



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
www.hud.gov
espanol.hud.gov

**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-SBF-00532-E-Re-evaluation

HEROS Number: 900000010443641

Start Date: 12/16/2024

State / Local Identifier:

Project Location: , Cayey, PR 00736

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 18.113545, longitude-66.164384 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 324-034-058-11-000

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

This project entails the award of a small business recovery grant to Mariely Colon Rodriguez hnc M Boutique, a commercial business, at JOSE DE DIEGO 153 E, Cayey, PR 00736. The original scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, purchase of inventory, and the purchase of equipment including a Security System (11 cameras (3 were replacements), Door sensor, Floor sensor, Router, TV, Magnetic door lock, Number pad) 30 KW generator (new transfer switch was installed)), 3 Air conditioners (new wiring was installed), router, laptop, and a printer. The extended benefits scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, purchase of inventory, and the purchase of equipment including a new affixed biometric time keeper, POS system, steel wire shelving unit, wall showcase 48", sunglass rack 36 pcs., shoe bench w/mirror, spiral rack 29 ball single, double bar straight rack, 36" round rack folding, Prof. garment steamer, standard tagging gun, egghead mannequin ZY-21, egghead mannequin ZY-23, female body form w/base, female form white, half female form silver, 43" TV, Klovsta armchair, and TV bench.

Level of Environment Review Determination:

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5:
58.35(a)(3)(iii)

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Program Name	
B-17-DM-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00

B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DP-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-19-DP-78-0002	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$25,055.69

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$25,055.69

Mitigation Measures and Conditions [CFR 1505.2(c)]:

Summarized below are 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 or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Complete
Flood Insurance	For loans, loan insurance or guarantees, the amount of flood insurance coverage must at least equal the outstanding principal balance of the loan or the maximum limit of coverage made available under the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less. For grants and other non-loan forms of financial assistance, flood insurance coverage must be continued for the life of the building irrespective of the transfer of ownership. The amount of coverage must at least equal the total project cost or the maximum coverage limit of the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less.	N/A	
Floodplain Management	Mitigation/minimization measures not required as the project activities are not substantial improvement and the building footprint is not being increased. Flood insurance is required.	N/A	

Determination:

<input type="checkbox"/>	This categorically excluded activity/project converts to EXEMPT per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This categorically excluded activity/project cannot convert to Exempt status because one or more statutes or authorities listed at Section 58.5 requires formal consultation or mitigation. 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
<input type="checkbox"/>	This project is not categorically excluded OR, if originally categorically excluded, 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: May 21, 2025

Name / Title/ Organization: Ricardo Espiet Lopez / / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:  Date: May 21, 2025

Name/ Title: I. Lorenzo, Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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

**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-SBF-00532-E-Re-evaluation

HEROS Number: 900000010443641

Start Date: 12/16/2024

Responsible Entity (RE): Department of Housing - Puerto Rico, P.O. Box 21365 San
Juan PR, 00928

State / Local Identifier:

RE Preparer: Ricardo Espiet Lopez

Certifying Office IVELISSE LORENZO
r:

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):

Point of Contact:

Point of Contact: Chris Rickard
Consultant (if applicable): HORNE LLP

40 CFR 1506.5(b)(4): The lead agency or, where appropriate, a cooperating agency shall prepare a disclosure statement for the contractor's execution specifying that the contractor has no financial or other interest in the outcome of the action. Such statement need not include privileged or confidential trade secrets or other confidential business information.

- ✓ By checking this box, I attest that as a preparer, I have no financial or other interest in the outcome of the undertaking assessed in this environmental review.

Project Location: , Cayey, PR 00736

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 18.113545, longitude-66.164384 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 324-034-058-11-000

Direct Comments to:

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

This project entails the award of a small business recovery grant to Mariely Colon Rodriguez hnc M Boutique, a commercial business, at JOSE DE DIEGO 153 E, Cayey, PR 00736. The original scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, purchase of inventory, and the purchase of equipment including a Security System (11 cameras (3 were replacements), Door sensor, Floor sensor, Router, TV, Magnetic door lock, Number pad) 30 KW generator (new transfer switch was installed)), 3 Air conditioners (new wiring was installed), router, laptop, and a printer. The extended benefits scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, purchase of inventory, and the purchase of equipment including a new affixed biometric time keeper, POS system, steel wire shelving unit, wall showcase 48", sunglass rack 36 pcs., shoe bench w/mirror, spiral rack 29 ball single, double bar straight rack, 36" round rack folding, Prof. garment steamer, standard tagging gun, egghead mannequin ZY-21, egghead mannequin ZY-23, female body form w/base, female form white, half female form silver, 43" TV, Klovsta armchair, and TV bench.

Maps, photographs, and other documentation of project location and description:

[SBF Re-evaluation Form PR-SBF-00532 \(1\).pdf](#)

[PR-SBF-00532 IUGF.pdf](#)

[PR-SBF-00532-E IUGF.pdf](#)

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)

Determination:

	This categorically excluded activity/project converts to EXEMPT per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; 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 status because one or more statutes or authorities listed at Section 58.5 requires formal consultation or mitigation. 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 not categorically excluded OR, if originally categorically excluded, is now subject to a full Environmental Assessment according to Part 58 Subpart E due to extraordinary circumstances (Section 58.35(c)).

Approval Documents:

[PR-SBF-00532-E-Re-evaluation Sig Page.pdf](#)
[00532-SIG-PAGE\(1\).pdf](#)

7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer
on:

7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer
on:

Funding Information

Grant / Project Identification Number	HUD Program	Program Name	Funding Amount
B-17-DM-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DP-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-19-DP-78-0002	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00

**Estimated Total HUD Funded,
Assisted or Insured Amount:** \$25,055.69

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$25,055.69

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6		
Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 124,871.9 feet away. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.
Coastal Barrier Resources Act Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 54,420.2 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C1735H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. The community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. For loans, loan insurance or guarantees, the amount of flood insurance coverage must at least equal the outstanding principal balance of the loan or the maximum limit of coverage made available under the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less. For grants and other non-loan forms of financial assistance, flood insurance coverage must be continued for the life of the building irrespective of the transfer of ownership. The amount of coverage must at least equal the total

		project cost or the maximum coverage limit of the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less. With flood insurance the project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.5		
Air Quality Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.
Coastal Zone Management Act Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project is located 52,228.9 feet from the coastal zone. This project is not located in or 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.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.
Endangered Species Act Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project will have No Effect on listed species based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.

Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project is located in the floodplain. The 8-Step or 5-Step Process is required. With the 8-Step or 5-Step Process the project will be in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Circa 1930, based on Section 106 consultation the project will have No Adverse Effect on historic properties. Conditions: None. Upon satisfactory implementation of the conditions, which should be monitored, the project is in compliance with Section 106.
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, the project consists of activities that are unlikely to have an adverse impact on groundwater resources. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 138,909.9 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS		
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Presidential Action titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked EO-12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. As a result of this new Presidential Action, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns as part of its environmental compliance review. The program will continue to adhere to all applicable HUD environmental review standards under 24 C.F.R. Part 58, but will no longer include an environmental justice analysis in its determinations.

Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]:

Summarized below are 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 or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Mitigation Plan	Complete
Flood Insurance	For loans, loan insurance or guarantees, the amount of flood insurance coverage must at least equal the outstanding principal balance of the loan or the maximum limit of coverage made available under the National Flood Insurance	N/A		

	Program, whichever is less. For grants and other non-loan forms of financial assistance, flood insurance coverage must be continued for the life of the building irrespective of the transfer of ownership. The amount of coverage must at least equal the total project cost or the maximum coverage limit of the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less.			
Floodplain Management	Mitigation/minimization measures not required as the project activities are not substantial improvement and the building footprint is not being increased. Flood insurance is required.	N/A		

Project Mitigation Plan

Buyer must purchase flood insurance because the grant exceeds \$5,000 and the site is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. Step-5 for being in the floodplain according to the ABFE.

Supporting documentation on completed measures

APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities

Airport Hazards

General policy	Legislation	Regulation
It is HUD's policy to apply standards to prevent incompatible development around civil airports and military airfields.		24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D

1. To ensure compatible land use development, you must determine your site's proximity to civil and military airports. Is your project within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport?

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload the map showing that the site is not within the applicable distances to a military or civilian airport below

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 124,871.9 feet away. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Airports.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Coastal Barrier Resources

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
HUD financial assistance may not be used for most activities in units of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS). See 16 USC 3504 for limitations on federal expenditures affecting the CBRS.	Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) of 1982, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 USC 3501)	

1. Is the project located in a CBRS Unit?

☒ No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 54,420.2 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E CBRS.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

☒ No

Flood Insurance

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Certain types of federal financial assistance may not be used in floodplains unless the community participates in National Flood Insurance Program and flood insurance is both obtained and maintained.	Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 as amended (42 USC 4001-4128)	24 CFR 50.4(b)(1) and 24 CFR 58.6(a) and (b); 24 CFR 55.1(b).

1. Does this project involve financial assistance for construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of a mobile home, building, or insurable personal property?

No. This project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance.

✓ Yes

2. Upload a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site here:

[PR-SBF-00532-E Flood Map.pdf](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The [FEMA Map Service Center](#) provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). For projects in areas not mapped by FEMA, use the best available information to determine floodplain information. Include documentation, including a discussion of why this is the best available information for the site. Provide FEMA/FIRM floodplain zone designation, panel number, and date within your documentation.

Is the structure, part of the structure, or insurable property located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area?

No

✓ Yes

3. Is the community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program or has less than one year passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards?

- ✓ Yes, the community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program must be obtained and maintained for the economic life of the project, in the amount of the total project cost or the maximum coverage limit, whichever is less.

Document and upload a copy of the flood insurance policy declaration or a paid receipt for the current annual flood insurance premium and a copy of the application for flood insurance below.

Yes, less than one year has passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards.

No. The community is not participating, or its participation has been suspended.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Flood Map Number 72000C1735H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. The community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. For loans, loan insurance or guarantees, the amount of flood insurance coverage must at least equal the outstanding principal balance of the loan or the maximum limit of coverage made available under the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less. For grants and other non-loan forms of financial assistance, flood insurance coverage must be continued for the life of the building irrespective of the transfer of ownership. The amount of coverage must at least equal the total project cost or the maximum coverage limit of the National Flood Insurance Program, whichever is less. With flood insurance the project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Air Quality

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Clean Air Act is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which sets national standards on ambient pollutants. In addition, the Clean Air Act is administered by States, which must develop State Implementation Plans (SIPs) to regulate their state air quality. Projects funded by HUD must demonstrate that they conform to the appropriate SIP.	Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) as amended particularly Section 176(c) and (d) (42 USC 7506(c) and (d))	40 CFR Parts 6, 51 and 93

1. Does your project include new construction or conversion of land use facilitating the development of public, commercial, or industrial facilities OR five or more dwelling units?

