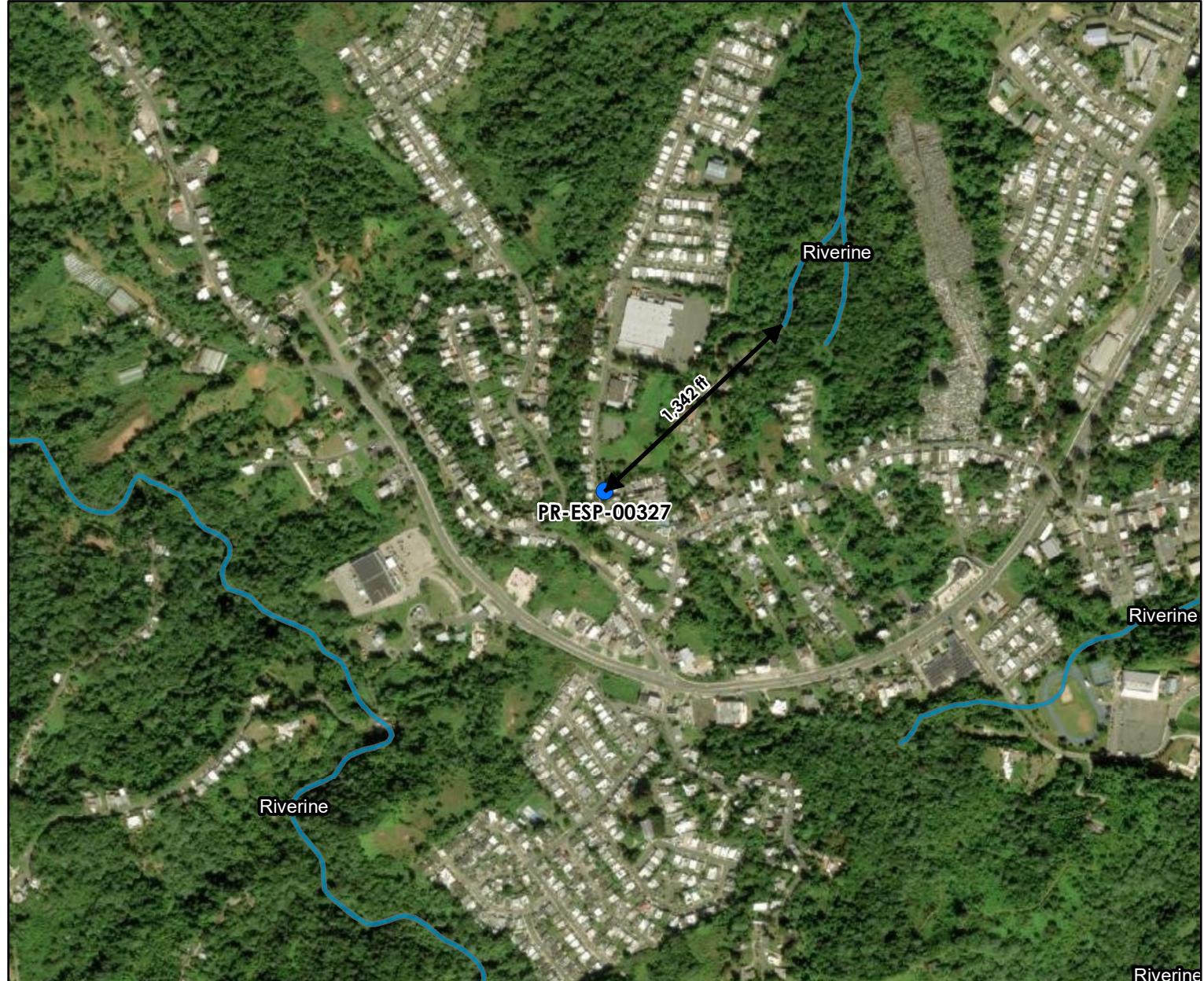
Source:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b>

Figure 15

Wetlands Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

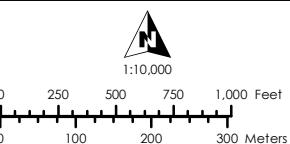
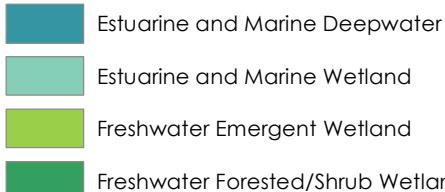
Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:



National Wetlands Inventory



Service Layer Credits:

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

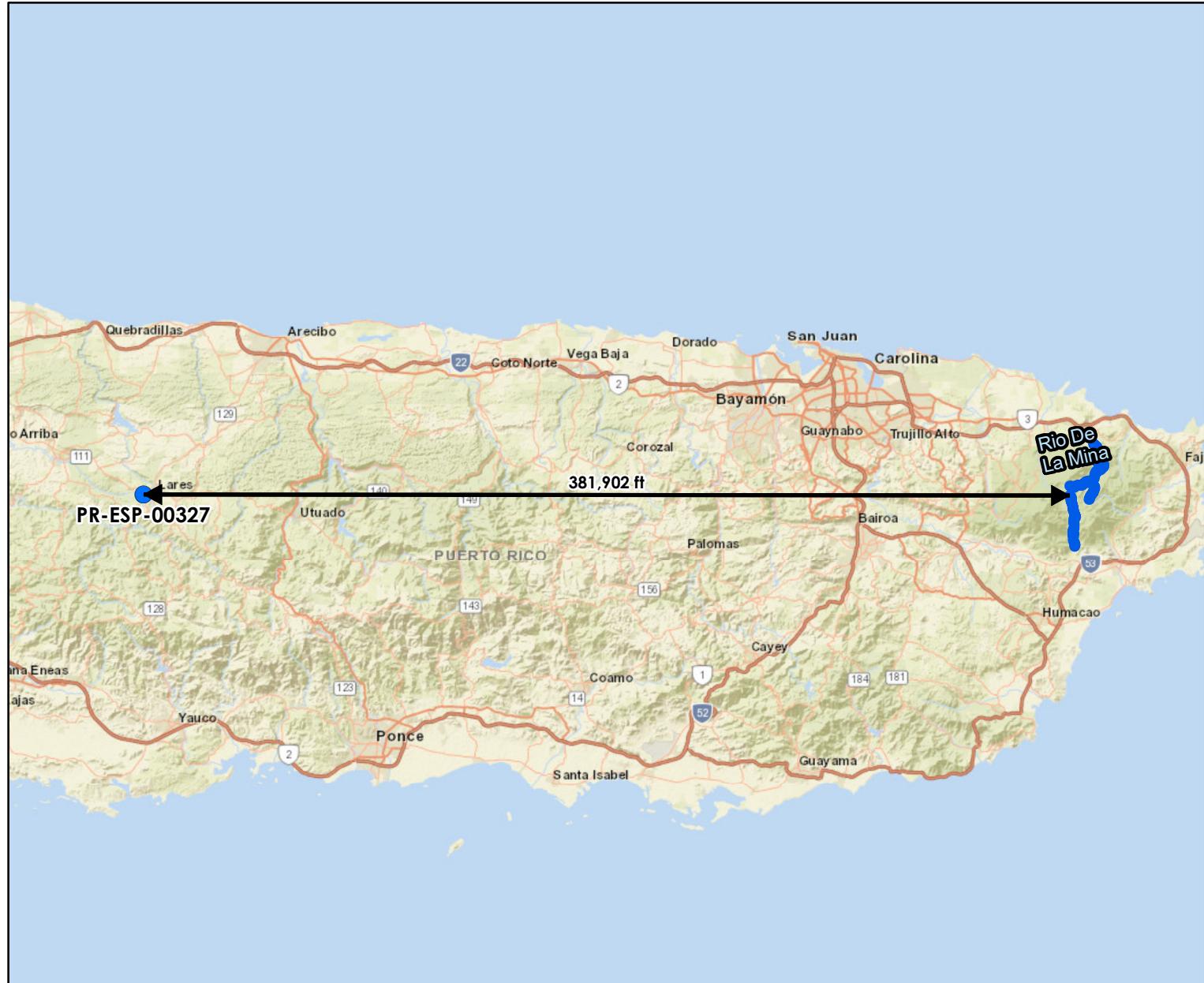
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

Figure 16

Wild and Scenic Rivers Map

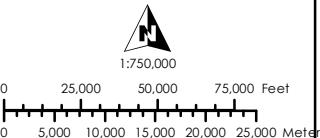
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-000
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Wild and Scenic Rivers



Service Layer Credits:

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

Appendix 2: Field Visit Report



Environmental Field Assessment Form - PR-ESP-00327

APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION		
Applicant ID: PR-ESP-00327		
Applicant Name: Colmado El Resuelve		
Parcel ID: 158-058-046-33-000		
Coordinates: 18.292940, -66.890803		
Street Address: CALLE EMILIO CASTRO NUM 4		
Municipio: Lares		
Zip Code: 00669		
Site Inspector: Egon Gonzalez		
Date of Visit: March 26, 2025		
Time of Visit: 14:54		
Year Built: Circa 1960		
Building Information		
Question	Answer	Notes
1. Location verified:	Yes	18.292940, -66.890803
2. Is the building correct on GIS?	Yes	Building is correct on GIS
3. Building Type:	Commercial/ Residential	
4. # of Stories:	2	
5. Building Foundation:	Concrete Slab	
6. Is the building in use?	Yes	Building is in use
7. Does the building have a detached garage / carport present?	No	
8. Is the electricity connected?	Yes	Electricity is connected
9. Is the water connected?	Yes	Water is connected
10. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, electrical equipment etc.)	No	
11. Is a septic system present? If Yes report apparent condition.	No	
12. Are there any obvious signs of animals, birds nesting or burrows near the site?	Yes	



Parcel Conditions

Question	Answer	Notes
1) Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	Yes	(6) 55gal Drums used to recycle aluminum cans located on left side of structure
2) Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	No	
3) Are there signs of AST on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	Yes	(18) 25lbs Propane tanks located on right side of structure and (1) 100lbs Propane tank located on left side of structure
4) Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	No	
5) Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?	No	
6) Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	No	
7) Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	No	
8) Are any additional environmental or non-environmental site hazards observed?	No	
9) Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site(do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	No	
10) Does the subject property have water frontage?	No	
11) Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/ area?	No	
12) Is a historic marker present?	No	
13) Based on the above finding, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?	No	

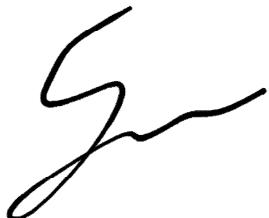
Building Environmental Conditions

Question	Answer	Notes
1. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, and flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	No	
2. Is there any visible indication of mold?	No	
3. Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	No	

Additional Needs Analysis

Question	Answer	Notes
Based on the above findings, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?	No	

I verify that I have physically visited this property and that the findings outlined above are accurate.



Inspector Signature

Egon Gonzalez

March 26, 2025



Front of Structure

Photo Direction: East

Comments:



Facing Away from Front

Photo Direction: West

Comments:





Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: Southeast

Comments:



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments:



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: North

Comments:



Facing Away from Back

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments:





Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: North

Comments:



Facing Away from Side #2

Photo Direction: Southeast

Comments:





Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: South

Comments:



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: North

Comments:





Address

Photo Direction: East

Comments:





Architectural Details 1

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Electricity is connected



Architectural Details 2

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water is connected



Architectural Details 3

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Proposed battery storage location



Architectural Details 4

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: General interior view





Architectural Details 5

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: General interior view



Architectural Details 6

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: (6) 55gal Drums used to recycle aluminum cans located on left side of structure





Architectural Details 7

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: (18) 25lbs
Propane tanks located on right side
of structure



Architectural Details 8

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Overview





Architectural Details 9

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: (1) 100lbs
Propane tank located at left side of
structure



Architectural Details 10

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Additional back of
structure view



Appendix 3: Quote



3 de julio de 2024

Luis A Acevedo Jimenez
DBA Colmado el Resuelve
C Emilio Castro 4 BDA San Felipe
Lares P.R. 00669

Sr. Acevedo

Gracias por la oportunidad de presentarle nuestra propuesta para su Sistema Fotovoltaico. Basado en la información que nos brinda sobre el consumo de energía que desea cubrir proponemos una solución costo efectiva la cual cumple con su necesidad.

Calculo Sistema Fotovoltaico	
Mes	kWh
Julio	1,378
Agosto	1,485
Septiembre	1,471
Octubre	1,578
Noviembre	1,844
Diciembre	1,675
Enero	1,301
Febrero	1,426
Marzo	1,429
Abril	1,496
Mayo	1,425
Junio	1,784
Consumo Annual (kWh)	18,292
Capacidad del sistema para cubrir Consumo Annual (kW)	12.19
Capacidad de sistema Propuesto (kW)	12.80
Produccion annual aproximada del sistema propuesto (kWh)	18,736



Nuestra propuesta es por **\$ 45,000.00** La misma incluye los siguientes equipos.

- (32) Paneles Solares 400W (o Similar)
- (2) Inversor Tesla Plus
- (1) Tesla Gateway
- (2) Batería Tesla PowerWall Plus
- (1) Desconectivo
- Unirac Racking System
- Instalación y Programación
- Diseño y Permisos para Medición Neta

Costo del proyecto	
PVS	\$ 25,600.00
BSS	\$ 19,400.00
Total	\$ 45,000.00

Nota: Esta propuesta es preliminar y está basada en información recopilada vía telefónica. La misma puede variar según las condiciones de instalación a ser evaluadas en una visita.