Yes

☒ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.

Supporting documentation**Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?**

Yes

☒ No

Coastal Zone Management Act

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Federal assistance to applicant agencies for activities affecting any coastal use or resource is granted only when such activities are consistent with federally approved State Coastal Zone Management Act Plans.	Coastal Zone Management Act (16 USC 1451-1464), particularly section 307(c) and (d) (16 USC 1456(c) and (d))	15 CFR Part 930

1. Is the project located in, or does it affect, a Coastal Zone as defined in your state Coastal Management Plan?

Yes

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload all documents used to make your determination below.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The project is located 52,228.9 feet from the coastal zone. This project is not located in or 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.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E CZM.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Contamination and Toxic Substances

General Requirements	Legislation	Regulations
It is HUD policy that all properties that are being proposed for use in HUD programs be free of hazardous materials, contamination, toxic chemicals and gases, and radioactive substances, where a hazard could affect the health and safety of the occupants or conflict with the intended utilization of the property.		24 CFR 58.5(i)(2) 24 CFR 50.3(i)
Reference		
https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/site-contamination		

1. How was site contamination evaluated?* Select all that apply.

ASTM Phase I ESA

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

☒ None of the above

* HUD regulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five or more dwelling units or non-residential property include the evaluation of previous uses of the site or other evidence of contamination on or near the site.

For acquisition and new construction of multifamily and nonresidential properties HUD strongly advises the review include an ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to meet real estate transaction standards of due diligence and to help ensure compliance with HUD's toxic policy at 24 CFR §58.5(i) and 24 CFR §50.3(i). Also note that some HUD programs require an ASTM Phase I ESA.

2. Were any on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances* (excluding radon) found that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property? (Were any recognized environmental conditions or RECs identified in a Phase I ESA and confirmed in a Phase II ESA?)

Provide a map or other documentation of absence or presence of contamination** and explain evaluation of site contamination in the Screen Summary at the bottom of this screen.

✓ No

Explain:

Based on ECHO reports for the facilities, there is no impact for the intended use of this project. See attached table. The environmental field observation did not note any items of concern. See the attached environmental field observation report. A google earth review of the area shows no visible hazards. The past land use for the last 10-15 year is commercial.

Yes

* This question covers the presence of radioactive substances excluding radon. Radon is addressed in the Radon Exempt Question.

** Utilize EPA's Enviromapper, NEPAAssist, or state/tribal databases to identify nearby dumps, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, and industrial sites, including EPA 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. Additional supporting documentation may include other inspections and reports.

3. Evaluate the building(s) for radon. Do all buildings meet any of the exemptions* from having to consider radon in the contamination analysis listed in CPD Notice [CPD-23-103](#)?

Yes

Explain:

✓ No

* Notes:

- Buildings with no enclosed areas having ground contact.
- Buildings containing crawlspaces, utility tunnels, or parking garages would not be exempt, however buildings built on piers would be exempt, provided that there is open air between the lowest floor of the building and the ground.
- Buildings that are not residential and will not be occupied for more than 4 hours per day.
- Buildings with existing radon mitigation systems - document radon levels are below 4 pCi/L with test results dated within two years of submitting the application for HUD assistance and document the system includes an ongoing maintenance plan that includes periodic testing to ensure the system continues to meet the current EPA recommended levels. If the project does not require an application, document test results dated within two years of the date the environmental review is certified. Refer to program office guidance to ensure compliance with program requirements.

- Buildings tested within five years of the submission of application for HUD assistance: test results document indoor radon levels are below current the EPA's recommended action levels of 4.0 pCi/L. For buildings with test data older than five years, any new environmental review must include a consideration of radon using one of the methods in Section A below.

4. Is the proposed project new construction or substantial rehabilitation where testing will be conducted but cannot yet occur because building construction has not been completed?

Yes

Compliance with this section is conditioned on post-construction testing being conducted, followed by mitigation, if needed. Radon test results, along with any needed mitigation plan, must be uploaded to the mitigation section within this screen.

✓ No

5. Was radon testing or a scientific data review conducted that provided a radon concentration level in pCi/L?

Yes

✓ No

If no testing was conducted and a review of science-based data offered a lack of science-based data for the project site, then document and upload the steps taken to look for documented test results and science-based data as well as the basis for the conclusion that testing would be infeasible or impracticable.

Explain:

Radon testing is not feasible or practicable for this case, please see the attached Radon Memo.

File Upload:

[Radon Attachements- Agency Correspondences.pdf](#)
[PR-SBF-00532 HORNE Radon Memo.docx](#)

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Screen Summary at the bottom of this screen.

Non-radon contamination was found in a previous question.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Toxics Map.pdf](#)

[PR-SBF-00532-E Toxics Map.pdf](#)

[Toxics Distance Table PR-SBF-00532-E.xlsx](#)

[PR-SBF-00532-E EFOR.docx](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Endangered Species

General requirements	ESA Legislation	Regulations
Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates that federal agencies ensure that 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").	The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 <i>et seq.</i>); particularly section 7 (16 USC 1536).	50 CFR Part 402

1. Does the project involve any activities that have the potential to affect species or habitats?

No, the project will have No Effect due to the nature of the activities involved in the project.

- ✓ No, the project will have No Effect based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office

Explain your determination:

This project clears via the project criteria 4 of the USFWS Blanket Clearance Letter. See attached Endangered Species Act self-certification form.

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload all documents used to make your determination below.

Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

This project will have No Effect on listed species based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Supporting documentation

[USFWS Self-Certification Form Official PR-SBF-00532-E.pdf](#)
[PR-SBF-00532-E Site Map.pdf](#)
[PR-SBF-00532-E Endangered.pdf](#)
[USFWS Letter UPDATED.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Explosive and Flammable Hazards

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
HUD-assisted projects must meet Acceptable Separation Distance (ASD) requirements to protect them from explosive and flammable hazards.	N/A	24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C

1. Is the proposed HUD-assisted project itself the development of a hazardous facility (a facility that mainly stores, handles or processes flammable or combustible chemicals such as bulk fuel storage facilities and refineries)?

✓ No

Yes

2. Does this project include any of the following activities: development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion?

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Farmlands Protection

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) discourages federal activities that would convert farmland to nonagricultural purposes.	Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.)	7 CFR Part 658

1. Does your project include any activities, including new construction, acquisition of undeveloped land or conversion, that could convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use?

Yes

✓ No

If your project includes new construction, acquisition of undeveloped land or conversion, explain how you determined that agricultural land would not be converted:

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload all documents used to make your determination below.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Farmlands.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Floodplain Management

General Requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, requires Federal activities to avoid impacts to floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development to the extent practicable.	Executive Order 11988 * Executive Order 13690 * 42 USC 4001-4128 * 42 USC 5154a * only applies to screen 2047 and not 2046	24 CFR 55

1. Does this project meet an exemption at 24 CFR 55.12 from compliance with HUD's floodplain management regulations in Part 55?

Yes

(a) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 58.34 and 58.35(b).

(b) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 50.19, except as otherwise indicated in § 50.19.

(c) The approval of financial assistance for restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial functions and values of floodplains and wetlands, including through acquisition of such floodplain and wetland property, where a permanent covenant or comparable restriction is place on the property's continued use for flood control, wetland projection, open space, or park land, but only if:

(1) The property is cleared of all existing buildings and walled structures; and

(2) The property is cleared of related improvements except those which:

(i) Are directly related to flood control, wetland protection, open space, or park land (including playgrounds and recreation areas);

(ii) Do not modify existing wetland areas or involve fill, paving, or other ground disturbance beyond minimal trails or paths; and

(iii) Are designed to be compatible with the beneficial floodplain or wetland function of the property.

(d) An action involving a repossession, receivership, foreclosure, or similar acquisition of property to protect or enforce HUD's financial interests under previously approved loans, grants, mortgage insurance, or other HUD assistance.

(e) Policy-level actions described at 24 CFR 50.16 that do not involve site-based decisions.

(f) A minor amendment to a previously approved action with no additional adverse impact on or from a floodplain or wetland.

(g) HUD's or the responsible entity's approval of a project site, an incidental portion of which is situated in the FFRMS floodplain (not including the floodway, LiMWA, or coastal high hazard area) but only if: (1) The proposed project site does not include any existing or proposed buildings or improvements that modify or occupy the FFRMS floodplain except de minimis improvements such as recreation areas and trails; and (2) the proposed project will not result in any new construction in or modifications of a wetland .

(h) Issuance or use of Housing Vouchers, or other forms of rental subsidy where HUD, the awarding community, or the public housing agency that administers the contract awards rental subsidies that are not project-based (i.e., do not involve site-specific subsidies).

(i) Special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility of and accessibility to elderly and persons with disabilities.

Describe:

✓ No

2. Does the project include a Critical Action? Examples of Critical Actions include projects involving hospitals, fire and police stations, nursing homes, hazardous chemical storage, storage of valuable records, and utility plants.

Yes

Describe:

✓ No

3. Determine the extent of the FFRMS floodplain and provide mapping documentation in support of that determination

The extent of the FFRMS floodplain can be determined using a Climate Informed Science Approach (CISA), 0.2 percent flood approach (0.2 PFA), or freeboard value approach (FVA). For projects in areas without available CISA data or without FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Flood Insurance Studies (FISs) or Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs), use the best available information¹ to determine flood elevation. Include documentation and an explanation of why this is the best available information² for the site. Note that newly constructed and substantially improved³ structures must be elevated to the FFRMS floodplain regardless of the approach chosen to determine the floodplain.

Select one of the following three options:

CISA for non-critical actions. If using a local tool , data, or resources, ensure that the FFRMS elevation is higher than would have been determined using the 0.2 PFA or the FVA.

- ✓ 0.2-PFA. Where FEMA has defined the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain, the FFRMS floodplain is the area that FEMA has designated as within the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain.

FVA. If neither CISA nor 0.2-PFA is available, for non-critical actions, the FFRMS floodplain is the area that results from adding two feet to the base flood elevation as established by the effective FIRM or FIS or — if available — a FEMA-provided preliminary or pending FIRM or FIS or advisory base flood elevations, whether regulatory or informational in nature. However, an interim or preliminary FEMA map cannot be used if it is lower than the current FIRM or FIS.