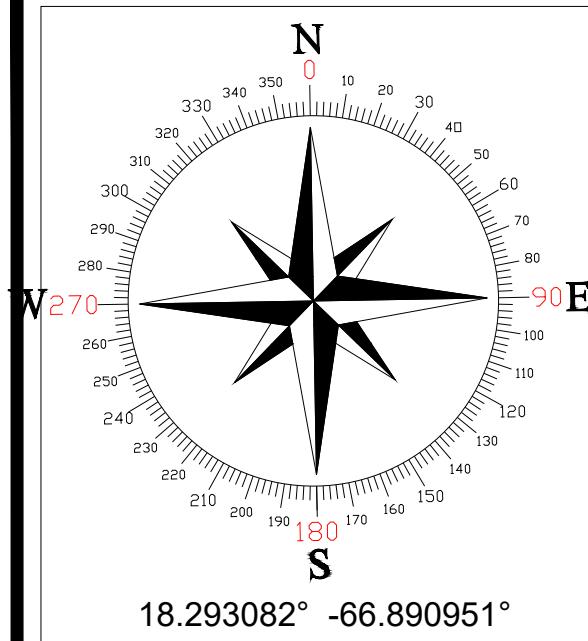
La garantía de los equipos es con el manufacturero.

Cualquier pregunta al respecto no dude en comunicarse con nosotros, estamos en la mejor disposición para ayudarle a obtener el sistema que necesita.

Adjunto encontrara información adicional de los componentes del sistema.

Cordialmente,

Francisco Alemañy
CEO



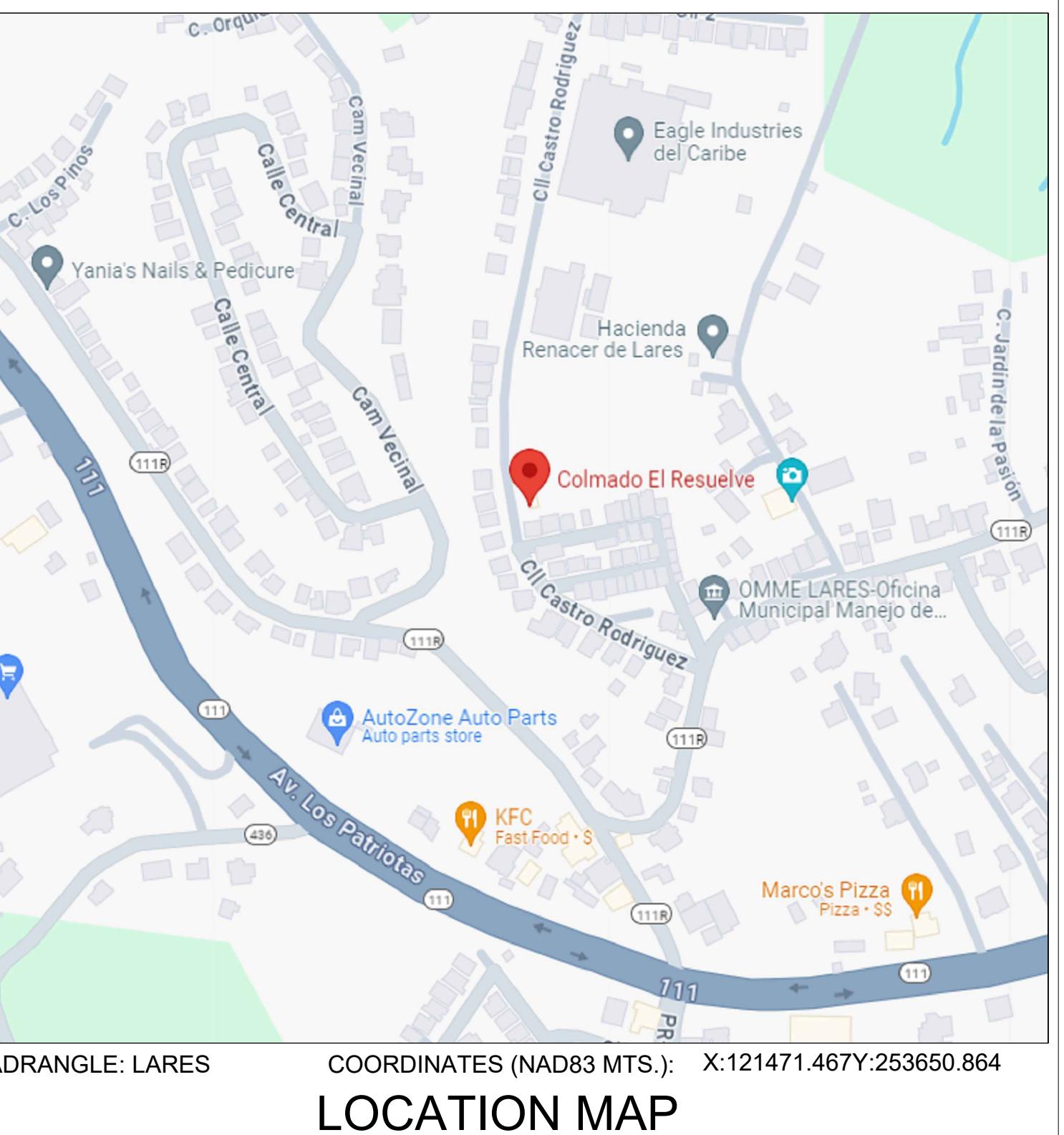
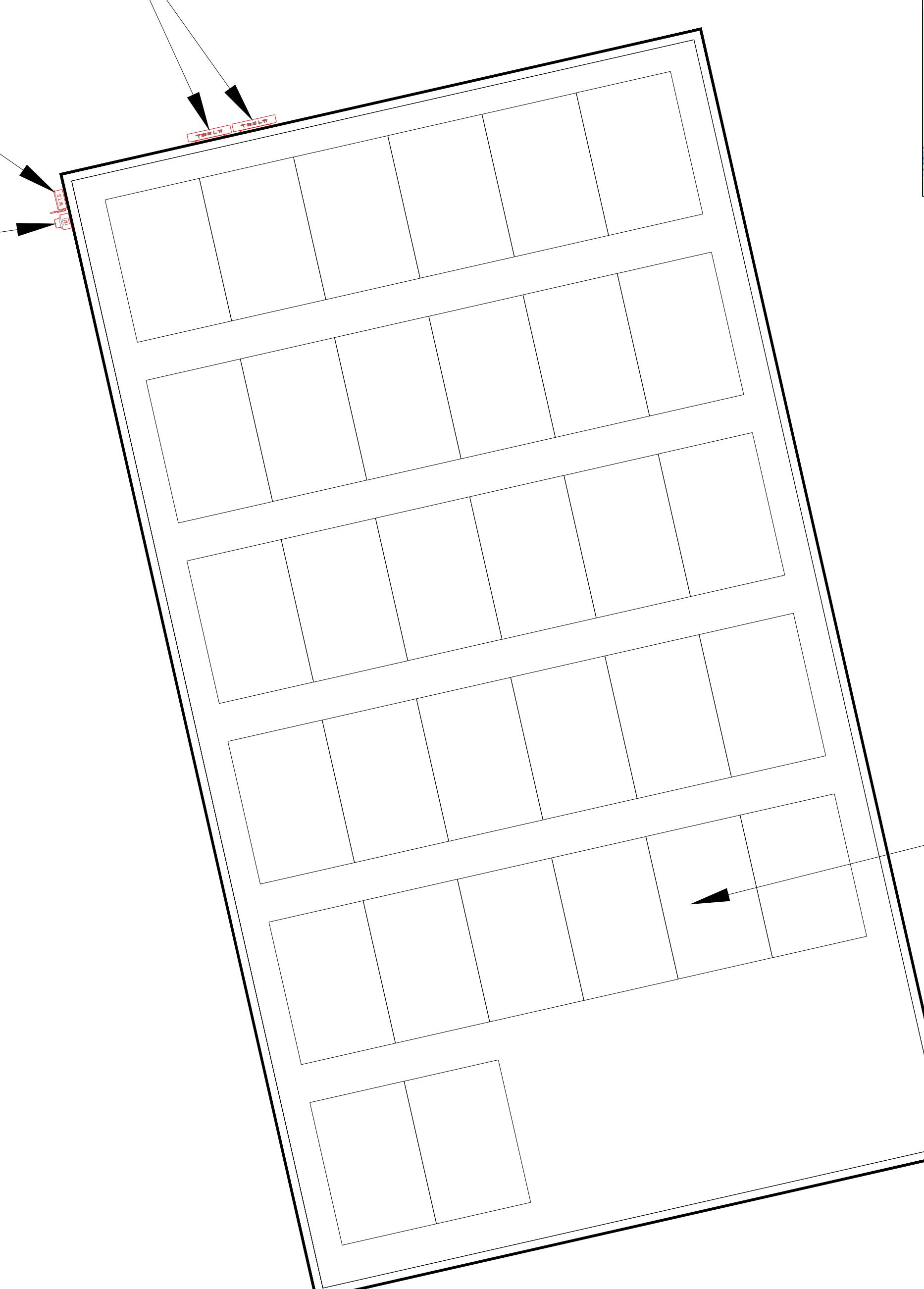
INVERSOR & BATERIAS

RAPID SHUTDOWN SYSTEM SWITCH AS
REQUIRED IN NEC 2017 ART. 690.12

LUMA METER

C EMILIO CASTRO 4 BDA SAN FELIPE
LARES PR

FRONT OF THE HOUSE



PV ROOF LAYOUT & SITE PLAN

SCALE: 3/16"=1'-0"

Appendix 4: EPA's Published Summary of Non-attainment Areas Population Exposure Report & Status of Puerto Rico Designated Areas

EPA's Published Summary of Nonattainment Areas
Population Exposure Report & Status of Puerto Rico
Designated Areas



Summary Nonattainment Area Population Exposure Report

Data is current as of June 30, 2025

Ordered by state(s)

The NO₂ nonattainment area became a maintenance area on September 22, 1998. All Carbon Monoxide areas were redesignated to maintenance areas as of September 27, 2010. The 8-hour Ozone (1997) standard was revoked on April 6, 2015 and the 1-hour Ozone (1979) standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.

Download National Dataset: [dbf](#) | [xls](#) | [Data dictionary \(PDF\)](#)

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO ₂ (2010)	SO ₂ (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
AK	Fairbanks				87(1)						
AZ	Douglas/Paul Spur (Cochise County)						17(1)				
AZ	Hayden/Miami						26(2)	20(2)	5(1)	5(1)	
AZ	Nogales						30(1)				
AZ	Phoenix-Mesa	3,945(1)	3,850(1)				3,853(1)				
AZ	Rillito (Pima County)						1(1)				
AZ	West Pinal				52(1)		283(1)				
AZ	Yuma	87(1)					101(1)				
CA	Amador and Calaveras Cos (Central Mountain Cos)	84(2)	46(1)								
CA	Chico	220(1)	220(1)								
CA	Imperial County	175(1)	175(1)	154(1)	154(1)						
CA	Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin	15,704(3)	15,723(3)	15,716(1)	15,716(1)	15,716(1)				9,437(1)	
CA	Mariposa and Tuolumne Cos (Southern Mountain Cos)	74(2)	18(1)								
CA	Mono County						0(1)				
CA	Nevada County (Western Part)	82(1)	82(1)								
CA	Owens Valley						7(1)				
CA	Plumas County			6(1)							
CA	Sacramento Metro	2,240(1)	2,241(1)		2,206(1)						
CA	San Diego	3,077(1)	3,095(1)								
CA	San Francisco-Bay Area	6,969(1)	6,973(1)		6,971(1)						

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO ₂ (2010)	SO ₂ (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
CA	San Joaquin Valley	3,937(2)	3,938(2)	3,842(1)	3,842(1)	3,842(1)	126(1)				
CA	San Luis Obispo	1(1)	2(1)								
CA	Searles Valley						4(1)				
CA	Southeast Desert Modified AQMA							495(2)			
CA	Tuscan Buttes	0(1)	0(1)								
CA	Ventura County	821(1)	823(1)								
CA	Yuba City	0(1)									
CO	Denver-Boulder-Greeley-Ft. Collins-Loveland	3,331(1)	3,330(1)								
CT	Greater Connecticut	1,629(1)	1,629(1)								
DC-MD-VA	Washington	5,136(1)									
GU	Piti-Cabras							6(1)	1(1)		
GU	Tanguisson Power Plant								1(1)		
IA	Muscatine County							30(1)			
ID	Pocatello						1(1)				
IL-IN-WI	Chicago-Joliet-Napier	9,075(1)									
IN	Fort Wayne-Huntington-Auburn							21(1)			
KS	Salina									0(1)	
KY	Henderson-Webster Counties							7(1)			
KY-IN	Louisville	876(1)									
LA	Evangeline Parish							0(1)			
LA	New Orleans							36(1)			
MA-NH	Boston-Worcester-Manchester		17(1)								
MD	Baltimore	2,663(1)	2,663(1)					990(1)			
MI	Allegan County	47(1)									
MI	Benton Harbor	157(1)									
MI	Detroit-Ann Arbor							306(2)			
MI	Muskegon	147(1)									
MN	Minneapolis-St. Paul								9(1)		

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO ₂ (2010)	SO ₂ (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
MO	Iron, Dent, and Reynolds Counties									0(1)	
MO	New Madrid County							0(1)			
MO-IL	St. Louis	2,488(1)								5(1)	3(1)
MT	Billings/Laurel								7(1)		
MT	Lame Deer						1(1)				
MT	Polson (Lake County)							4(1)			
MT	Ronan (Lake County)							3(1)			
NV	Las Vegas	1,892(1)									
NY	Jamestown		135(1)								
NY	St. Lawrence County							12(1)			
NY-NJ-CT	New York-N. New Jersey-Long Island	20,217(1)	20,217(1)								
OH	Canton-Massillon									6(1)	
OH	Cleveland-Akron-Elyria	2,780(1)									
OR	Klamath Falls				47(1)						
PA	Clearfield and Indiana Counties								93(1)		
PA	Lancaster		519(1)								
PA	Pittsburgh-New Castle		2,356(1)	1,223(1)	21(1)	21(1)		20(2)	5(1)	18(1)	
PA	Reading		411(1)							49(2)	
PA	Warren County								18(1)		
PA-NJ	Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton		712(1)								
PA-NJ-DE-MD	Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City	7,437(1)	7,634(2)							32(1)	
PR	Arecibo										
PR	Guayama-Salinas							23(1)			
PR	San Juan							275(1)			
TN	Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol								15(1)		
TX	Dallas-Fort Worth	6,202(1)	6,280(1)								
TX	Fairfield						4(1)				
TX	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown	5,773(1)	5,892(1)								
TX	Howard County							0(1)			

State(s)	General Area Name (see note)	2010 Population in 1000s (area count)									
		8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO ₂ (2010)	SO ₂ (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)
TX	Hutchinson County							15(1)			
TX	Mount Pleasant							0(1)			
TX	Navarro County							2(1)			
TX	San Antonio	1,715(1)									
TX	Tatum							2(1)			
TX-NM	El Paso-Las Cruces	813(1)					652(2)				
UT	Provo	516(1)			518(1)						
UT	Salt Lake City	1,616(1)			1,665(1)				1,030(1)		
UT	Tooele County								58(1)		
UT	Uinta Basin	47(1)									
VA	Giles County							0(1)			
WI	Milwaukee-Racine	1,648(1)									
WI	Sheboygan	68(1)									
WV-OH	Parkersburg-Marietta							4(1)			
WY	Upper Green River Basin		11(1)								
2010 Population in 1000s (area count) by Pollutant											
Total Estimated 2010 Population in Nonattainment Areas (1000's)	8-Hour Ozone (2015)	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	PM-2.5 (2012)	PM-2.5 (2006)	PM-2.5 (1997)	PM-10 (1987)	SO ₂ (2010)	SO ₂ (1971)	Lead (2008)	Lead (1978)	
	114,981 (46)	90,288 (34)	20,942 (5)	31,280 (11)	19,579 (3)	5,605 (20)	1,900 (28)	1,106 (7)	9,561 (11)	3 (1)	
Across All Criteria Pollutants: 121,102											

The Summary Population Exposure Report is a summary of the population living in an area that is in nonattainment for at least one of the NAAQS.

Area Name:

The "State(s) Area Name" column contains a common or general name for the nonattainment areas on the row, but may not reflect the exact name of any area on the row. This column cannot be exact since the nonattainment area for one pollutant may not contain the same counties, cities, or states as the nonattainment area for another pollutant on the same row. The abbreviations listed in the "State(s)" column reflect all states identified in row. However, some states on a row may be nonattainment for some pollutants and not for others in the general area. A multi-state area with states that have not all been redesignated to maintenance is counted as a nonattainment area until all of the states in the area are redesignated, with the whole area population displayed.

Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants

Data is current as of June 30, 2025

Listed by County, NAAQS, Area. The 8-hour Ozone (1997) standard was revoked on April 6, 2015 and the 1-hour Ozone (1979) standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.

* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)

Change the State:

PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

Download National Dataset: dbf | xls | Data dictionary (PDF)

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/ County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RICO								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	111213141516171819202122232425	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	1819202122232425	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	1819202122232425	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	1819202122232425	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	1819202122232425	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	1819202122232425	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	1819202122232425	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

Status of Puerto Rico Designated Areas

Puerto Rico Areas by NAAQS

NOTE: As of 03/12/2021, these reports are no longer being updated. For the latest information, see the [SIP Status Tools](#).

Jump to Puerto Rico section for: [CO \(1971\)](#) [Lead \(1978\)](#) [Lead \(2008\)](#) [NO2 \(1971\)](#) [Ozone-1Hr \(1979\)](#) [Ozone-8Hr \(1997\)](#) [Ozone-8Hr \(2008\)](#) [Ozone-8Hr \(2015\)](#) [PM-10 \(1987\)](#) [PM-2.5 \(1997\)](#) [PM-2.5 \(2006\)](#) [PM-2.5 \(2012\)](#) [SO2 \(1971\)](#) [SO2 \(2010\)](#)

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico Ozone-8Hr (1997) Areas [Return to map](#) [Top of page](#)

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico Ozone-8Hr (2008) Areas [Return to map](#) [Top of page](#)

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico Ozone-8Hr (2015) Areas [Return to map](#) [Top of page](#)

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico PM-10 (1987) Areas [Return to map](#) Top of page

Click on the Area name to view SIP Required Elements						Average Estimate d Exceedances (est. exc.) (entire area)		Clean Air Determination Citation Effective Date		Redesignation Citation Effective Date
Area	Status	Designation Date	Classification	2010 Population (state portion)	Meets NAAQS Basis	Meets NAAQS	SIP Requirements Original/Approved	Click to view FR notice	Redesignation Request Date	Click to view FR notice
Guaynabo County	Maintenance	11/15/1990	Moderate	90,470	2017-2019	Insufficient Data	3 / 3		03/31/2009	02/11/2010 75 FR 1543

Puerto Rico PM-2.5 (1997) Areas [Return to map](#) Top of page

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico PM-2.5 (2006) Areas [Return to map](#) Top of page

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico PM-2.5 (2012) Areas [Return to map](#) Top of page

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico SO2 (1971) Areas [Return to map](#) Top of page

No designated areas for this pollutant.

Puerto Rico SO2 (2010) Areas [Return to map](#) Top of page

Regional SIP Status and Redesignation Information											
Area	Status	Designation Date	Classification	2010 Population (state portion)	Meets NAAQS Basis	3 Year 1-Hour Design Value (ppb) (entire area)	Meets NAAQS	SIP Requirements Original/Approved	Clean Air Determination Citation Effective Date Click to view FR notice	Redesignation Request Date	Redesignation Citation Effective Date Click to view FR notice
Guayama-Salinas	Nonattainment	04/09/2018		23,401	2017-2019		No Data	6 / 0			
San Juan	Nonattainment	04/09/2018		275,267	2017-2019		No Data	6 / 0			

We have made our best effort to ensure that the data contained in these reports is accurate. We note that there may be brief delays in updating the reports as we receive new state submissions and we take rulemaking action on plans. In order to assist us in providing accurate information, we request that you contact us by clicking on the "Contact Us" link near the top of this page with any comments regarding or corrections to the posted information, including concerns about whether the entries reflect the most recent status.

Current and historical design value data can be found on the [EPA Air Quality Design Values website](#) and the [EPA Green Book](#) contains comprehensive nonattainment area, designation status, and historical information.

The level of the 1-hour NAAQS for sulfur dioxide is 75 parts per billion (ppb) calculated as the 3-year average of the 99th percentile of the annual distribution of daily maximum 1-hour average concentrations.

Appendix 5: RADON Memo to file and supporting documentations



DEPARTMENT OF

HOUSING

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Memorandum to File

Date: July 1, 2025

From: Patricia Carmenatty Santiago
Environmental Specialist
Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC
CDBG-DR Program
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Application Number: PR-ESP-00327

Project: Colmado El Resuelve

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-ESP-00327 under the Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2), administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

Per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (**HUD**) CPD Notice 23-103, the recommended best practices and alternative options for radon testing are infeasible and impracticable in this case due to the following reasons:

- As required by the CPD Notice 23-103, the scientific data reviewed in lieu of testing must consist of a minimum of ten documented test results over the previous ten years. If there are less than ten documented results over this period, it is understood that there is a lack of scientific data. The latest report

for radon testing in Puerto Rico was prepared in 1995 by the U.S. Department of the Interior in Cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No other completed studies and reports on radon testing are available in Puerto Rico.

- There is no available science-based or state-generated information for Puerto Rico for the last ten years that can be used to determine whether the project site is in a high-risk area. The Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**), National Environmental Public Health Tracking, and Radon Testing map do not include Puerto Rico data.
- There are only two (2) licensed professionals in Puerto Rico who can conduct radon testing using the American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (**ANSI/AARST**) testing standards, which makes it difficult, time-consuming, and highly expensive to coordinate and secure a site visit for the contamination evaluation.
- Do-it-yourself (**DIY**) radon test kits are known to be unreliable in assuring and controlling the quality of the test results; they are not readily available in Puerto Rico, and the cost and time required for purchasing and sending them for analysis are unreasonable when weighed against the results' reliability and the need for prompt results.
- Local authorities in Puerto Rico do not have the specialized radon monitoring equipment or trained staff needed to conduct the radon testing analysis and ensure proper quality control and quality assurance practices are adhered to. We also do not have a radiation laboratory certified for radon testing.
- Local authorities in Puerto Rico do not have the specialized radon monitoring equipment or trained staff needed to conduct the radon testing analysis and ensure proper quality control and quality assurance practices are adhered to. We also do not have a radiation laboratory certified for radon testing.

As part of the evaluation for this determination, PRDOH sent information requests to six (6) local agencies at the state and federal levels. We received responses from the following agencies:

- United States Geological Survey;
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Puerto Rico Department of Health; and
- United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The agencies mentioned above confirmed the lack of scientific data on Radon testing for Puerto Rico and the technical difficulties that we face to comply with HUD's Radon testing requirement. For the above-mentioned reasons, Radon testing is infeasible and impracticable for this property, and no further consideration of Radon is needed for the environmental review.



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez
Director
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
City View Plaza II – Suite 7000
#48 Rd. 165 km 1.2
Guaynabo, PR 00968-8069

Via email: guerrero.carmen@epa.gov

RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerto Rico, as this information is crucial for our compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103.

This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and mitigation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Mitigation (CDBG-DR/MIT), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MIT programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any mitigation efforts within the Islands of Puerto Rico.

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following information:

Radon testing data – Results from radon testing conducted within your agency's purview, including details on location, testing methods, and recorded radon levels.

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Rio Piedras, PR 00988 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365
Tel: (787) 274-2527 | recomendaciones@epa.gov



August 20, 2024

Dr. Silvina Cancelos
Professor
College of Engineering
University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus
259 Norte Blvd, Alfonso Valdés Cobán
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

Via email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CDP-23-103 for Puerto Rico
Page 2 / 2

Reports and assessments – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

Policies and guidelines – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

Historical data – if available, historical data or trends in radon levels within the regions you monitor that may impact HUD-assisted housing.

This information is vital to ensure that our radon management strategies are practical and compliant with federal requirements. If some of this information may be sensitive or confidential, we are prepared to discuss any necessary agreements or protocols for sharing this data securely.

Please let us know if you require additional details or have any questions regarding this request. We would greatly appreciate your response by September 15, 2024, so we can incorporate this data into our ongoing compliance efforts.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We look forward to working together on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Oleg Povetka, Oleg@epa.gov
Mr. Matthew Laurita, laurita.matthew@epa.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CDP-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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Sincerely,

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Dr. Carlos Marín, carlos.marin3@upr.edu



August 20, 2024

Dr. Jessica Irizarry
Director
Office of Island Affairs
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1324 Cll Canada, San Juan, 00920
Guaynabo, PR 00968-8069

Via email: OIA@cdc.gov

RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CDP-23-103 for Puerto Rico
Page 2 / 2

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Rio Piedras, PR 00981 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365
Tel: (787) 274-2527 | www.vivendapr.gov



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Anaís Rodríguez
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources
Carretera 8838, km. 6.3, Sector El Cinco,
Río Piedras San Juan, PR 00926

Via email: anais.rodriguez@dma.pr.gov

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc:
Mr. Luis Márquez, secretariaje@dma.pr.gov
Eng. Amarilys Rosario, alro@dma.pr.gov
Mrs. Elié Ortega, erortega@dma.pr.gov

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August 20, 2024

Dr. Carlos R. Mellado López
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Health
PO Box 70184
San Juan, PR 00936-8184

Via email: drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov

RE: Request for information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerto Rico, as this information is crucial for our compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103.

This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and mitigation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Mitigation (CDBG-DR/MIT), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MIT programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any mitigation efforts within the Islands of Puerto Rico.

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following information:

Radon testing data – Results from radon testing conducted within your agency's purview, including details on location, testing methods, and recorded radon levels.

Reports and assessments – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Rio Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365
Tel (787) 274-2527 | www.salud.pr.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for information in relation with HUD CDP-23-103 for Puerto Rico
Page 2 / 2

Policies and guidelines – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

Historical data – If available, historical data or trends in radon levels within the regions you monitor that may impact HUD-assisted housing.

This information is vital to ensure that our radon management strategies are practical and compliant with federal requirements. If some of this information may be sensitive or confidential, we are prepared to discuss any necessary agreements or protocols for sharing this data securely.

Please let us know if you require additional details or have any questions regarding this request. We would greatly appreciate your response by September 15, 2024, so we can incorporate this data into our ongoing compliance efforts.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We look forward to working together on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Raúl Hernández Díaz, rfernandez2@salud.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Holly Weyers
Regional Director, Southeast – Puerto Rico
US Geological Survey
3916 Sunset Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Via email: haweyers@usgs.gov

RE: Request for information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico

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Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We look forward to working together on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. R. Randall Schumann, rschumann@usgs.gov

From: Charp, Paul (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP) <pac4@cdc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 6:36 AM
To: Miranda, Sandra (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Iriaray, Jessica (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Rzeszotarski, Peter (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP); Vinson, D. Aaron (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)
Cc: Kostak, Liana (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Vazquez, Germaine (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)
Subject: RE: REHi: Puerto Rico Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good morning, Sandra and others,

In response to the request from Mr. William Rodriguez of the Department of Housing, Government of Puerto Rico, I have reviewed all the available data within the CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network system for data related to radon in Puerto Rico. In addition to the tracking data available on the internet, I also reached out to Mr. Aaron Vinson of the NCEH Tracking Branch.

I was not able to find any data in the CDC systems and this was confirmed by Mr. Vinson. We also reached out to the US Environmental Protection Agency who indicated they had no radon data in their systems. Please relay this information to Mr. Rodriguez in your response to his requests.