¹ Sources which merit investigation include the files and studies of other federal agencies, such as the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Soil Conservation Service and the U. S. Geological Survey. These agencies have prepared flood hazard studies for several thousand localities and, through their technical assistance programs, hydrologic studies, soil surveys, and other investigations have collected or developed other floodplain information for numerous sites and areas. States and communities are also sources of information on past flood 'experiences within their boundaries and are particularly knowledgeable about areas subject to high-risk flood hazards such as alluvial fans, high velocity flows, mudflows and mudslides, ice jams, subsidence and liquefaction.

² If you are using best available information, select the FVA option below and provide supporting documentation in the screen summary. Contact your [local environmental officer](#) with additional compliance questions.

³ Substantial improvement means any repair or improvement of a structure which costs at least 50 percent of the market value of the structure before repair or improvement or results in an increase of more than 20 percent of the number of dwelling units. The full definition can be found at [24 CFR 55.2\(b\)\(12\)](#).

5. Does your project occur in the FFRMS floodplain?

☒ Yes

No

6. Is your project located in any of the floodplain categories below?

Select all that apply:

Floodway.

Do the floodway exemptions at 55.8 or 55.21 apply?

Yes

No

Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) or Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA).

Yes

No

☒ None of the above.

7. Does the 8-Step Process apply? Select one of the following options:

8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.13.

(a) HUD's mortgage insurance actions and other financial assistance for the purchasing, mortgaging, or refinancing of existing one- to four-family properties in communities that are in the Regular Program of the NFIP and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24), where the action is not a critical action and the property is not located in a floodway, coastal high hazard area, or LiMWA;

(b) Financial assistance for minor repairs or improvements on one- to four-family properties that do not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(12);

(c) HUD or a recipient's actions involving the disposition of individual HUD or recipient held, one- to four-family properties;

(d) HUD guarantees under the Loan Guarantee Recovery Fund Program (24 CFR part 573), where any new construction or rehabilitation financed by the existing loan or mortgage has been completed prior to the filing of an application under the program, and the refinancing will not allow further construction or rehabilitation, nor result in any physical impacts or changes except for routine maintenance;

(e) The approval of financial assistance to lease units within an existing structure located within the floodplain, but only if;

(1) The structure is located outside the floodway or coastal high hazard area, and is in a community that is in the Regular Program of the NFIP and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24); and

(2) The project is not a critical action; and.

(3) The entire structure is or will be fully insured or insured to the maximum extent available under the NFIP for at least the term of the lease.

(f) Special projects for the purpose of improving efficiency of utilities or installing renewable energy that involve the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing structures or infrastructure, do not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(12), and do not include the installation of equipment below the FFRMS floodplain elevation;

✓ 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.14.

(a) HUD actions involving the disposition of HUD-acquired multifamily housing projects or "bulk sales" of HUD-acquired one- to four-family properties in communities that are in the Regular Program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24).

(b) HUD's actions under the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701) for the purchase or refinancing of existing multifamily housing projects, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities, and intermediate care facilities, in communities that are in good standing under the NFIP.

(c) HUD's or the recipient's actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing multifamily housing projects, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities, intermediate care facilities, and one- to four-family properties, in communities that are in the Regular Program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and are in good standing, provided that the number of units is not increased more than 20 percent, the action does not involve a conversion from nonresidential to residential land use, the action does not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(10), and the footprint of the structure and paved areas is not increased by more than 20 percent.

- ✓ (d) HUD's (or the recipient's) actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing nonresidential buildings and structures, in communities that are in the Regular Program of the NFIP and are in good standing, provided that the action does not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(10) and that the footprint of the structure and paved areas is not increased by more than 20 percent.

(e) HUD's or the recipient's actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of existing nonstructural improvements including streets, curbs and gutters, where any increase of the total impervious surface area of the facility is de minimis. This provision does not include critical actions, levee systems, chemical storage facilities (including any tanks), wastewater facilities, or sewer lagoons.

8-Step Process applies.

8. Mitigation

For the project to comply with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the measures that must be implemented to mitigate the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation. Note: newly constructed and substantially improved structures within the FFRMS floodplain must be elevated to the FFRMS floodplain elevation or floodproofed, if applicable.

Explain:

Mitigation/minimization measures not required as the project activities are not substantial improvement and the building footprint is not being increased. Flood insurance is required.

Which of the following if any mitigation/minimization measures have been identified for this project in the 8-Step or 5-Step Process?

Buyout and demolition or other supported clearance of floodplain structures.

Insurance purchased in excess of statutory requirement th eunder the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

Permeable surfaces.

Natural landscape enhancements that maintain or restore natural hydrology.

Planting or restoring native plant species.

Bioswales.

Stormwater capture and reuse.

Green or vegetative roofs with drainage provisions.

Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation easements or similar easements.

Floodproofing of structures as allowable (e.g. non-residential floors) .

Elevating structures (including freeboard above the required base flood elevations) .

Levee or structural protection from flooding.

Channelizing or redefining the floodway or floodplain through a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

Screen Summary
Compliance Determination

This project is located in the floodplain. The 8-Step or 5-Step Process is required. With the 8-Step or 5-Step Process the project will be in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Floodplain 5-Step Process.docx](#)
[PR-SBF-00532-E ABFE.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Historic Preservation

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Regulations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) require a consultative process to identify historic properties, assess project impacts on them, and avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects	Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f)	36 CFR 800 "Protection of Historic Properties" https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2012-title36-vol3/pdf/CFR-2012-title36-vol3-part800.pdf

Threshold**Is Section 106 review required for your project?**

No, because the project consists solely of activities listed as exempt in a Programmatic Agreement (PA). (See the PA Database to find applicable PAs.)

No, because the project consists solely of activities included in a No Potential to Cause Effects memo or other determination [36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)].

- ✓ Yes, because the project includes activities with potential to cause effects (direct or indirect).

Step 1 – Initiate Consultation**Select all consulting parties below (check all that apply):**

- ✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

Indian Tribes, including Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) or Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs)

Other Consulting Parties

Describe the process of selecting consulting parties and initiating consultation here:

Only SHPO was consulted as No Historic Properties Affected was determined and no Tribal Lands were identified.

Document and upload all correspondence, notices and notes (including comments and objections received below).

Was the Section 106 Lender Delegation Memo used for Section 106 consultation?

Yes

No

Step 2 – Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

1. Define the Area of Potential Effect (APE), either by entering the address(es) or uploading a map depicting the APE below:

JOSE DE DIEGO 153 E Cayey, PR 00736

In the chart below, list historic properties identified and evaluated in the APE. Every historic property that may be affected by the project should be included in the chart.

Upload the documentation (survey forms, Register nominations, concurrence(s) and/or objection(s), notes, and photos) that justify your National Register Status determination below.

Address / Location / District	National Register Status	SHPO Concurrence	Sensitive Information
----------------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------	--------------------------

Additional Notes:

2. Was a survey of historic buildings and/or archeological sites done as part of the project?

Yes

✓ No

Step 3 –Assess Effects of the Project on Historic Properties

Only properties that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places receive

further consideration under Section 106. Assess the effect(s) of the project by applying the Criteria of Adverse Effect. (36 CFR 800.5)] Consider direct and indirect effects as applicable as per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

Choose one of the findings below - No Historic Properties Affected, No Adverse Effect, or Adverse Effect; and seek concurrence from consulting parties.

No Historic Properties Affected

✓ No Adverse Effect

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Document reason for finding:

In a letter dated December 23, 2024, PR SHPO stated "After a review of all the documentation, the PRSHPO concurs with your finding that the proposed project will have no adverse effect upon historic properties."

Does the No Adverse Effect finding contain conditions?

Yes (check all that apply)

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload concurrence(s) or objection(s) below.

Adverse Effect

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Circa 1930, based on Section 106 consultation the project will have No Adverse Effect on historic properties. Conditions: None. Upon satisfactory implementation of the conditions, which should be monitored, the project is in compliance with Section 106.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Historic Map.pdf](#)

[PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E Cayey SHPO Consultation Package NAE.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Noise Abatement and Control

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. HUD encourages mitigation as appropriate.	Noise Control Act of 1972 General Services Administration Federal Management Circular 75-2: "Compatible Land Uses at Federal Airfields"	Title 24 CFR 51 Subpart B

1. What activities does your project involve? Check all that apply:

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

A research demonstration project which does not result in new construction or reconstruction

An interstate land sales registration

Any timely emergency assistance under disaster assistance provision or appropriations which are provided to save lives, protect property, protect public health and safety, remove debris and wreckage, or assistance that has the effect of restoring facilities substantially as they existed prior to the disaster

✓ None of the above

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

PR-SBF-00532-E-Re-
evaluation

Cayey, PR

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✓ No

Sole Source Aquifers

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 protects drinking water systems which are the sole or principal drinking water source for an area and which, if contaminated, would create a significant hazard to public health.	Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 201, 300f et seq., and 21 U.S.C. 349)	40 CFR Part 149

1. Does the project consist solely of acquisition, leasing, or rehabilitation of an existing building(s)?

☒ Yes

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

☐ No

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description, the project consists of activities that are unlikely to have an adverse impact on groundwater resources. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Sole Source Aquifers.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Wetlands Protection

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Executive Order 11990 discourages direct or indirect support of new construction impacting wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative. The Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory can be used as a primary screening tool, but observed or known wetlands not indicated on NWI maps must also be processed Off-site impacts that result in draining, impounding, or destroying wetlands must also be processed.	Executive Order 11990	24 CFR 55.20 can be used for general guidance regarding the 8 Step Process.

1. Does this project involve new construction as defined in Executive Order 11990, expansion of a building's footprint, or ground disturbance? The term "new construction" shall include draining, dredging, channelizing, filling, diking, impounding, and related activities and any structures or facilities begun or authorized after the effective date of the Order

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E Wetlands.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act provides federal protection for certain free-flowing, wild, scenic and recreational rivers designated as components or potential components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS) from the effects of construction or development.	The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287), particularly section 7(b) and (c) (16 U.S.C. 1278(b) and (c))	36 CFR Part 297

1. Is your project within proximity of a NWSRS river?

✓ No

Yes, the project is in proximity of a Designated Wild and Scenic River or Study Wild and Scenic River.

Yes, the project is in proximity of a Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI) River.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 138,909.9 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-SBF-00532-E W S Rivers.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Environmental Justice

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Determine if the project creates adverse environmental impacts upon a low-income or minority community. If it does, engage the community in meaningful participation about mitigating the impacts or move the project.	Executive Order 12898	

HUD strongly encourages starting the Environmental Justice analysis only after all other laws and authorities, including Environmental Assessment factors if necessary, have been completed.

1. Were any adverse environmental impacts identified in any other compliance review portion of this project's total environmental review?