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Thank you and best regards,

Paul A. Charp, Ph.D., Fellow, HPS
Senior Health Physicist
Emerging Environmental Hazards and Health Effects Branch (EEHHEB)
Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice (DEHSP)
National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
pcharp@cdc.gov
770-488-0723 office
404.388.0614 Cell



From: Schumann, R. Randall <rschumann@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 4:39 PM
To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Weyers, Holly S <hsweyers@usgs.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for Information- Radon testing and levels

Dear Ms. Medina Smaine,

In the early 1990s the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) conducted geologic assessments of radon potential for all 50 states and the territories of Guam and Puerto Rico, in collaboration with the U.S. EPA. I conducted the geologic radon potential assessment for Puerto Rico. The PDF file of the report is too large to attach to this message but it can be obtained at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>. The USGS did not conduct indoor radon testing and we did not conduct field studies associated with this assessment; it was based on existing data. Mr. David Saldana of the Puerto Rico Department of Health kindly provided us with data for 610 homes that were tested for indoor radon by his agency between 1993 and 1995, which are summarized in the report. I am not aware of any other radon-related geologic studies conducted in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Best regards,

R. Randall Schumann
Scientist Emeritus
U.S. Geological Survey
Geosciences and Environmental Change Science Center
Denver, Colorado, USA
rschumann@usgs.gov
<https://www.usgs.gov/staff-profiles/r-randall-schumann>

From: Raul Hernandez Doble <rfernandez2@salud.pr.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 2:13:31 PM
To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Dr. Carlos Mellado <drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Mayra Toro Tirado <mtoro@salud.pr.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good afternoon. Ms. Medina

I regret to inform that we do not have any recent information on radon testing, since we do not have a certified radiation laboratory certified for radon testing. There are companies that sell test kits available online that can be done and mailed to a testing laboratory. There are also lists of radon contractors and these companies that process radon testing cartridges with instructions, on the Environmental Protection Agency Indoor air Quality web page. The last radon study in Puerto Rico done by the PR Department of Health was done on the year 1993.

Raul Hernandez Doble
Director, Seccion Salud Radiologica
Division de Salud Ambiental
Secretaria Auxiliar para la Vigilancia y la Proteccion de la Salud Publica
rfernandez2@salud.gov.pr
Phone: (787)765-2929 ext. 3210

From: Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 11:48 AM
To: Cesar O Rodriguez Santos <cesarodriguez@drna.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>; Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>; Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Povetko, Oleg (he/him/his) <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Saludos.

La EPA esta trabajando una respuesta a su petición. Se sometió borrador a la directora y el subdirector para su aprobación y firma.

Brenda Reyes Tomassini
Public Affairs
U.S. EPA
Region 2
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
(787) 977-5869/(787) 977-5865
Mobile: 202-834-1290

From: Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>
Sent: Friday, September 6, 2024 15:04
To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>; Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov>; Povetko, Oleg <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Estimada Melanie Medina
Quería dejarle saber que recibimos su correo el 21 de agosto al igual que el de Maritza Rosa el pasado 4 de septiembre. Ya las personas involucradas de EPA, junto conmigo y el Dr. Marín estamos al tanto del asunto y estamos trabajando para poder enviarles la información.

Atentamente

Silvina Cancelos
Professor
Associate Director
Mechanical Engineering Department
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez
Call BOX 9000 Mayaguez PR 00680
Tel: 787-832-4040 ext 5956
email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu



Bubble Dynamics Lab
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez



September 23, 2024

VIA EMAIL

William O. Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Barbosa Ave. 606 Building Juan C. Cordero
San Juan, PR 00917
Email: W.Rodriguez@vivienda.pr.gov

RE: EPA Response to August 20, 2024 request for information of data on radon testing and levels in Puerto Rico

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodriguez:

This communication is in response to your letter of August 20, 2024 addressed to the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) and referred to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico.

EPA's National Radon Action Plan 2021–2025 sets a goal for the nation to find, fix and prevent high indoor radon levels in 8 million buildings by 2025 and prevent 3,500 lung cancer deaths per year. Under this Plan, leaders from across multiple sectors are working together to plan, guide, and sustain nationwide action to prevent exposure to radon.

Due to the lack of data in Puerto Rico, EPA undertook an investigation in collaboration with the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez (UPRM) Campus, Departments of Civil Engineering, and Surveying and Mechanical Engineering, to find out if radon presented a problem in Puerto Rico. Up until 2021, the only data we had for Puerto Rico was a 1993-1995 mail-in radon screening study referred to by the U.S. Geological Survey report (USGS, 1995) in which the USGS concluded that several areas of Puerto Rico have the geologic potential to generate indoor radon levels exceeding the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter), perhaps locally reaching very high levels above 50 pCi/L, if a house construction and

ventilation allow for soil-gas radon to enter and concentrate within the structure.¹ According to the USGS report, most of these areas are located in the northwest part of the island. Please note that the actual 1993-1995 study documentation is not available to the EPA.

Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered devices) are impractical in Puerto Rico because of high humidity and power outages. The recovery and rebuilding of communities following the aftermath of 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria presented an opportunity to develop radon prevention and mitigation strategies in 2019. Initially, EPA sampled indoor radon air in over 170 single-family residences in the municipalities of San Sebastian, Lares, Ciales, Arecibo, Morovis, Camuy, and Hatillo and later expanded the project to other municipalities such as Rincon, Aguada, Aguadilla, Isabela, Quebradillas, Barceloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARST) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS, 2019). The sampling was designed in two stages: scoping and confirmatory sampling. The scoping sampling was conducted using Corentium Home (CH) electronic monitors and F-PPerm systems. Locations measuring above the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L with CH were measured at the second stage of the sampling using RAD7 and Corentium Pro Continuous Radon Monitors (CRMs). Nationally certified radon sampling professionals led by one such professional from the UPRM conducted confirmatory sampling in the second stage. Also, during the study, the nationally certified radon mitigation professionals inspected several homes with elevated indoor radon levels.

Mapping radon in Puerto Rico proved to be a complicated endeavor given the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. EPA and UPRM continue to work on the project, however, results have not been finalized, and no scientific report has been published yet. Unfortunately, EPA cannot share preliminary data at this time because it contains privileged information. Nevertheless, preliminary data from the study does show homes with levels over 4 pCi/L (EPA Action Level) that might need mitigation to protect the health of their inhabitants.

Although many states have developed laws and regulations governing radon disclosure, certification, and mitigation, Puerto Rico lacks legislation or mandatory radon testing provisions for new construction, remodeling, selling or buying homes. Given this loophole and aiming to answer your request, the EPA can provide information on Best Management Practices for sampling indoor radon in Puerto Rico.

¹ Reference: USGS. Geologic Radon Potential of Guam and Puerto Rico, Report 93-292-K. Washington, DC: USGS. Retrieved 9/11/2024, from <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>.

2

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me at 787-977-5865 or guerrero.carmen@epa.gov or have your staff contact Reyes, Brenda at reyes.brenda@epa.gov or (787) 977-5869.

Sincerely,
CARMEN GUERRERO PEREZ
Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez
Director

Digitally signed by
CARMEN GUERRERO PEREZ
Date: 2024.09.23 09:41:39
-04'00'

CC: Roberto Mendez, Esq (Acting Secretary, PR Department of Natural and Env. Resources)
Melany Medina: medina@vivienda.pr.gov
Elaine Dume Mejia: edume@vivienda.pr.gov
Luz S Colon Ortiz: colon@vivienda.pr.gov
Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez: aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov
Cesar O. Rodriguez: cesarrodiguez@drna.pr.gov
Marita Rosa Olivares: maritarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov

ECHO Reports



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

TEXACO PUERTO RICO INC

PR-111 KM 34.3 PUEBLO WARD, LARES, PR 00669

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110007820064

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.290011

Longitude: -66.890792

Locational Data Source: FRS

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	RCRA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): No Information

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Inactive Other, (PRR000006726)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

Known Data Problems <<https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/known-data-problems>>

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

Compliance and Emissions Data Reporting Interface (CEDRI): No Information

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110007820064					N	18.290011	-66.890792
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000006726	Other	Inactive()			N	18.290011	-66.890792

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110007820064	TEXACO PUERTO RICO INC	PR-111 KM 34.3 PUEBLO WARD, LARES, PR 00669	Lares Municipio
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000006726	TEXACO PUERTO RICO INC	RD #111 KM 34.3 PUEBLO WARD, LARES, PR 00669	Lares Municipio

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description	System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
No data records returned							

Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Codes

No data records returned

Facility Tribe Information

No data records returned

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History

Last 5 Years

Statute	Source ID	System	Activity Type	Compliance Monitoring Type	Lead Agency	Date	Finding (if applicable)
No data records returned							

Entries in *italics* are not included in ECHO's Compliance Monitoring Activity counts because they are not compliance monitoring strategy

<<https://www.epa.gov/compliance/compliance-monitoring-programs>> activities or because they are not counted as inspections within EPA's Annual Results <<https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/enforcement-data-and-results>>.

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
RCRA	PRR000006726	No	05/31/2025	0	05/30/2025

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11
RCRA (Source ID: PRR000006726)	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-09/30/23	10/01-12/31/23	01/01-03/31/24	04/01-06/30/24	07/01-09/30/24	10/01-12/31/24	01/01-03/31/25	
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified										
	Violation	Agency										

Informal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
No data records returned					

Entries in *italics* are not counted as "informal enforcement actions" in EPA policies pertaining to enforcement response tools.

Formal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/ Filed Date	Settlements/ Actions	Settlement/ Action Date	Federal Penalty Assessed	State/ Local Penalty Assessed	Penalty Amount Collected	SEP Value	Comp Action Cost
No data records returned															

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
No data records returned						

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

[State](#) [Report Cycle](#) [Assessment Unit ID](#) [Assessment Unit Name](#) [Water Condition](#) [Cause Groups Impaired](#) [Drinking Water Use](#) [Ecological Use](#) [Fish Consumption Use](#) [Recreation Use](#) [Other Use](#)

No data records returned

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

[Pollutant](#) [Within Nonattainment Status Area?](#) [Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard\(s\)](#) [Within Maintenance Status Area?](#) [Maintenance Status Applicable Standard\(s\)](#)

No data records returned

Pollutants

Toxics Release Inventory History of Reported Chemicals Released or Transferred in Pounds per Year at Site

[TRI Facility ID](#) [Year](#) [Air Emissions](#) [Surface Water Discharges](#) [Off-Site Transfers to POTWs \(Publicly Owned Treatment Works\)](#) [Underground Injections](#) [Disposal to Land](#) [Total On-Site Releases](#) [Total Off-Site Transfers](#)

No data records returned

Toxics Release Inventory Total Releases and Transfers in Pounds by Chemical and Year

Chemical Name

No data records returned

Community

Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. Census boundaries and demographic data for U.S. Territories are based on the "2020 Island Areas Demographic Profiles" from the U.S. Census Bureau. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and ACS census block groups in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>>.

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))		Age Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Total Persons	4,167	Children 5 years and younger	172 (4%)
Population Density	1,335/sq.mi.	Minors 17 years and younger	620 (15%)
Housing Units in Area	2,198	Adults 18 years and older	3,547 (85%)
Percent People of Color	100%	Seniors 65 years and older	1,019 (24%)
Households in Area	1,671	Race Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Households on Public Assistance	41	White	3,512 (84%)
Persons With Low Income	3,318	African-American	108 (3%)
Percent With Low Income	80%	Hispanic-Origin	4,144 (99%)
Geography		Asian	0 (0%)
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
Center Latitude	18.290011	American Indian	3 (0%)
Center Longitude	-66.890792	Other/Multiracial	250 (6%)
Total Area	--	Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Land Area	100%	Less than 9th Grade	642 (19.85%)
Water Area	0%	9th through 12th Grade	211 (6.52%)
Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)		High School Diploma	766 (23.68%)
Less than \$15,000	590 (35.31%)	Some College/2-year	455 (14.06%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	411 (24.6%)	B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	788 (24.36%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	486 (29.08%)		
\$50,000 - \$75,000	137 (8.2%)		
Greater than \$75,000	47 (2.81%)		



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

PUERTO RICO IND DEVELOPMENT CO

EMILIO CASTRO URBAN, LARES, PR 00669

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110012259732

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.29331

Longitude: -66.89096

Locational Data Source: FRS

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	RCRA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): No Information

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Inactive Other, (PRR000014357)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

Known Data Problems <<https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/known-data-problems>>

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

Compliance and Emissions Data Reporting Interface (CEDRI): No Information

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110012259732					N	18.29331	-66.89096
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000014357	Other	Inactive ()			N		

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110012259732	PUERTO RICO IND DEVELOPMENT CO	EMILIO CASTRO URBAN, LARES, PR 00669	Lares Municipio
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000014357	PUERTO RICO IND DEVELOPMENT CO	EMILIO CASTRO URBAN, LARES, PR 00669	Lares Municipio

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description	System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
No data records returned							

Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Codes

No data records returned

Facility Tribe Information

Reservation Name	Tribe Name	EPA Tribal ID	Distance to Tribe (miles)
No data records returned			

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History

Last 5 Years

Statute	Source ID	System	Activity Type	Compliance Monitoring Type	Lead Agency	Date	Finding (if applicable)
No data records returned							

Entries in italics are not included in ECHO's Compliance Monitoring Activity counts because they are not compliance monitoring strategy<<https://www.epa.gov/compliance/compliance-monitoring-programs>> activities or because they are not counted as inspections within EPA's Annual Results<<https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/enforcement-data-and-results>>.

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
RCRA	PRR000014357	No	05/31/2025	0	05/30/2025

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11
RCRA (Source ID: PRR000014357)	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-09/30/23	10/01-12/31/23	01/01-03/31/24	04/01-06/30/24	07/01-09/30/24	10/01-12/31/24	01/01-03/31/25	
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified										
	Violation	Agency										

Informal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
No data records returned					

Entries in italics are not counted as "informal enforcement actions" in EPA policies pertaining to enforcement response tools.

Formal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/ Filed Date	Settlements/ Actions	Settlement/ Action Date	Federal Penalty Assessed	State/ Local Penalty Assessed	Penalty Amount Collected	SEP Value	Comp Action Cost
No data records returned															

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
No data records returned						

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
-------	--------------	--------------------	----------------------	-----------------	-----------------------	--------------------	----------------	----------------------	----------------	-----------

No data records returned

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

Pollutant	Within Nonattainment Status Area?	Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard(s)	Within Maintenance Status Area?	Maintenance Status Applicable Standard(s)
-----------	-----------------------------------	---	---------------------------------	---

No data records returned

Pollutants

Toxics Release Inventory History of Reported Chemicals Released or Transferred in Pounds per Year at Site

TRI Facility ID	Year	Air Emissions	Surface Water Discharges	Off-Site Transfers to POTWs (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)	Underground Injections	Disposal to Land	Total On-Site Releases	Total Off-Site Transfers
-----------------	------	---------------	--------------------------	--	------------------------	------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

No data records returned

Toxics Release Inventory Total Releases and Transfers in Pounds by Chemical and Year

Chemical Name

No data records returned

Community

Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. Census boundaries and demographic data for U.S. Territories are based on the "2020 Island Areas Demographic Profiles" from the U.S. Census Bureau. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and ACS census block groups in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>>.

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))		Age Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Total Persons	4,709	Children 5 years and younger	203 (4%)
Population Density	1,509/sq.mi.	Minors 17 years and younger	707 (15%)
Housing Units in Area	2,478	Adults 18 years and older	4,001 (85%)
Percent People of Color	99%	Seniors 65 years and older	1,128 (24%)
Households in Area	1,906		
Households on Public Assistance	51		
Persons With Low Income	3,809		
Percent With Low Income	82%		
Geography		Race Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.	White	3,967 (84%)
Center Latitude	18.29331	African-American	110 (2%)
Center Longitude	-66.89096	Hispanic-Origin	4,678 (99%)
Total Area	--	Asian	0 (0%)
Land Area	100%	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
Water Area	0%	American Indian	2 (0%)
		Other/Multiracial	292 (6%)
Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)		Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Less than \$15,000	684 (35.94%)	Less than 9th Grade	715 (19.68%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	469 (24.65%)	9th through 12th Grade	241 (6.63%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	552 (29.01%)	High School Diploma	878 (24.17%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	148 (7.78%)	Some College/2-year	519 (14.29%)
Greater than \$75,000	50 (2.63%)	B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	862 (23.73%)

Appendix *: USFWS “No Effect” Memo and supporting documentations

ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 10/21/2025

Program: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR): Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

To: Environmental Review Record (ERR) File

Subject: Explanation of Conflicting Information within the ERR

Applicant Name: Colmado El Resuelve (Luis Acevedo Jimenez)

Application Number: PR-ESP-00327

This memorandum serves to provide an explanation as to the presence of conflicting pieces of information within the Environmental Review Record (ERR) file.

Conflicting Information:

- Coordinates
- Parcel ID/Cadaster Number
- Address
- Municipio
- Construction Date
- Applicant Name
- Other:

Location (s) of Conflicting Information:

USFWS No Effect Memo package

Explanation:

This memorandum serves to clarify that the cadaster number listed in the USFWS No Effect Memo package was entered incorrectly (158-058-046-33-002). The correct cadaster number for the property is 158-058-046-33-000. However, this does not affect the project since the work to be performed remains on the same property, so returning the case for re-consultation is not necessary.

Date: May 8, 2025

Applicant ID: PR-ESP-00327

Street Address: Calle Emilio Castro Num 4, Lares PR, 00669

Municipality: Lares

RE: No Effect Determination for PR-ESP-00327

Executive Summary

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates that federal agencies ensure the actions that they authorize, fund, or carry out shall not jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed plants and animals or result in the adverse modification or destruction of designated critical habitat. Where their actions may affect resources protected by the ESA, agencies must consult with the Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service ("FWS" and "NMFS" or "the Services").

This memo serves to document that the proposed project, PR-ESP-00327, located at Calle Emilio Castro Num 4, Lares PR, 00669 (Parcel ID# 158-058-046-33-002) was reviewed in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 USC 1536) as well as the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) by a qualified Biologist, resulting in a 'No Effect' determination.

The CDBG-DR Energy Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience (ER2) Program's objective is to enhance electric system reliability, affordability, and resiliency through the development and interconnection of projects that qualify as electric system enhancements or improvements.

Project Description

The subject property is a Commercial Building located in Lares, PR. The project scope includes the installation of a photovoltaic (solar) panel system and appurtenant storage system (batteries) on the existing commercial building's roof and will be built at Latitude: 18.292940, Longitude: -66.890803 (see Site Map at Appendix A, Figure 1). All improvements will be limited to the roof, floors, and walls of existing commercial buildings. The Field Observation Form and Environmental Screening Checklist depicting and clarifying the extent and location of project activities are included in Appendix B.

As indicated by the Official Species List obtained from the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (Appendix C) and USFWS Critical Habitat data (Appendix A, Figure 2), the proposed project lies within the ranges of the following federally listed species and critical habitats:

Species	Status
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered

Critical Habitat
None.

Existing Conditions:

The project area where the activities will be taking place consists of approximately 0.05-acres of land located at Calle Emilio Castro Num 4, Lares PR, 00669. According to the U.S. Geological Survey National Land Cover Database (NLCD) (Appendix A, Figure 4) the majority of the project area consists of a medium intensity developed land. A structure matching project orientation and footprint is present on 1967 Earth Explorer, earliest imagery. The building is absent from the 1958 topographical map (1960 ed.). A topographic map is included (see Appendix A, Figure 3). The project is located in Zone X on the FEMA Flood map and ABFE map, panel number 72000C0570H dated 4/19/2005 (see Flood Map Appendix A, Figure 5 and ABFE map Appendix A, Figure 6). A Preliminary FIRM has not been developed for this area. There is a mapped NWI riverine approximately 1,342 feet to the northeast of the proposed project location. The project activities will not occur within a natural or manmade wetlands and no direct or indirect impacts are anticipated as a result of the project activities (see wetlands map Appendix A, Figure 7).

Effect Determination:

Based on a review of site photos and other information gathered during a site visit on March 26, 2025, none of the species listed above were observed in the vicinity of the proposed project activities and no critical habitat was identified within the proposed project area. Having carefully analyzed the project site and the information available, including the IPaC species list and available Dkey(s), critical habitat data, nature of the project, previous site disturbance, and scope of project activities, the following effect determinations have been made:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be Implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	No Effect	None required

SPECIES ANALYSIS

Puerto Rican Boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Considered to be a habitat generalist, the Puerto Rican Boa tolerates a wide variety terrestrial and arboreal habitat, including rocky areas, haystack hill, trees and branches, rotting stumps, caves, plantations, various types of forested areas such as karst and mangrove forests, forested urban and rural areas, and along streams and road edges. The IPaC Determination Key (Dkey) for the Puerto Rican Boa, dated May 6, 2025, was used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on the Dkey responses, it was determined that the proposed project will have 'No Effect' on the Puerto Rican Boa (Appendix C).

If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask them to relocate the Boa.



Patricia Carmenatty / Senior Biologist

5/8/2025

Date

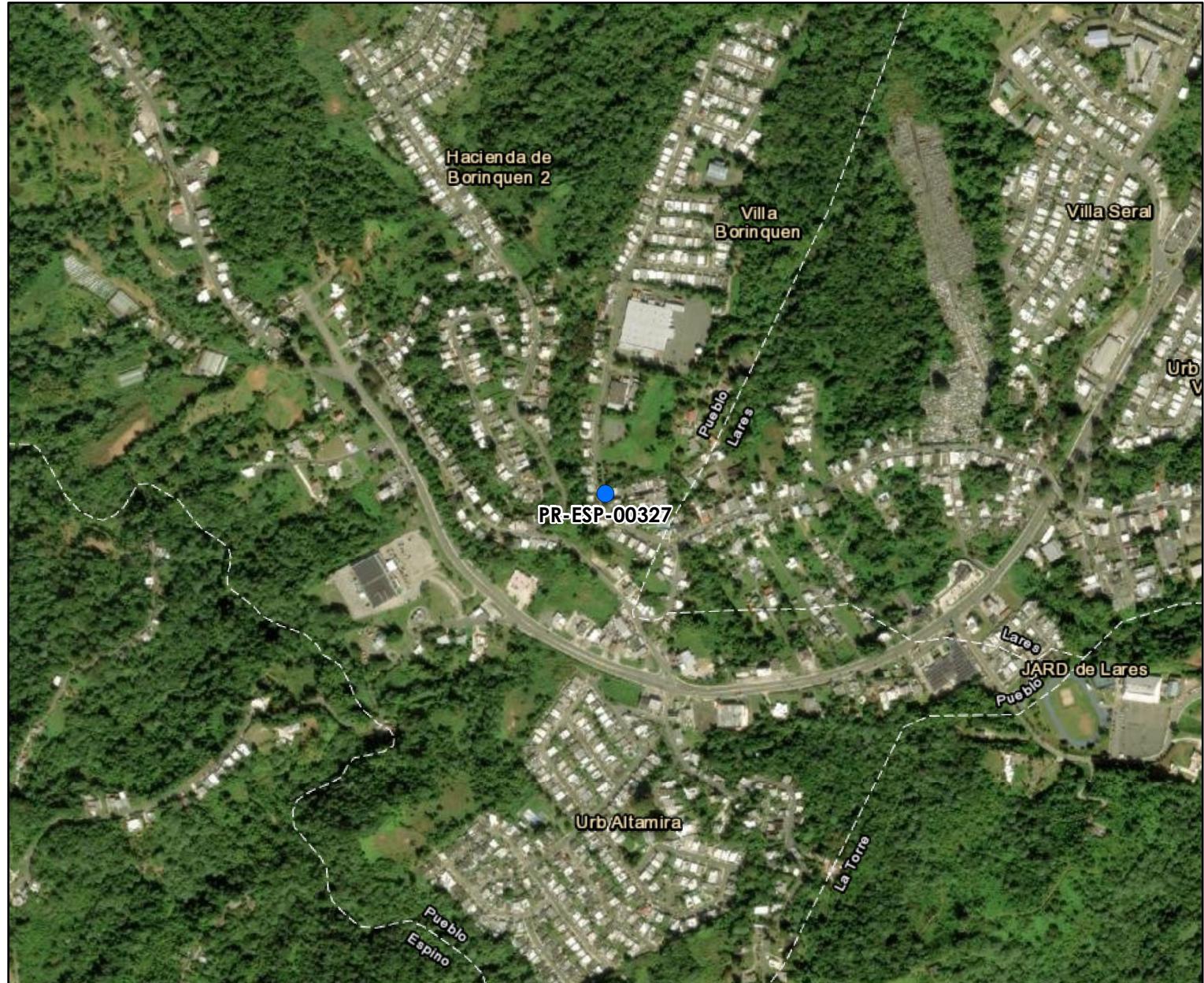
Appendix A: Figures

Figure 1

Location: Aerial Map

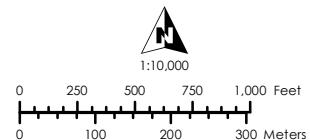
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327



Service Layer Credits:

Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdrpc/>

Figure 2

Threatened and Endangered Species Map

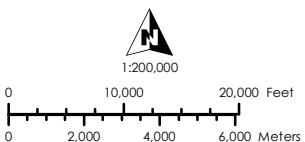
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
(Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
Lares PR 00669
Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Critical Habitat



Service Layer Credits:

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

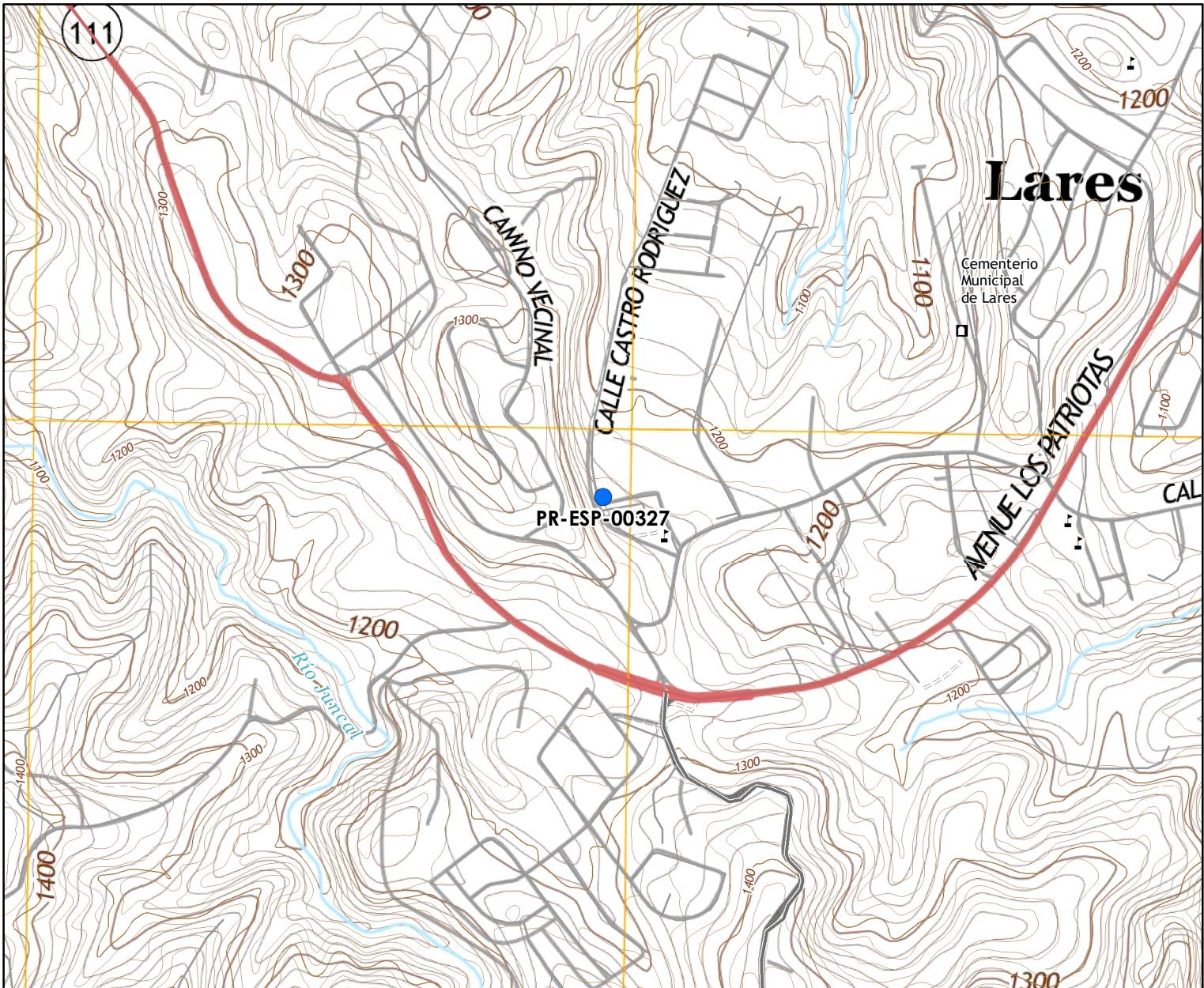
Source:
NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