Yes

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Presidential Action titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked EO-12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. As a result of this new Presidential Action, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns as part of its environmental compliance review. The program will continue to adhere to all applicable HUD environmental review standards under 24 C.F.R. Part 58, but will no longer include an environmental justice analysis in its determinations.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

PR-SBF-00532-E-Re-
evaluation

Cayey, PR

900000010443641

✓ No



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Monday, December 23, 2024

Lauren B Poche

269 Avenida Ponce de León, San Juan, PR, 00917

SHPO-CF-12-11-24-09 "PR-SBF-00532/PR-SBF-00532-E (Cayey), M. Colon Rodriguez HNC, Proposed Imp."

Dear Ms. Poche,

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. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is to advise and assist federal agencies and other responsible entities when identifying historic properties, assessing effects upon them, and considering alternatives to avoid or reduce the project's effects.

After a review of all the documentation, the PRSHPO concurs with your finding that the proposed project will have no adverse effect upon historic properties.

Please note that should the Agency discover other historic properties at any point during project implementation, you should notify the SHPO immediately. 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/ EVR



Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso), Calle Norzagaray, Esq. Beneficencia, Viejo San Juan, PR 00901 | PO Box 9023935, San Juan, PR 00902-3935



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

April 30, 2024

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

Cuartel de Ballajá, Third Floor

San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents for Consultation

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela,

The U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) approved the allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) funds on February 9, 2018. It also approved the allocation of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds on January 27, 2020. The purpose of these allocations is to address unsatisfied needs as a result of Hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017; and to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to mitigate disaster risks and reduce future losses.

To comply with the environmental requirements established by HUD, the Department of Housing of Puerto Rico (PRDOH) contracted Horne Federal LLC to provide environmental review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

To expedite the processes, Horne Federal LLC, is authorized to submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer, documentation of projects related to both the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT on behalf of PRDOH.

Cordially,

Aldo A. Rivera Vázquez, PE

Director

Division of Environmental Permitting and Compliance

Office of Disaster Recovery

December 11, 2024

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela
State Historic Preservation Officer
Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office
Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso)
San Juan, PR 00902-3935

Puerto Rico Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program: Small Business Financing (SBF) Program

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal – PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E, Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique, Jose De Diego 1253 E, Cayey, Puerto Rico, Cayey Traditional Urban Center - *No Adverse Effect*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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 (PRDOH) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents. To faithfully comply with HUD's environmental requirements, the PRDOH contracted Horne Federal, LLC (HORNE) to provide environmental records review services that will support their objectives for CDBG-DR.

On behalf of PRDOH, we are submitting PR-SBF-00532/PR-SBF-00532-E in the municipality of Cayey for case Section 106 consultation. This building is located at Jose De Diego 1253 E, within the National Register of Historic Places eligible Cayey Traditional Urban Center and contributes to the district. The current proposed activities for Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique include the installation of a new affixed biometric timekeeper near the number pad within the interior of the building as part of the security system.

To provide you with background on this case, on October 21, 2020 a small business recovery grant of \$50,000 was awarded to the applicant, Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC. Although the applicant had applied for a grant for the purpose of installing new split-unit air conditioners along with other new equipment, the

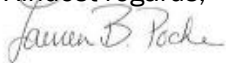
grant awarded was a restricted use grant that did not include building modifications. Due to this unfortunate oversight and believing their request for new split-unit air conditioners was approved, the applicant used the restricted grant money for the purchase of the new split-unit air conditioners and subsequently submitted evidence that the money was used for them, which was then improperly approved as an authorized expense for activities associated with this grant were undertaken on the building located Jose De Diego 1253 E.

Between December 2020 and March 2021, the following items were installed: a security system consisting of 11 cameras, a new 30KW generator, three new split-unit air conditioners, door sensor, floor sensor, router, television, a magnetic door lock, and number pad. No ground disturbance occurred during the completion of this project.

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect the historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. Of the 11 new security cameras installed, the two on the facade are replacement cameras and are hidden from view by their location under the concrete overhang on the first floor. Two additional cameras were installed on the rear of the building, while the remainder of the cameras are located on the interior. The small floor sensor that is located near the ground by the rolling metal door is located on the rear of the building. The generator was installed in a cage on the rear of the building and is not visible from the street. The 3 new air conditioning units are installed on the left elevation at the rear of the building and are not visible from the street. The interior returns are installed near the ceiling on the left wall in the main storeroom in the interior of the building. The interior has been modernized with drop ceiling tiles and has lost historic integrity. The new affixed bio-metric timekeeper was installed near the ceiling in a rear interior room and is minimally visible. Therefore, the Program has determined that the proposed activities have resulted in **No Adverse Effect** to the contributing subject building or the adjacent buildings in the Traditional Urban Center within the viewshed of the subject building. Therefore, the Program has determined that there were **no adverse effects** to historic properties that resulted from installations completed for PR-SBF-00532. Additionally, the new biometric timekeeper will be installed on the interior of Jose De Diego 1253 E. (PR-SBF-00532/PR-SBF-00532-E), which will not be visible from the exterior, will also result in **No Adverse Effect** to historic properties.


We look forward to your response. Please contact me with any questions or concerns by email at lauren.poche@horne.com or phone at 225-405-7676.

Kindest regards,



Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager
Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E	
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique	

Project Location: Jose De Diego 153 E Cayey PR 00736	
Project Coordinates: 18.113545, -66.164384	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 324-034-058-11-000	
Type of Undertaking: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): ca. 1930	Property Size (acres): 0.1813


SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Caroline Warner, M.A.
Date Reviewed: 11/5/2024
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:
Date Reviewed: Click or tap to enter a date.

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Program is responsible for identifying historic properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and any properties not listed that would be considered eligible for listing that are located within the geographic area of potential effects (APE) of the proposed project and assessing the potential effects of its undertakings on these historic properties.

Project Description (Undertaking)

On October 21, 2020, a small business recovery grant of \$50,000 was awarded to the applicant Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique, located at Jose De Diego 153 E, within the historic district Cayey Centros Urbanos. Although the applicant had applied for a grant for the purpose of installing new split-unit air conditioners along with other new equipment, the grant awarded was a restricted-use grant that did not include building modifications. Due to this unfortunate oversight and believing their request for new air conditioners was approved, the applicant used the restricted grant money for the purchase of the air conditioners and subsequently submitted evidence that the money was used for them. The purchase was then improperly approved as an authorized expense.

The activities completed for Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique included the installation of a security system consisting of 11 cameras (three replacements and eight new, with some located on the exterior of the building and some on the interior) and the following new equipment: door sensor, floor sensor, router, television, a magnetic door lock, and number pad. Items were purchased between December 24, 2020, and March 23, 2021, and are visible in photos from July 20, 2022. No ground disturbance occurred during the completion of this project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E	
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique	

Further activity included the installation of a new 30 KW generator and transfer switch, which was purchased on February 3, 2021, and is visible in photos from July 2022. The generator was placed in an existing metal cage on existing concrete at the rear of the building. It is not visible from Avenue Jose de Diego, which the building façade faces. No ground disturbance occurred during the completion of this project.


On November 6, 2020, the applicant purchased three Haier PRO split-unit air conditioners. The installation for these required significant alterations to the building, including cutting into the western wall, running connections to the exterior compressor units that were placed on the roof, and running new wiring to the rear of the building to connect to the generator. No ground disturbance occurred during the completion of this project.

The current proposed activities include the installation of a new affixed biometric timekeeper near the number pad within the interior of the building as part of the security system. All work will occur inside the building and no ground disturbance is anticipated.

The building appears on 1958 aerial imagery, 1941-43 Puerto Rico Aerial Survey, Cayey #55, and 1937 Cayey Municipality Imagery, suggesting a year build of ca. 1930. Located within the Cayey TUC, the subject building at Jose De Diego 153 E, Cayey is a two-story Mid-century Modern commercial building, constructed ca. 1930. The building is concrete construction with a flat concrete roof with overhang on a flat slab concrete foundation. An overhanging concrete slab divides the first and second floor. The first floor consists of two store fronts. Each store front has a double aluminum framed glass door flanked by floor to ceiling aluminum framed glass windows. The second floor has a row of aluminum framed glass jalousie (awning) windows encased in a concrete surround.

Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the Direct APE for this project is the subject building at Jose De Diego 153 E, Cayey. The Indirect/Visual APE is defined as the viewshed of the proposed project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E	
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique	

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology


No Ground disturbance is associated with the proposed activities.

Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area is within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible Cayey Traditional Urban Center.

The following National Register eligible resources are within a ¼ mile radius of the subject building:

- Residencial Benigno Fernández García
- Museo/Salón de la Fama del Deporte Cayeyano
- Edificio en calle Luis Muñoz Rivera
- Instituto de Audiología Avanzada
- Cayey Alcaldía
- Museo de Arte Pío López Martínez
- Edificio [La Victoria]
- Edificio en avenida José de Diego esquina calle Palmer
- Plaza Ramón Frade
- Casa parroquial
- Estación de bomberos
- Casa del Cuento y la Historia Cayeyana
- Edificio en avenida De Diego (No 53)
- Casa de Ramón Frade León
- Iglesia Metodista
- Casa en madera en calle Heraclio Mendoza
- Edificio en calle Heraclio Mendoza núm. 18
- Edificio comercial en calle Núñez Romero

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E	
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique	


The street and surrounding block has two-story commercial, Crillo and Mid-century Modern style buildings of concrete construction, built circa 1920s and 1930s. Constructed circa 1930, the subject building retains historic integrity and is reflective of the development trends and style of buildings in the neighborhood. Therefore, the subject building is a contributing resource to the Cayey Traditional Urban Center.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

- Direct Effect:
 - The subject building at Jose De Diego 153 E, Cayey in the Cayey Traditional Urban Center.
- Indirect Effect:
 - The adjacent and surrounding building within the viewshed of the subject building in the Cayey Traditional Urban Center.

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect the historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. Of the 11 new security cameras installed, the two on the facade are replacement cameras and are hidden from view by their location under the concrete overhang on the first floor. Two additional cameras were installed on the rear of the building, while the remainder of the cameras are located on the interior. The small floor sensor that is located near the ground by the rolling metal door is located on the rear of the building. The generator was installed in a cage on the rear of the building and is not visible from the street. The 3 new air conditioning units are installed on the left elevation at the rear of the building and are not visible from the street. The interior returns are installed near the ceiling on the left wall in the main storeroom in the interior of the building. The interior has been modernized with drop ceiling tiles and has lost historic integrity. The new affixed bio-metric timekeeper was installed near the ceiling in a rear interior room and is minimally visible. Therefore, the Program has determined that the proposed activities have resulted in No Adverse Effect to the contributing subject building or the adjacent buildings in the TUC within the viewshed of the subject building.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E	
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique	

Recommendation (Please keep on same page as SHPO Staff Section)

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests that the Puerto Rico SHPO concur that the following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (Choose One):

☐ No Historic Properties Affected

☒ No Adverse Effect

☐ Adverse Effect

Proposed Resolution (if applicable)

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments: 	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:



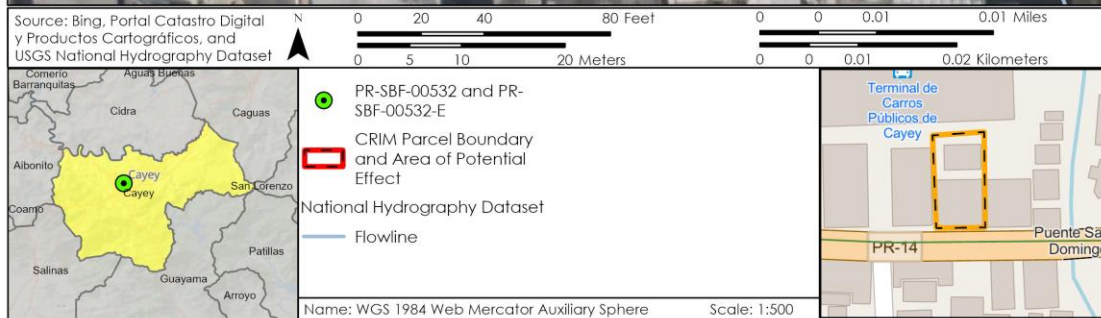
Project (Parcel) Location - Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Small Business Financing Program

Application ID#: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Address: Jose De Diego 153 E., Cayey, Puerto Rico

Latitude: 18.113562
Longitude: -66.164382



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Base

Latitude: 18.113562
Longitude: -66.164382

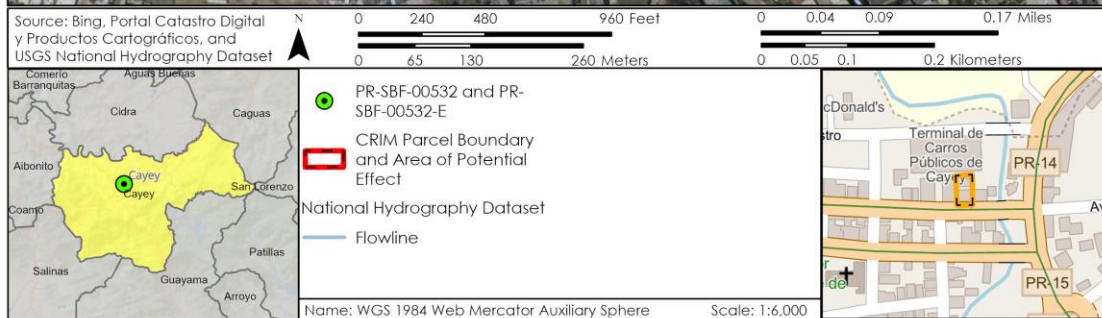
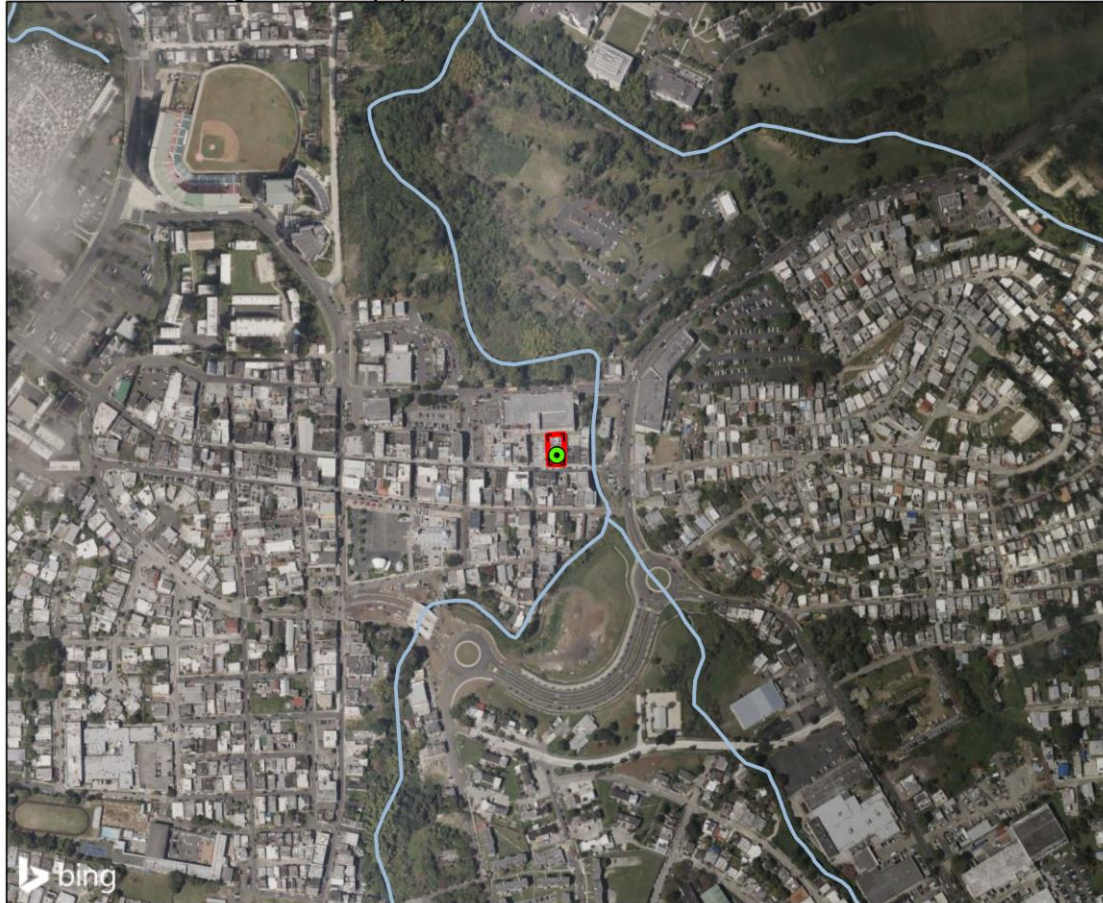


**Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Small Business Financing Program**

Application ID#: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E



Address: Jose De Diego 153 E., Cayey, Puerto Rico



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Project (Parcel) Location - Topographic Base