Figure 3

Location: Topographic Map

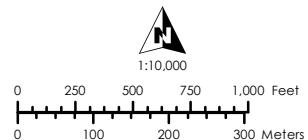
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Elev_Contour



Service Layer Credits:
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:
 Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdpprc/>

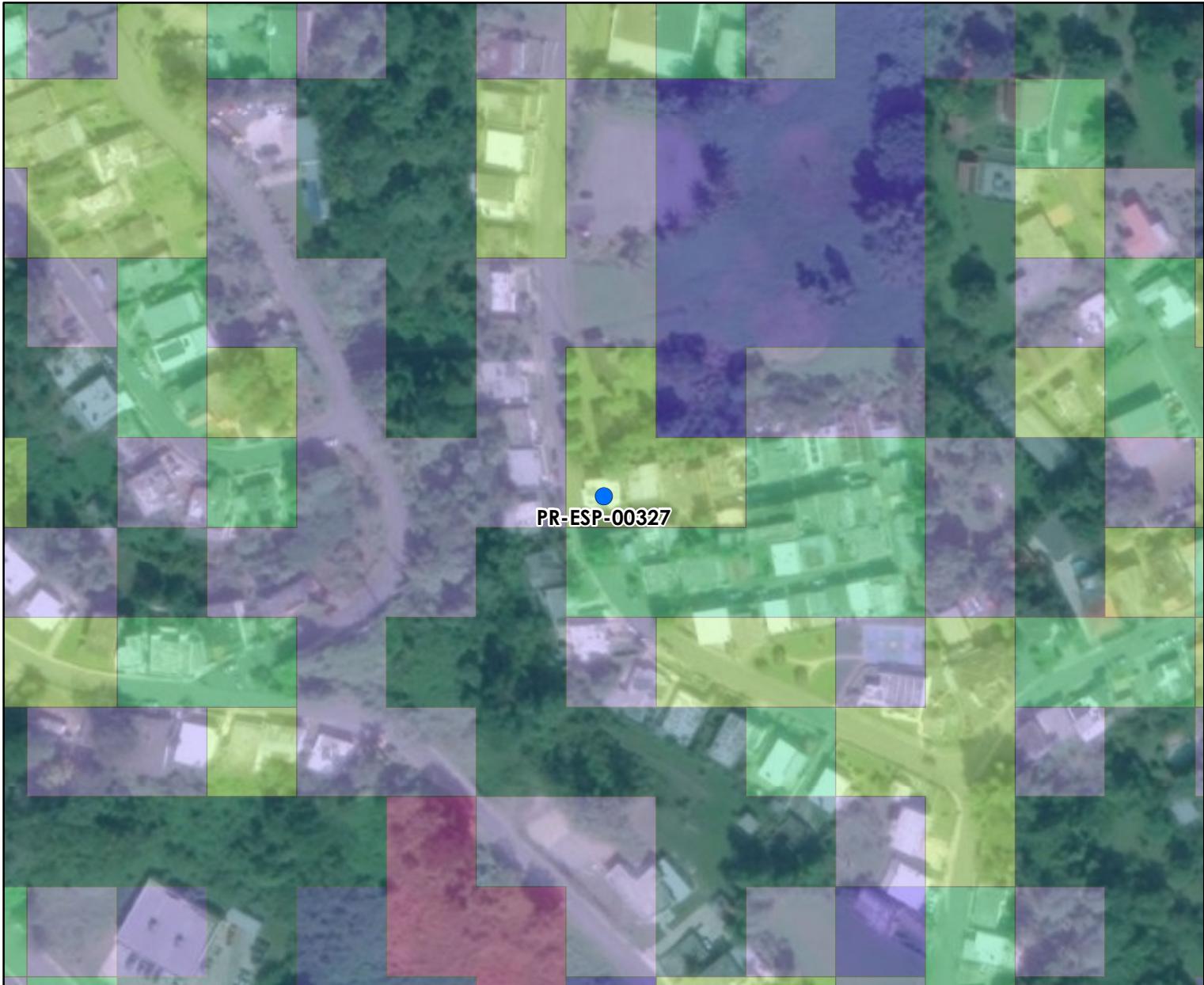
Quadrangle: San Sebastián

Figure 4

Land Cover Map

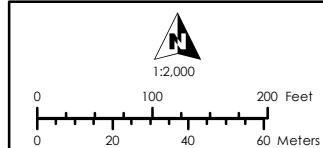
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Developed Open Space
- Grassland
- High Intensity Developed
- Low Intensity Developed
- Medium Intensity Developed
- Mixed Forest
- Scrub/Shrub



Service Layer Credits:
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

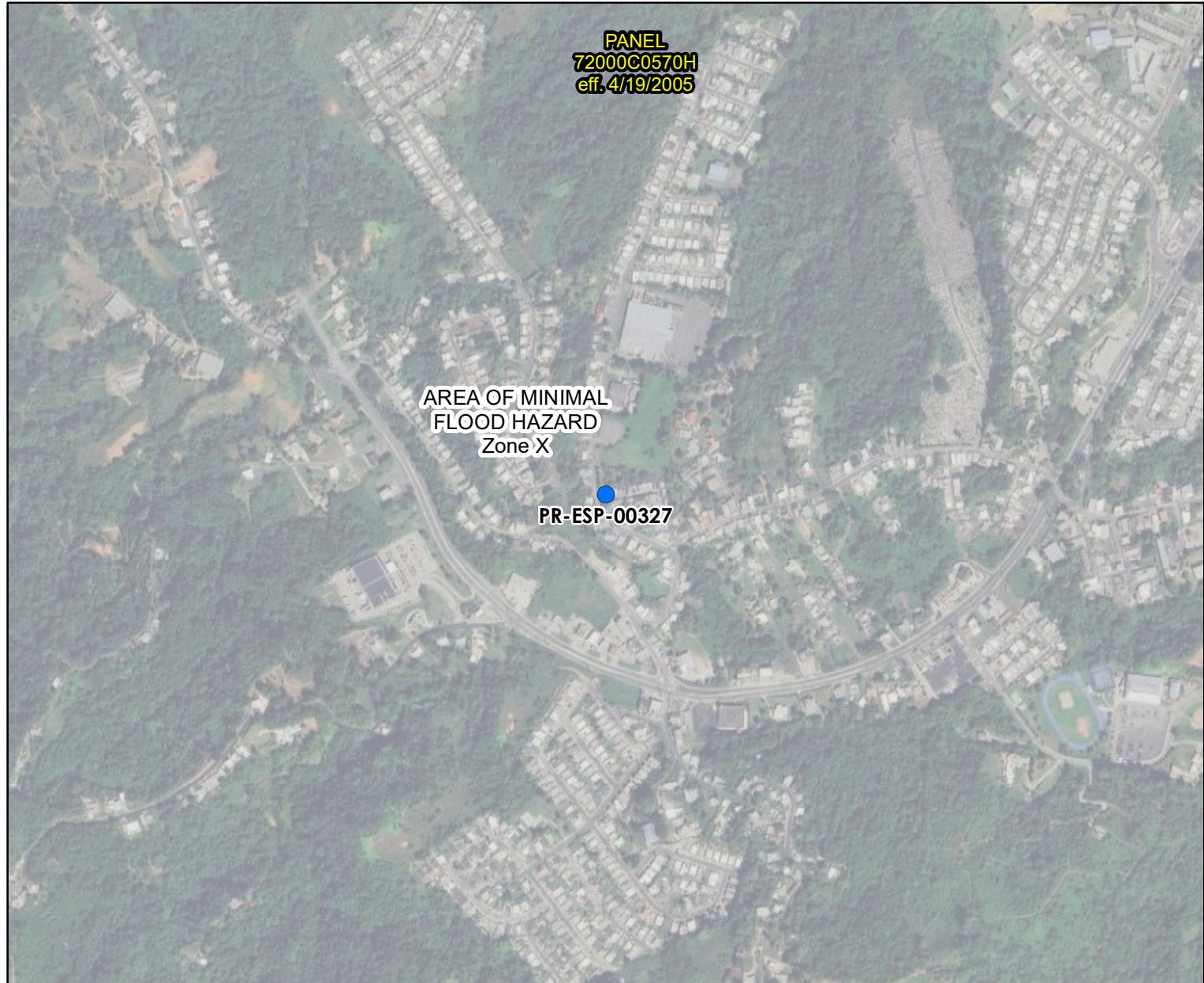
Source:
 Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium
<https://www.mrlc.gov/viewer/>

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

Figure 5

Flood Insurance Rate Map

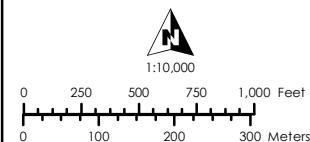
Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- FIRM Panel
- Floodway
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Zone D Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard

- Zone A
- Zone AE
- Zone AH
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Zone X



Service Layer Credits:
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

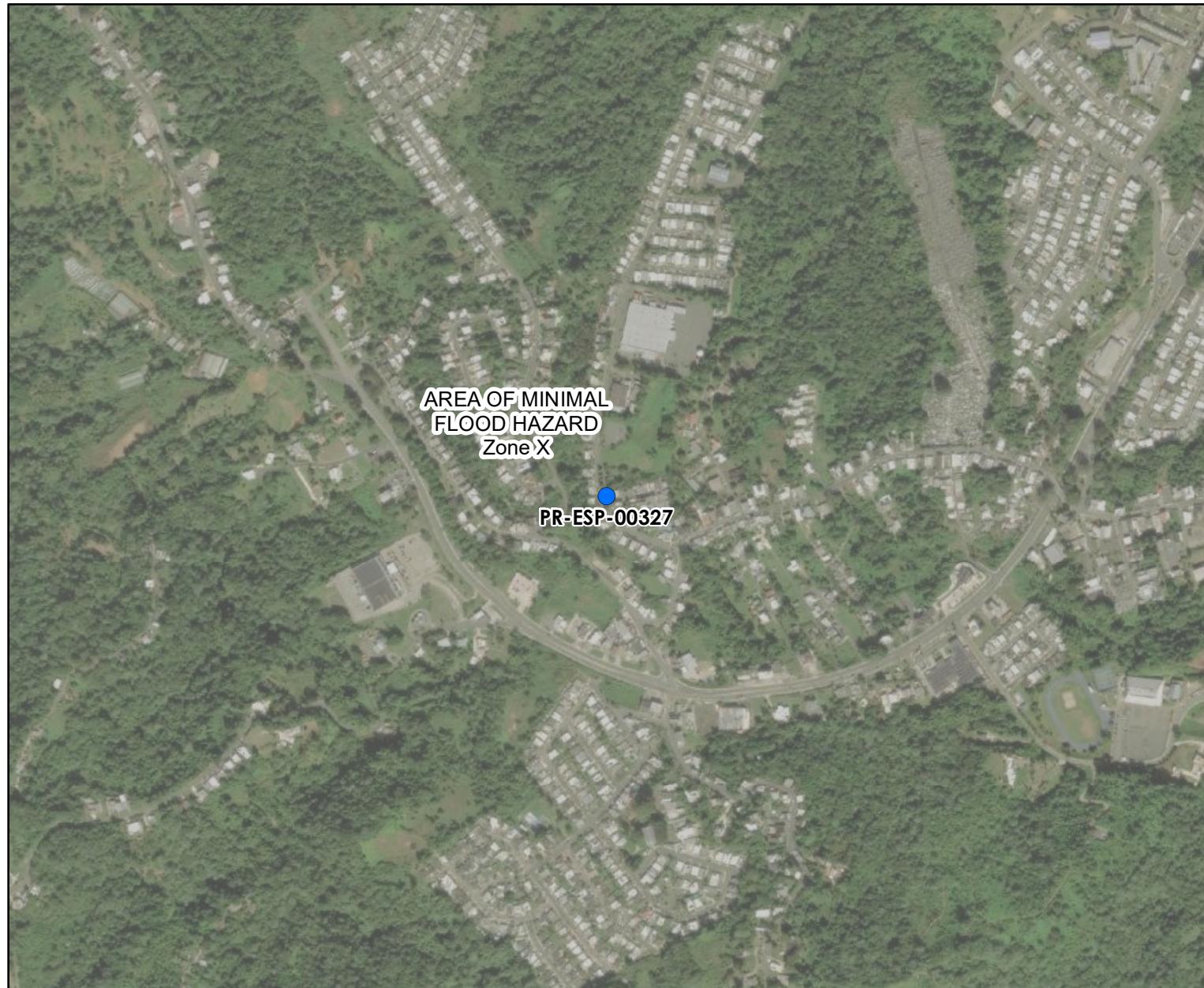
Source:
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Figure 6

Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803



Legend:

- PR-ESP-00327
- Area Potential Effect (Building Footprint)
- CRIM-Parcel
- Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFE)
- 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood
- 1 % Annual Chance Flood

Flood Zone

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| Zone A |
| Zone AE |
| Zone AO |
| Zone VE |
| Zone X - Area of Minimal Flood Hazard |
| 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood |
| 1 % Annual Chance Flood |
| Floodway |



Service Layer Credits:
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



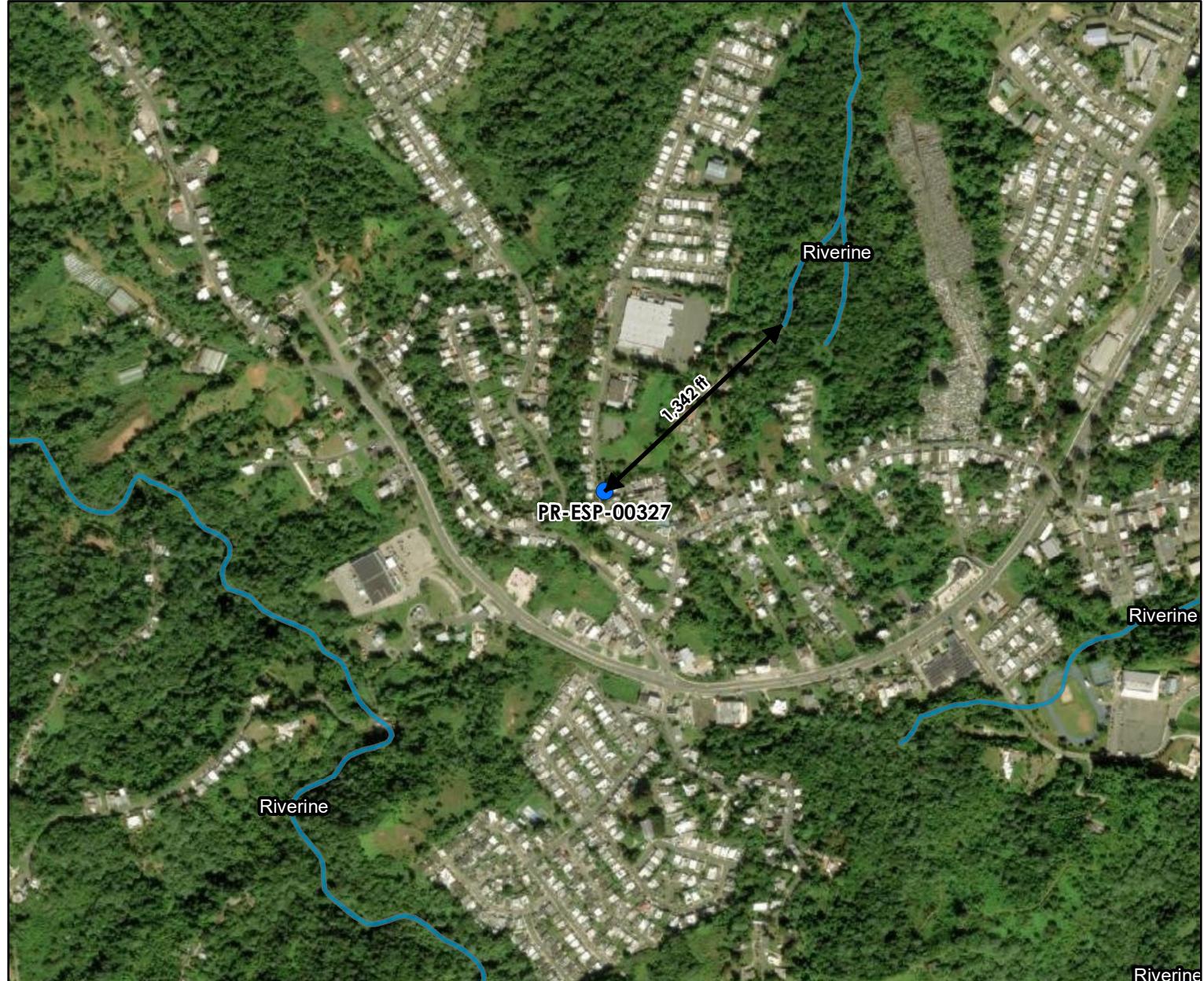
Source:
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),
<https://gis-r2.fema.hub.arcgis.com/>
 Junta de Planificación de Puerto Rico (JP), <https://maps.jp.pr.gov/>
 Mapas de Niveles de Inundación Base Recomendados

Figure 7

Wetlands Map

Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

Colmado El Resuelve
 (Luis Acevedo Jiménez)
 Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4,
 Lares PR 00669
 Catastro: 158-058-046-33-002
 Lat: 18.292940, Lon: -66.890803

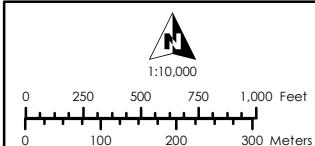


Legend:



National Wetlands Inventory

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater	Freshwater Pond
Estuarine and Marine Wetland	Lake
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	Riverine
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	



Service Layer Credits:

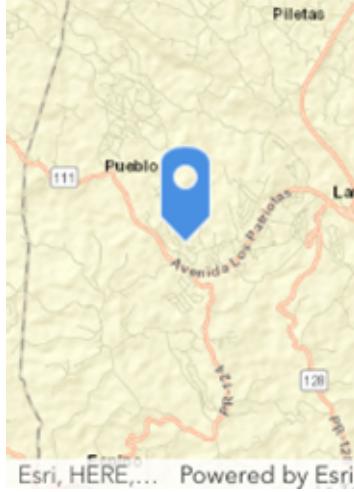
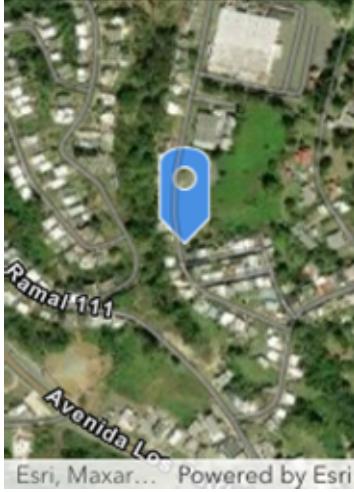
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

Appendix B: Field Observation Form and Environmental Screening Checklist



Environmental Field Assessment Form - PR-ESP-00327

APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION		
Applicant ID: PR-ESP-00327		
Applicant Name: Colmado El Resuelve		
Parcel ID: 158-058-046-33-002		
Coordinates: 18.292940, -66.890803		
Street Address: CALLE EMILIO CASTRO NUM 4		
Municipio: Lares		
Zip Code: 00669		
Site Inspector: Egon Gonzalez		
Date of Visit: March 26, 2025		
Time of Visit: 14:54		
Year Built: Circa 1960		
Building Information		
Question	Answer	Notes
1. Location verified:	Yes	18.292940, -66.890803
2. Is the building correct on GIS?	Yes	Building is correct on GIS
3. Building Type:	Commercial/ Residential	
4. # of Stories:	2	
5. Building Foundation:	Concrete Slab	
6. Is the building in use?	Yes	Building is in use
7. Does the building have a detached garage / carport present?	No	
8. Is the electricity connected?	Yes	Electricity is connected
9. Is the water connected?	Yes	Water is connected
10. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, electrical equipment etc.)	No	
11. Is a septic system present? If Yes report apparent condition.	No	
12. Are there any obvious signs of animals, birds nesting or burrows near the site?	Yes	



Parcel Conditions

Question	Answer	Notes
1) Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	Yes	(6) 55gal Drums used to recycle aluminum cans located on left side of structure
2) Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	No	
3) Are there signs of AST on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	Yes	(18) 25lbs Propane tanks located on right side of structure and (1) 100lbs Propane tank located on left side of structure
4) Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?		
5) Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?		
6) Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	No	
7) Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?		
8) Are any additional environmental or non-environmental site hazards observed?		
9) Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site(do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	No	
10) Does the subject property have water frontage?	No	
11) Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/ area?	No	
12) Is a historic marker present?	No	
13) Based on the above finding, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?	No	

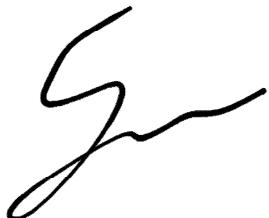
Building Environmental Conditions

Question	Answer	Notes
1. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, and flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	No	
2. Is there any visible indication of mold?	No	
3. Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	No	

Additional Needs Analysis

Question	Answer	Notes
Based on the above findings, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?	No	

I verify that I have physically visited this property and that the findings outlined above are accurate.



Inspector Signature

Egon Gonzalez

March 26, 2025



Front of Structure

Photo Direction: East

Comments:



Facing Away from Front

Photo Direction: West

Comments:





Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: Southeast

Comments:



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments:



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: North

Comments:



Facing Away from Back

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments:



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: North

Comments:



Facing Away from Side #2

Photo Direction: Southeast

Comments:





Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: South

Comments:



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: North

Comments:





Address

Photo Direction: East

Comments:





Architectural Details 1

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Electricity is connected



Architectural Details 2

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water is connected



Architectural Details 3

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Proposed battery storage location



Architectural Details 4

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: General interior view





Architectural Details 5

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: General interior view



Architectural Details 6

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: (6) 55gal Drums used to recycle aluminum cans located on left side of structure





Architectural Details 7

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: (18) 25lbs
Propane tanks located on right side
of structure



Architectural Details 8

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Overview





Architectural Details 9

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: (1) 100lbs
Propane tank located at left side of
structure



Architectural Details 10

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Additional back of
structure view



Appendix C: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (939) 320-3135 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:

05/06/2025 13:00:36 UTC

Project Code: 2025-0092694

Project Name: PR-ESP-00327

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

THE FOLLOWING SPECIES LIST IS NOT A SECTION 7 CONSULTATION. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE TO COMPLETE THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The purpose of the Endangered Species Act (Act) is to provide a means whereby threatened, and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect those species and/or their designated critical habitat.

Federal agencies are required to "request of the Secretary of Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action". The enclosed species list provides information to assist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) consultation process under section 7 of the Act. However, **the enclosed species list does not complete the required consultation process**. The species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and designated critical habitats, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. A discussion between the Federal agency and the Service should include what types of listed species may occur in the proposed action area and what effect the proposed action may have on those species. This process initiates informal consultation.

Once a species list is obtained for the proposed project, an effect determination for endangered and threatened species should be made. The applicant could make an effect determination by using available keys on IPaC for specific species. For species with no determination keys, the applicant should request concurrence from the Service by sending a project package

to caribbean_es@fws.gov. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/consultation-under-section-7-of-the-endangered-species-act-with-the-caribbean-ecological%20Services-field-office-template-letter.pdf>

When a federal agency, after discussions with the Service, determines that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect any listed species, or adversely modify any designated critical habitat, and the Service concurs, the informal consultation is complete, and the proposed project moves ahead. If the proposed action is suspected to affect a listed species or modify designated critical habitat, the Federal agency may then prepare a Biological Assessment (B.A.) to assist in its determination of the project's effects on species and their habitat. However, a B.A. is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a B.A. where the agency provides the Service with an evaluation on the likely effects of the action to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a B.A. are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a federal agency determines, based on its B.A. or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to further consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species, and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation process. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species.

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action". Please use this list to determine whether your project requires consultation and to make your effects determination. For more guidance, use the Guideline for Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office by clicking [here](#).

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0092694

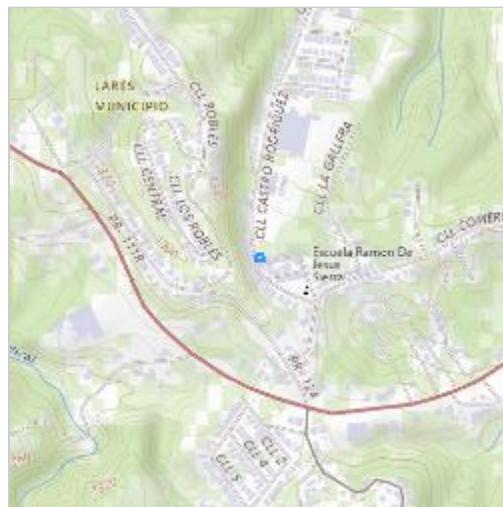
Project Name: PR-ESP-00327

Project Type: Power Gen - Solar

Project Description: Colmado El Resuelve / Commercial Building

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.29296525,-66.89079278619556,14z>



Counties: Lares County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/LP3UF6GJCNH3FDBTXNO4L2H25Q/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

-
1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED. PLEASE CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The incidental take of migratory birds is the injury or death of birds that results from, but is not the purpose, of an activity. The Service interprets the MBTA to prohibit incidental take.

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

MIGRATORY BIRD INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED. PLEASE CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Patricia Carmenatty
Address: Perseo St. 554 Cond. Iberia Suite J-3
City: San Juan
State: PR
Zip: 00920
Email: patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com
Phone: 7877830290



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (939) 320-3135 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2025-0092694
Project Name: PR-ESP-00327

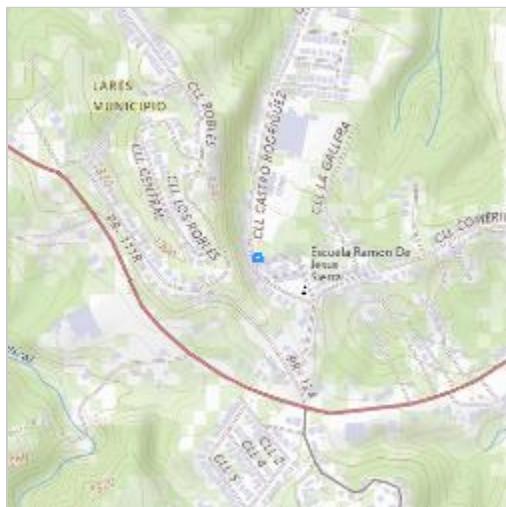
05/06/2025 13:06:20 UTC

Subject: Technical Assistance letter for the project named 'PR-ESP-00327' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On May 06, 2025, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated January 03, 2025, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-ESP-00327'. The project is located in Lares County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.29296525,-66.89079278619556,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-ESP-00327':

Colmado El Resuelve / Commercial Building

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you determined the proposed Action will have "No Effect" on the following species:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	No effect

Thank you for informing the Service of your "No Effect" determination(s) for this project. No further consultation/coordination for this project is required for these species. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

This letter serves as documentation of your consideration of the federally listed species as required under section 7 of the ESA. However, effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below from the "IPaC print-out for the project" (see below) should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "No Effect" (NE) determination for Federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NE concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

Note: Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or 787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

If the proposed project is located within species range where a DKey has not been developed for those species, please follow the established guidance for initiating section 7 consultation Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office.