Latitude: 18.113562
Longitude: -66.164382

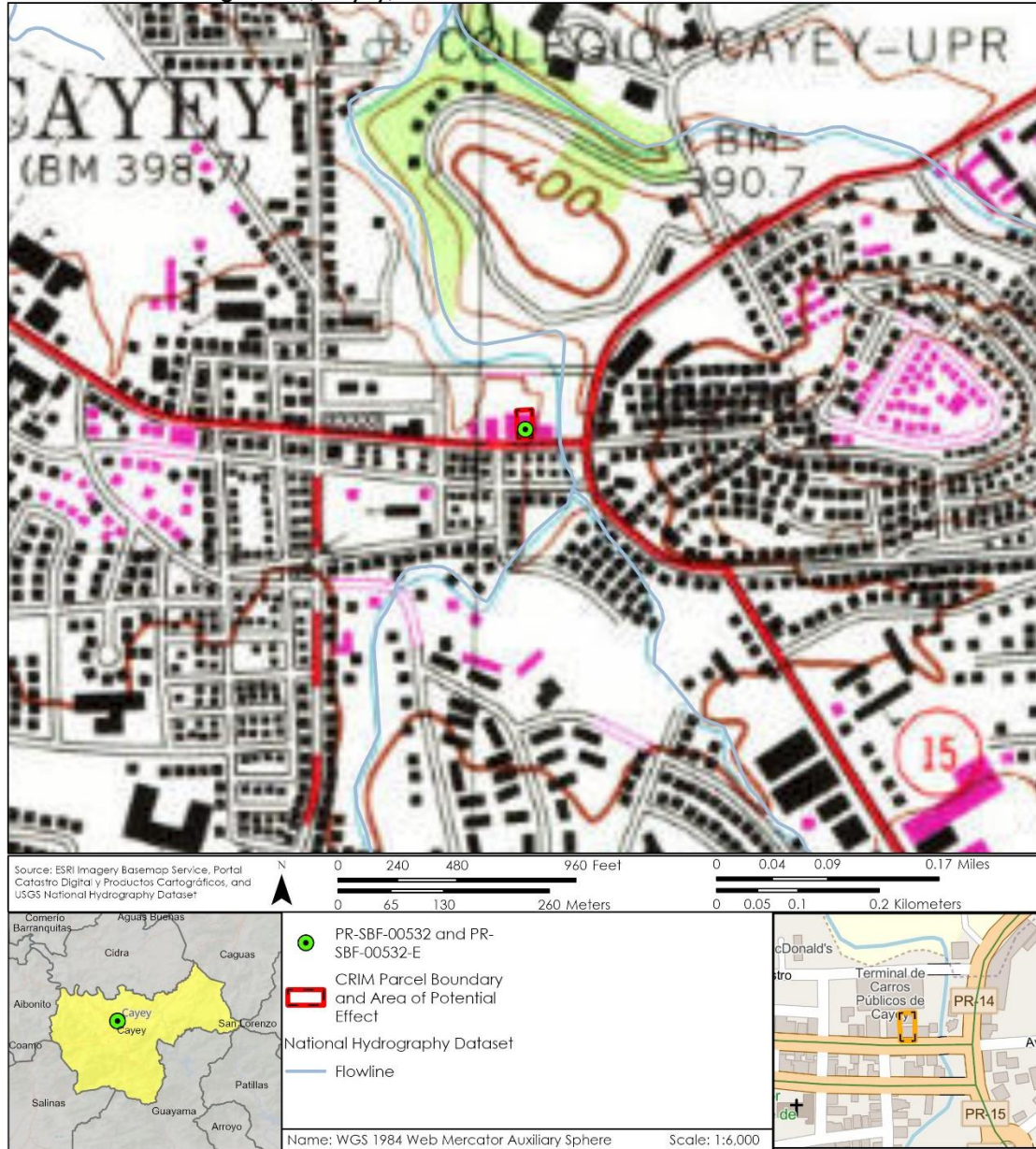


**Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Small Business Financing Program**

Application ID#: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E



Address: Jose De Diego 153 E., Cayey, Puerto Rico





Historic Properties - Aerial Base

Latitude: 18.113562
Longitude: -66.164382

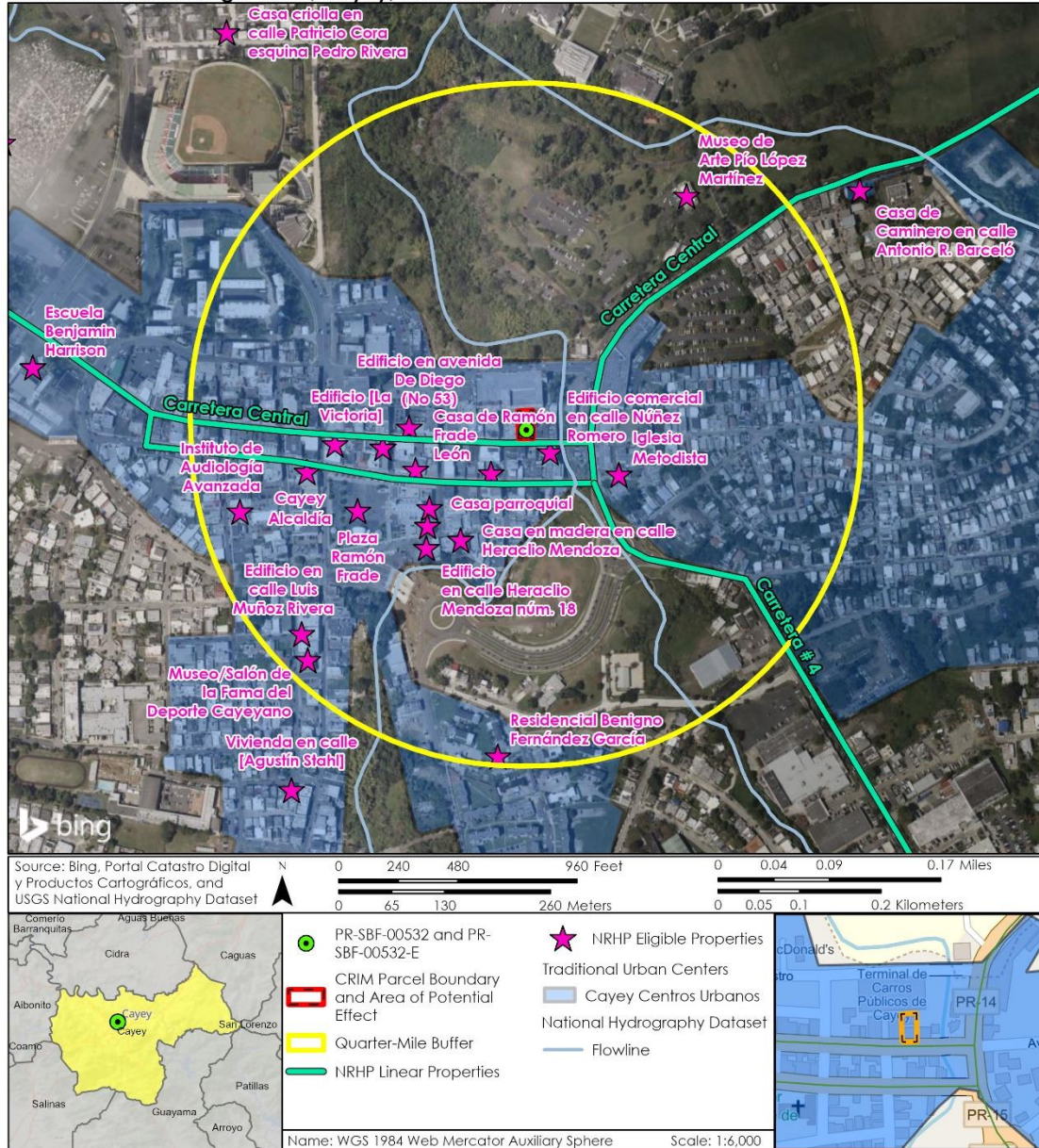


Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Small Business Financing Program

Application ID#: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E



Address: Jose De Diego 153 E., Cayey, Puerto Rico





Historic Properties - Topographic Base

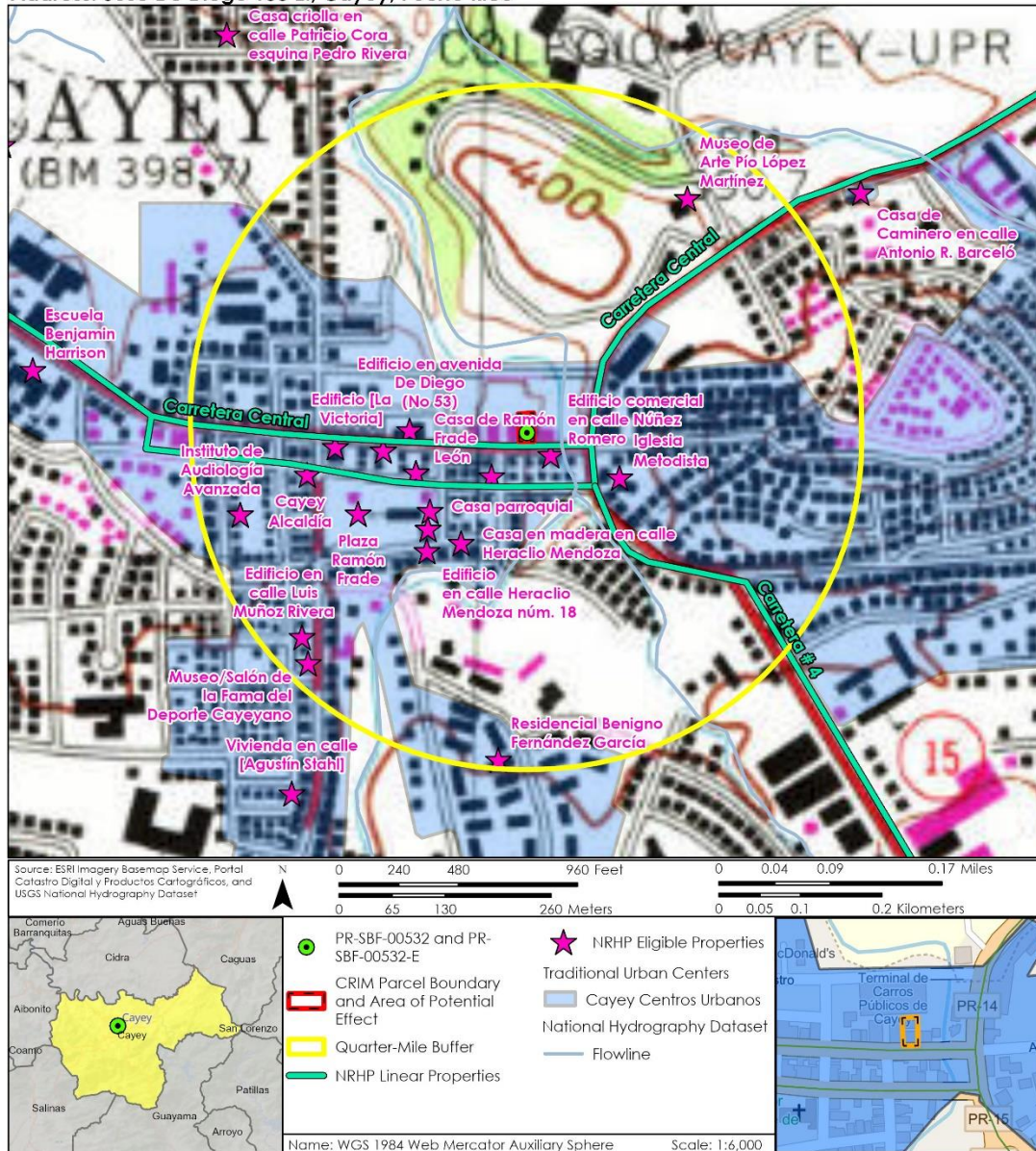
Latitude: 18.113562
Longitude: -66.164382



Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Small Business Financing Program

Application ID#: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Address: Jose De Diego 153 E., Cayey, Puerto Rico



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique



Photo #: 5


Description (include direction): Streetscape facing east along Ave. Jose de Diego

Date:

10/7/2024



Photo #: 6

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E	
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique	

Date: 10/7/2024	Description (include direction): Streetscape facing west along Ave. Jose de Diego
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Photo #: 7	Description (include direction): AST and Generator at rear of building
Date: 10/7/2024	





PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E		
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique		

Photo #: 8	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system on front exterior of building.
Date: 10/7/2024	
	
Photo #: 9	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system inside building
Date: 10/7/2024	



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique




Photo #: 10

Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system inside building and one of three split unit air conditioning units, facing west

**Date:
10/7/2024**



Photo #: 11

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E		
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique		

Date: 10/7/2024	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system inside building
----------------------------------	--



Photo #: 12	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system on rear exterior of building.
Date: 10/7/2024	




PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E		
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique		


Photo #: 13	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system on rear exterior of building.
Date: 10/7/2024	
	
Photo #: 14	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system on front exterior of building.
Date: 10/7/2024	



Photo #: 15

Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system on interior of building, facing south towards Ave. Jose de Diego.

Date:
10/7/2024

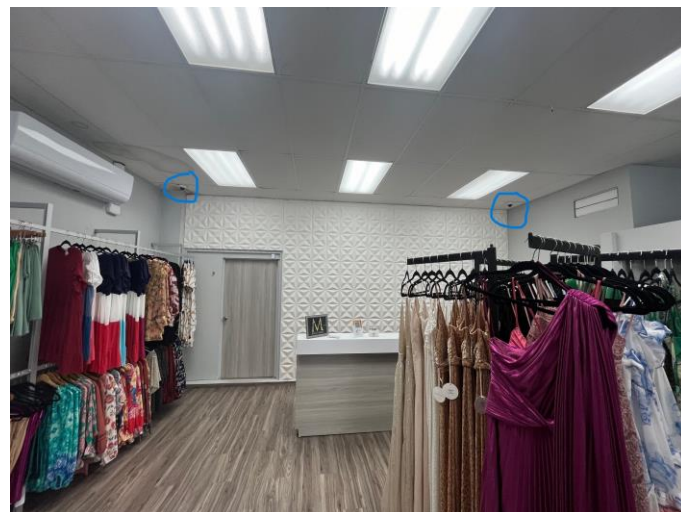



Photo #: 16

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E		
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique		

Date: 10/7/2024	Description (include direction): Security camera, part of security system on interior of building, facing north.
----------------------------------	---



Photo #: 17	Description (include direction): Security system number pad, proposed location for biometric timekeeper.
Date: 10/7/2024	



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique

Photo #: 18

Description (include direction): Security system door sensor.

**Date:
10/7/2024**



Photo #: 19

Description (include direction): Security system floor sensor.

**Date:
10/7/2024**



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique



Photo #: 20

Description (include direction): Security system wireless router.

**Date:
10/7/2024**

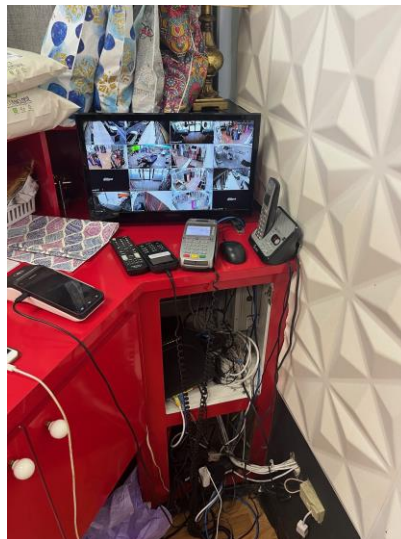


Photo #: 21

Description (include direction): Security system television.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique

Date:

10/7/2024



Photo #: 22

Description (include direction): Security system magnetic door lock.

Date:

10/7/2024





PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E		
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique		

Photo #: 23	Description (include direction): Transfer switch
Date: 10/7/2024	
	
Photo #: 24	Description (include direction): Three air conditioner units installed through interior west wall.
Date: 10/7/2024	



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique



Photo #: 25

Description (include direction): External air conditioner compressors on roof of building.

**Date:
10/7/2024**



Photo #: 26

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique

Date:
10/7/2024

Description (include direction): Electrical work to connect air conditioners to compressors and generator.



Photo #: 27

Description (include direction): Electrical work to connect air conditioners to compressors and generator.

Date:
10/7/2024



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E

Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique

Photo #: 28

Description (include direction): Electrical work to connect air conditioners to generator.

Date:

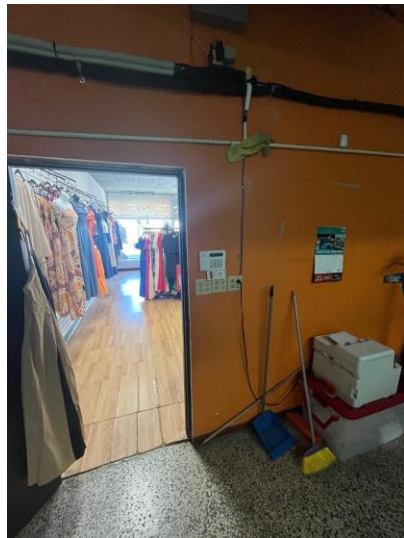
10/7/2024



Photo #: 29

Description (include direction): Electrical work to connect air conditioners to generator.

Date: 10/7/2024




PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-00532 and PR-SBF-00532-E		
Applicant: Mariely Colon Rodriguez HNC M Boutique		

Photo #:30	Description (include direction): Area for biometric timekeeper.
Date: 9/4/2024	



Memorandum to File

Date: December 16, 2024

From: Paige Pilkinton
Environmental Supervisor
CDBG-DR Program
Small Business Financing Program
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Application Number: PR-SBF-00532

Project: Mariely Colon Rodriguez hnc M Boutique

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-SBF-00532 under the Small Business Financing Program, 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.

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.

Signature: *Paige Pilkinton*

Date: 12-16-24



DEPARTMENT OF

HOUSING

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Self-Certification

<http://www.fws.gov/caribbean/ES/index.html>

Endangered Species Act Certification

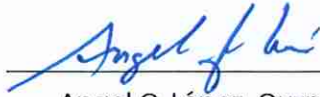
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office developed a Blanket Clearance Letter in compliance with Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act for federally funded projects.

The Service determined that projects in compliance with the following criteria are not likely to adversely affect federally-listed species.

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) certifies that the following project **Mariely Colon Rodriguez hnc M Boutique (PR-SBF-00532)**, under the CDBG-DR Permits and Environmental Compliance Division, consists of payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, purchase of inventory, and the purchase of equipment including a Security System (11 cameras (3 were replacements), Door sensor, Floor sensor, Router, TV, Magnetic door lock, Number pad) 30 KW generator, new (new transfer switch was installed), 3 Air conditioners, new (new wiring was installed), router, laptop, and a printer. Project located at JOSE DE DIEGO 153 E, Cayey, PR 00736, complies with:

Check	Project Criteria
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Street resurfacing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Construction of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Reconstruction or emergency repairs of existing buildings, facilities and homes.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Rehabilitation of existing occupied single-family homes, and buildings; provided that equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation and that the lighting associated to the new facilities is not visible directly or indirectly from a beach.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Demolition of dilapidated single-family homes or buildings; provided that the demolition debris is disposed in certified receiving facilities; equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation.

<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Demolition of dilapidated single-family homes or buildings; provided that the demolition debris is disposed in certified receiving facilities; equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Rebuilding of demolished single-family homes or buildings, provided that the new construction is within the existing footprint of the previous structure and/or within pre-existing grassed or paved areas, and that the lighting associated to the new facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from a beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) of roads, bridges and highways, when limited to actions that do not involve cutting native vegetation or mayor earth moving; and are not located within, or adjacent to, drainages, wetlands, or aquatic systems. These activities include the installation of potable water and sanitary pipelines.
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Improvements to existing recreational facilities, including the installation of roofs to existing basketball courts, provided that the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Construction of electric underground systems in existing towns and communities, provided that the property is not a wetland area and the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Construction of facilities on vacant properties covered with grasses in urban areas, provided that the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Construction of houses, buildings or acquiring lands in urban areas covered by grass for relocation of low-income families and/or facilities that have been affected by weather conditions.



Angel G. López-Guzmán

Deputy Director
Permits and Environmental Compliance Division
Disaster Recovery Office

Address: P.O. Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928

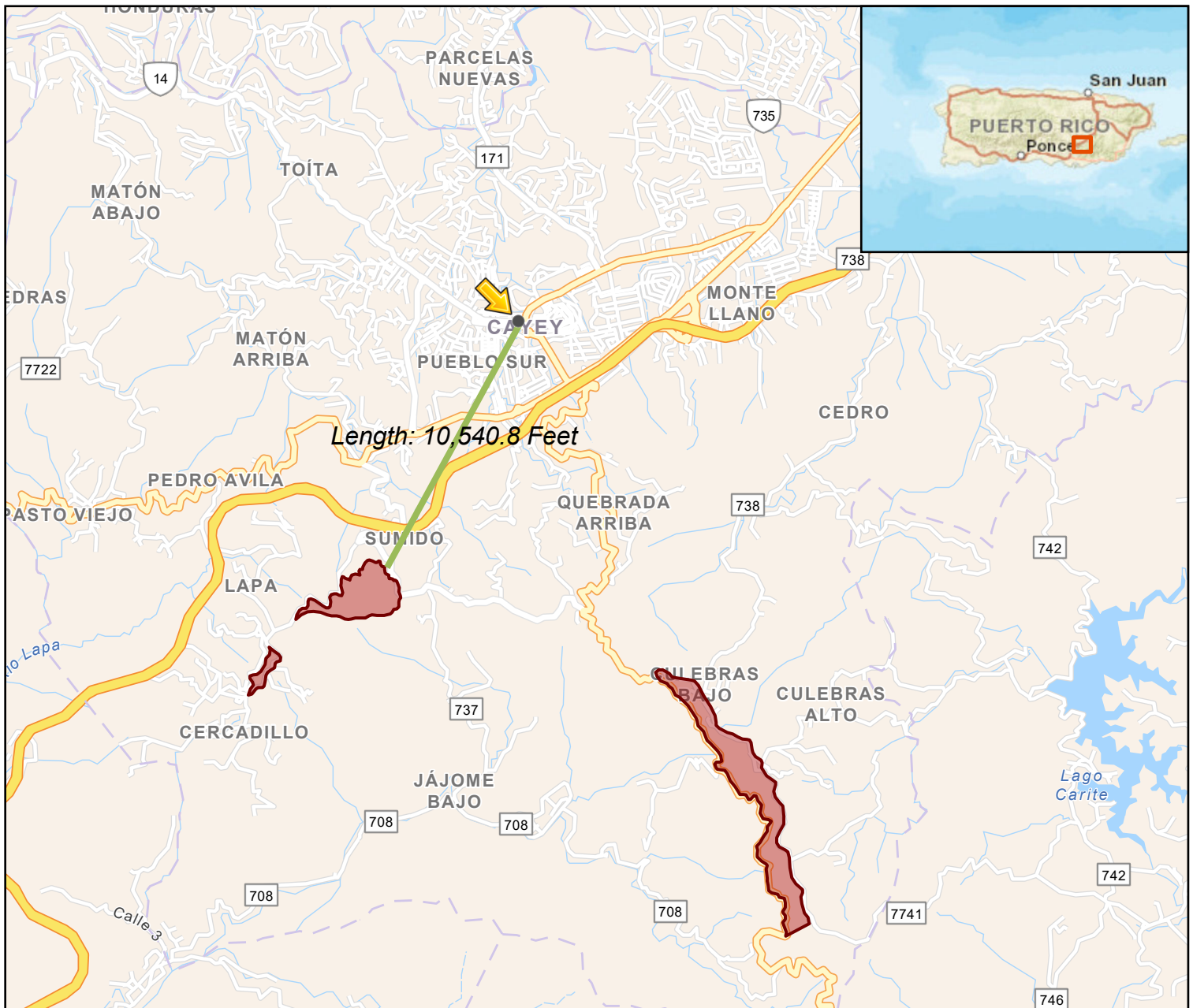
Telephone and Ext: 787-274-2527 ext. 4320

Email: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov


Feb. 27, 2025

Date

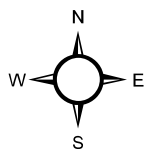
PR-SBF-00532-E Endangered Species



Legend

 USFWS Critical Habitat - Polygon (live agency service)

0 0.5 1 2 mi



Endangered Species Habitat

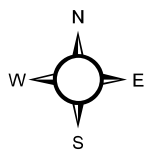
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PR-SBF-00532-E Site Map



Legend

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



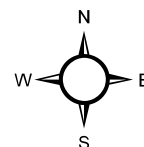
PR-SBF-00532-E Wetlands



Legend

Riverine

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988 – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
FIVE-STEP PROCESS AS PROVIDED BY 24 CFR §55.20
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RELIEF (CDBG-DR) PROGRAM**

Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH)
Small Business Financing (SBF) Program Project No. PR-SBF-00532-E
Mariely Colon Rodriguez hnc M Boutique

Step 1: Determine whether the action is located in a floodplain

The proposed project is intended to renovate the building as part of the Economic Development portion of the CDBG-DR grant. The specific scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, purchase of inventory, and the purchase of equipment including a new affixed biometric time keeper, POS system, steel wire shelving unit, wall showcase, sunglass rack, shoe bench, spiral rack, double bar rack, round rack folding, garment steamer, tagging gun, egghead mannequin 21, egghead mannequin 23, female body form, female form, half female form, 43" TV, Klovsta armchair, and TV bench, for the Small Business.