We appreciate your interest in protecting endangered species and their habitats. It is the Service's mission to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

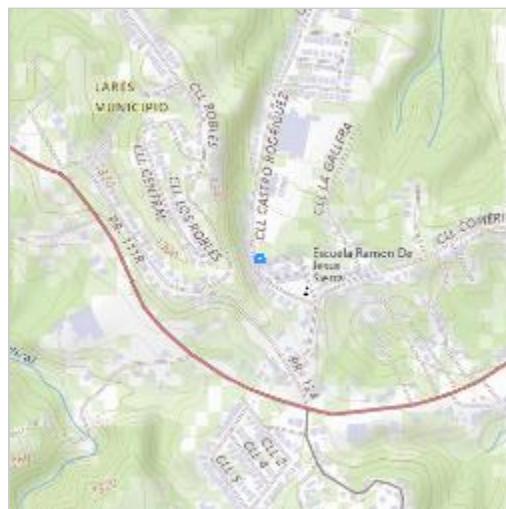
PR-ESP-00327

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-ESP-00327':

Colmado El Resuelve / Commercial Building

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.29296525,-66.89079278619556,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the proposed project an EPA Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) renewal for an existing project? ([MSGP Fact Sheet](#))

No

2. Is the proposed project within an urban developed area? (i.e., cities, downtowns, shopping malls etc.)

Note: Urban and developed areas has one or more of the following characteristics: Presence of existing buildings, residential areas, and commercial establishments. Well-established infrastructure including roads, utilities, and urban facilities. High population density. Established neighborhoods and urban amenities ("urbanizaciones"). Developed landscape with paved surfaces, parking lots, and industrial areas. Signs of human activity and urbanization, such as shopping centers and recreational facilities. Location within the boundaries of a city or town ("casco urbano"). High concentration of built-up structures and limited open spaces. Aerial imagery might be requested to the applicant. .

Yes

3. [Hidden Semantic] Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican boa area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Patricia Carmenatty
Address: Perseo St. 554 Cond. Iberia Suite J-3
City: San Juan
State: PR
Zip: 00920
Email: patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com
Phone: 7877830290

Appendix D: USFWS Species Analysis



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) charges Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of listed species, and section 7 (a)(2) requires the agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect federally listed species, such as Federal approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rico boa is subject to penalties under the ESA. If Federal funds or permits are needed, the funding or permitting agency should initiate Section 7 consultation with the Service. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, you must submit a project package with the established minimum requirements. These conservation measures should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the species.

The endangered Puerto Rican (PR) boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*, formerly *Epicrates inornatus*) is the largest endemic snake species that inhabits Puerto Rico. The PR boa is non-venomous and does not pose any life threatening danger to humans, but some individuals may try to bite if disturbed or during capture or handling. Its body color ranges from tan to dark brown with irregular diffuse marking on the dorsum, but some individuals lack marking and are uniformly dark. Juveniles may have a reddish color with more pronounced markings. In general, as they mature, their body color tends to darken.



Adult PR boa – *Chilabothrus inornatus*
Photo: Puerto Rico by JP Zegarra

The PR boa was federally listed in 1970. Currently, the species has an island-wide distribution and occurs in a wide variety of habitat types, ranging from wet montane to subtropical dry forest and can be found from mature forest to areas with different degrees of human disturbance such as roadsides or houses, especially if near their habitat in rural areas. The PR boa is considered mostly nocturnal, remaining less active, concealed or basking under the sun during the day.

The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR boa and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional conservation measures can be implemented besides the ones presented in this document.

Conservation Measures:

1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or project personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.
4. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). **Do not capture the boa.** If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #: (787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). **If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own.** Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
5. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior.

6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal, and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
8. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). If the PR boa was accidentally killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
10. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the above conservation measures, please contact the Service:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Office phone (305) 304-1386
- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: jan_zegarra@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 933-1451

**Appendix 7: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION
PACKAGE**

ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 10/21/2025

Program: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR): Electrical Power Reliability and Resilience Program (ER2)

To: Environmental Review Record (ERR) File

Subject: Explanation of Conflicting Information within the ERR

Applicant Name: Colmado El Resuelve (Luis Acevedo Jimenez)

Application Number: PR-ESP-00327

This memorandum serves to provide an explanation as to the presence of conflicting pieces of information within the Environmental Review Record (ERR) file.

Conflicting Information:

- Coordinates
- Parcel ID/Cadaster Number
- Address
- Municipio
- Construction Date
- Applicant Name
- Other:

Location (s) of Conflicting Information:

Section 106 Consultation package

Explanation:

This memorandum serves to clarify that the cadaster number listed in the Section 106 Consultation package was entered incorrectly (158-058-046-33-002). The correct cadaster number for the property is 158-058-046-33-000. However, this does not affect the project since the work to be performed remains on the same property, so returning the case for re-consultation is not necessary.



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Executive Director | Carlos A. Rubio Cancela | carubio@prshpo.pr.gov

September 16, 2025

Kristin P. Sanders

HORNE- Historic Preservation Manager

269 Avenida Ponce de León
San Juan, PR 00917

SHPO-CF-09-08-25-05 - PRDOH CDBG-DR_ESP Program_20250908_2

Projects_NHPA

Dear Ms. Sanders,

Our Office has received and reviewed the above referenced project in accordance with 54 USC 306108 (commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended) and 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Our records support your finding of no historic properties affected within the following projects' area of potential effects:

1. Lares, PR-ESP-00327, Calle Emilio Castro Núm. 4
2. San Juan, PR-ESP-00281, Urb. Fairview D-38 Carr. 845

If you have any questions concerning our comments, do not hesitate to contact our Office.

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer
CARC/GMO/YC



SHPO
OFICINA ESTATAL DE
CONSERVACIÓN HISTÓRICA
OFICINA DEL GOBERNADOR

**STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

September 8, 2025

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela
Director Ejecutivo
Oficina Estatal de Conservación Histórica
Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso)
San Juan, PR 00902-3935

PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM: ENERGY POWER RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCE/DDEC ENERGY SUPPORT PROGRAM (ESP)

SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL – TWO (2) NON-HISTORIC CASES – *NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AFFECTED*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, HORNE is providing information for your review and requesting your concurrence regarding the above-referenced projects on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) and the Energy Power Reliability and Resilience/DDEC Energy Support Program (ESP). On February 9, 2018, an allocation of Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds was approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 28, 83 FR 5844, to assist the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in meeting unmet needs in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. On August 14, 2018, an additional \$8.22 billion recovery allocation was allocated to Puerto Rico under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 157, 83 FR 40314. With these funding allocations, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (Housing) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents.

The purpose of the ESP is to benefit Puerto Rican communities by funding projects that enhance electric system reliability, affordability, and resiliency. The Program's design will be carried out through the development and interconnection of microgrids and distributed energy resources, including renewable energy generation, combined heat and power (CHP) systems, photovoltaic systems (PVS), and battery storage systems (BSS), among other eligible project types.

On behalf of PRDOH, we are submitting the following two (2) cases for Section 106 consultation as it cannot be cleared with Programmatic Agreement allowances. These cases consist of the installation of PV systems with battery backup systems. The prepared excel file presents all information for these properties for your review including the ESP Case ID, locational data, photographs, a link to the google map, key dates and supporting imagery, and the PRDOH Eligibility and Effect Determinations.

Municipality	Case ID	Street Address
Lares	PR-ESP-00327	CALLE EMILIO CASTRO NUM 4
San Juan	PR-ESP-00281	URB. FAIRVIEW D-38 CARR. 845

The properties are not individually eligible, listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or located within or adjacent to an eligible or listed Historic District. A recommendation of "No Historic Properties Affected", pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), has been made for these proposed projects.

We look forward to your review and concurrence. Please contact me with any questions or concerns by email at kristin.sanders@horne.com or phone at 225-276-2109.

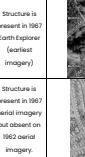
Kindest regards,



Kristin P. Sanders

Historic Preservation Manager

Enclosures

Puerto Rico Department of Housing CDBG-DR ENERGY POWER RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCE/DOEC ENERGY SUPPORT PROGRAM (ESP)																				
Improvements to Non-Historic Properties: Properties 45 Years or Greater, Not Individually Eligible or Listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and Neither Adjacent to Nor Located Within an Eligible or Listed NRHP Historic District																				
Proposed Undertakings Consist of the Installation of Photovoltaic Systems (PVS) and a Battery Storage Systems (BSS) on the Roof of the Subject Building																				
SUBMISSION DATE: September 8, 2025 - 2 Cases																				
PROPERTY INFORMATION																				
CASE ID	STREET ADDRESS	MUNICIPALITY	PARCEL ID	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ACREAGE	ESTIMATED FUNDING	PHOTO (Current Aerial Imagery and up to 3 photos: front, right, left)					LINK TO GOOGLE MAP	VERIFIED BY GOOGLE EARTH PRO, AERIAL PHOTO AND USGS MAPS	PROB. ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION	SHPO CONCURRENCE (SHPO USE ONLY)	PROB. EFFECT DETERMINATION	SHPO CONCURRENCE (SHPO USE ONLY)	PREPARED AND DATE / APPROVED AND DATED	SHPO COMMENTS
PR-ESP-00321	CALLE EMILIO CASTRO NUM 4	Lares	PR-058-046-33-03	18.29294	-66.890803	0.09	\$27,000					https://maps.google.com/.../18.29294,-66.890803,27.00z	Circa 1960	Structure is known in 1957 from Explosive (earliest imagery)		Ineligible	Select Eligibility	No Historic Properties Affected	Select Effect	Prepared by: Jorge Lizardi Pollock, PhD and approved by Elizabeth Atkins, MA on 7/8/2025.
PR-ESP-00281	URB. FAIRVIEW D-38 CARR. 545	San Juan	PR-035-601-28-00	18.36265	-66.03385	0.13	\$50,000					https://maps.google.com/.../18.36265,-66.03385,27.00z	Circa 1965	Structure is present in 1957 aerial imagery but absent on 1962 aerial imagery		Ineligible	Select Eligibility	No Historic Properties Affected	Select Effect	Prepared by: Jorge Lizardi Pollock, PhD and approved by Elizabeth Atkins, MA on 7/8/2025.



DEPARTMENT OF

HOUSING

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



March 24, 2025

Samir El Hage Arocho
General Partner, HORNE LLP
269 Juan Ponce de León Ave.
Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00917-00918

Via email: samir.elhage@horne.com

RE: Authorization for Grant Management (GM) to Conduct the Required Environmental Consultations with Federal and Local Agencies on PRDOH's Behalf

Dear Mr. El Hage,

Provisions at 24 C.F.R. Part 58 establish the environmental review procedures for entities assuming the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**) environmental responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (**NEPA**) and other applicable laws. The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), as the designated CDBG-DR/MIT grantee, has assumed HUD's environmental responsibilities under NEPA and related laws (**Responsible Entity**) by directly implementing multiple CDBG-DR/MIT projects.

One of the Responsible Entity's many responsibilities under 24 C.F.R. Part 58 is consulting with State, Federal, and non-federal entities in preparing an Environmental Review Record (**ERR**). Regarding a Responsible Entity's interactions with State, Federal, and non-Federal entities, 24 C.F.R. § 58.14 states that:

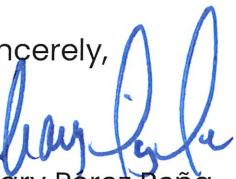
A responsible entity shall consult with appropriate environmental agencies, State, Federal and non-Federal entities and the public in the preparation of an EIS, EA or other environmental reviews undertaken under the related laws and authorities cited in § 58.5 and § 58.6. [...].

In conducting its role as a Responsible Entity that directly undertakes a project, as per 24 C.F.R. § 58.4(b)(1), PRDOH “must assume the environmental review responsibilities for the State’s activities **and those of any non-governmental entity that may participate in the project.**” Accordingly, a Responsible Entity may delegate certain tasks in the preparation of ERRs but retains full legal responsibility for compliance with environmental requirements.

To effectively manage available environmental resources and expedite the preparation of ERRs, PRDOH—as Responsible Entity—wishes to delegate the task of consulting with State, Federal, and non-Federal entities contained in 24 C.F.R. § 58.14. Therefore, PRDOH hereby authorizes Alberto Mercado Vargas, GM Environmental SME, or his authorized representative) to conduct on its behalf the environmental consultations with Federal and local agencies required to prepare ERRs for the implementation of CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT projects, while still maintaining the ultimate and full legal responsibility for compliance with environmental requirements. This authorization extends to both early and formal consultations before Federal agencies such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (**USFWS**) and the State Historic Preservation Office (**SHPO**), among others required for compliance with applicable laws and regulations as established in 24 C.F.R. § 58.14 and § 58.5. GM should include and copy the PRDOH Environmental Division in all communications with Federal and local agencies for these purposes.

PRDOH appreciates GM’s commitment to Puerto Rico’s recovery and is confident in its ability to execute this task effectively. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Ciary Pérez Peña

Secretary

Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Cc. Alberto Mercado Vargas
GM Environmental SME
alberto.mercadovargas@horne.com