The project is located at JOSE DE DIEGO 153 E, Cayey, PR 00736. The Tax Parcel ID of the site is 324-034-058-11-000. The Latitude is 18.113545 and the Longitude is -66.164384. The floodplain was determined using the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (500-Year) Flood Approach. The project is located partially within the floodplain. The property is shown as being within Zone A and the 0.2% Annual Chance Flood on the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map.

Executive Order (EO) 11988 within HUD Regulations 24 CFR Part 55 details floodplain management. The purpose of EO 11988 is "to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative." The project is located within the floodplain and for this reason, EO 11988 applies. The subject unit occupies 2,130 square feet of the floodplain. An evaluation of direct and indirect impacts associated with the construction, occupancy, and modification of the floodplain is required. The project does not involve new construction and is not located in a wetland as determined by the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Mapper, thus EO 11990 does not apply.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The renovation is not considered a substantial improvement in accordance with 24 CFR 55.2 nor will the footprint be increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), public notification of the proposed activity (Step 2), identification and evaluation of practicable alternatives (Step 3) and the determination of no practicable alternative and publication of a final notice (Step 7) do not need to be conducted.

Step 2: Notify the public and agencies responsible for floodplain management protection

The project is a renovation of a non-residential building. The building renovation is not considered substantial improvement and the building footprint is not being increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), public notification of the proposed activity (Step 2 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

Step 3: Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating in the floodplain.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential building. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint increasing, therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), identification and evaluation of practicable alternatives to the proposed activity (Step 3 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

Step 4: Identify and evaluate the potential direct and indirect impacts associated with the occupancy or modification of the Floodplain.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement, and the footprint will not increase. The proposal does include a minor renovation of equipment installation with no ground disturbance. There will be no anticipated impacts to lives and property as this is a minor improvement to a non-residential structure. All equipment to be installed will be inside the structure and roof so there will be no impact on the floodplain characteristics or natural and beneficial values.

Step 5: Where practicable, design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts to and from the floodplain, and to restore, and preserve their natural and beneficial functions and values

All equipment to be installed will be inside the structure and roof. The property is not to be substantially improved and the footprint of the structure is not increased so there will be no impact to and from the floodplain as to minimize the potential harm to or within the floodplain, therefore the natural and beneficial values of the floodplain will be preserved. Elevation of the structure will not be required.

Step 6: Consider the totality of the previous steps and the criteria in this section to make a decision as to whether to approve, approve with modifications, or reject the proposed action. Adverse impacts to floodplains and wetlands must be avoided if there is a practicable alternative.

After identifying potential floodplain impacts, the proposed action was evaluated to ensure compliance with floodplain management requirements. This process also verifies that all possible measures are taken to reduce impacts on the floodplain. The project involves the renovation of a non-residential structure. The improvements will be to the interior of the structure and roof, and it will not aggravate the current hazard.

Step 7: Determination of No Practicable Alternative.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint of the structure expanding; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), the determination of no practicable alternative and publication of a final notice (Step 7 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

Step 8: Implement the Proposed Action

The applicant and PRODH (RE) are committed to implementing the plan outlined above to manage and mitigate impacts on the floodplain to the greatest extent possible. These activities will be carried out as described, and the necessary language will be included in all agreements with participating parties necessary to ensure implementation. There is a continuing responsibility on HUD (or on the responsible entity authorized by 24 CFR Part 58) and the recipient (if other than the responsible entity) to ensure that the mitigating measures identified in the steps above are implemented.



CDBG-DR PROGRAM

Small Business Financing (SBF) Program

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

APPLICATION GENERAL INFORMATION

Application No.: PR-SBF-00532 Applicant Name: M Boutique

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property Address:
Jose de Diego 153E, Cayey, PR 00736

Latitude: 18.1136487 Longitude: -66.1644393

Property Type: Commercial Year Built: 1941

Number of Buildings: 1 Are Utilities Connected? Yes

Property Remarks:

Is there evidence of damage from a previous disaster? No

Damage Remarks:

SIGNATURES OF INSPECTION REPORT

Environmental Inspector:

Blas Guernica

Printed Name

Signature

10-07-2024

Date

ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS

Item	Observation	Remarks
Are there any signs of poor housekeeping on the site? <i>(mounds of rubble, garbage, or solid waste or improperly stored household quantities of petroleum products, pesticides, paints, thinners, cleaning fluids, automotive batteries, damaged, abandoned, and/or dangerous vehicles or other motorized equipment; pits, pools, lagoons, or ponds of hazardous substances or petroleum products located on the site)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are there any 55-gallon drums or containers visible on the site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If drums located, are they leaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Are there any signs of petroleum underground storage tanks (PUSTs) on the site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are there any UST locations visible from the site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are there any signs of above-ground storage tanks (ASTs) on the site, or immediate adjacent visible sites?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	There is one diesel tank.
Are there any signs of surface staining?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are there any ground water monitoring or injection wells on the site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there evidence of a faulty septic system on the site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site? <i>(Do not include run-off or ponding from recent weather events.)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there any distressed vegetation on the site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the subject lot have water frontage?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there any visible apparent indication of other environmental conditions?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there any visible apparent evidence of deteriorated paint (chipping, peeling, cracking) present in the structure?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are there other unusual conditions on site? <i>(Explain in attached supporting material. Please take photographs, if possible.)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the structure 45 years or older?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Ca. 1941
Is the applicant aware of any significant historical events or persons associated with the structure; or does the home have a historic marker?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

REQUIRED PHOTOS



Front of Property



Rear of Property



Left Side of Property



Right Side of Property

PHOTOS OF RECOGNIZED ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS (add additional pages as necessary)



Address



Streetscape

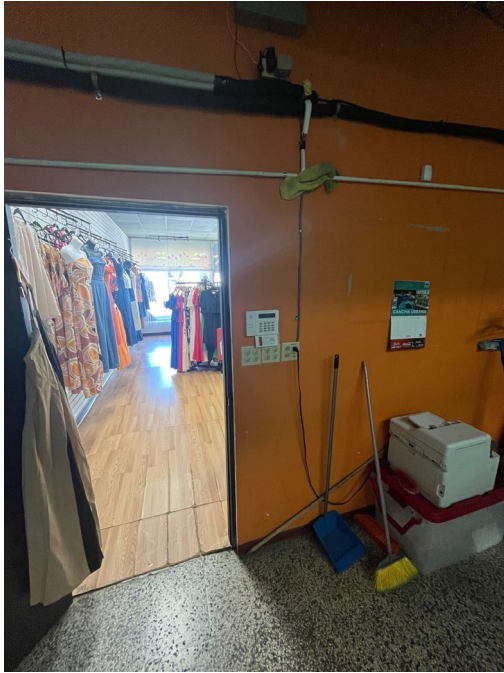


Streetscape

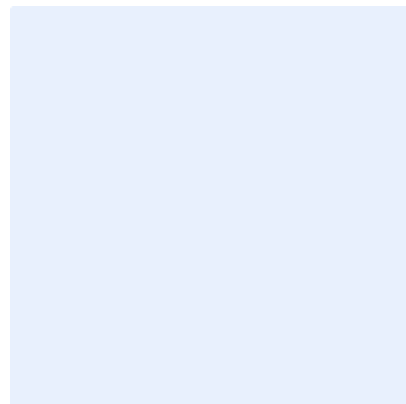
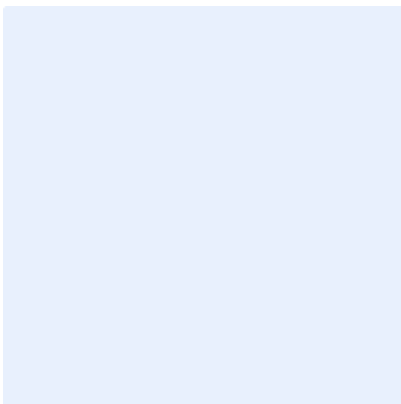
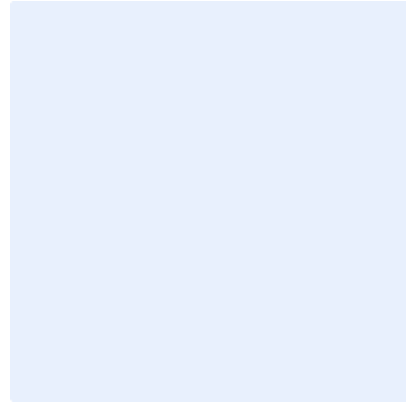


AST

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS (add additional pages as necessary)



Area for Biometric Scanner



ADDITIONAL PHOTOS (add additional pages as necessary)

Radon Attachments



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 Davila, Rio Piedras, PR 00981 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365
Tel: (787) 274-2527 | www.usenda.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

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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. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Oleg Pavetko, Pavetko.Oleg@epa.gov
Mr. Matthew Laitila, laitila.matthew@epa.gov

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William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

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



August 20, 2024

Dr. Jessica Izárry
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

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Tel. (787) 274-2527 | www.viviendap.rg.pr.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Anais 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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Secretary

Cc: Mr. Luis Márquez, secretariogaire@dma.pr.gov
Eng. Amarilis Rosario, aire@dma.pr.gov
Mrs. Elid Ortega, ortega@dma.pr.gov



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

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

Via email: dr.carlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov

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GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

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

Via email: hweyers@usgs.gov

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
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William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
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Cc: Mr. Raúl Hernández Dabla, rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CDP-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, 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); Irizarry, Jessica (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Rzeszutarski, 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 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 <rhernandez2@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- Radon 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
rhernandez2@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 <cesarrodriguez@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



EPA REGION 2
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

September 23, 2024

VIA EMAIL

William O. Rodriguez 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 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 E-Perm 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>.

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR
ROUTE 185 GUAYNABO, PR 00988

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: mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov
Elaine Dume Mejia: Edume@vivienda.pr.gov
Luz S Colon Ortiz: Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov
Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez: arivera@vivienda.pr.gov
Cesar O. Rodriguez: cesarrodriiguez@drna.pr.gov
Marita Rosa Olivares: maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov

Registry_ID	PGM_SYS_ID
110064863820	PRR053088
110023128694	00737NYPRPST15K
110023128694	PRD987377918
110007806909	PRD090567900
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110042422679	PRR000022913
110014361671	PRN008009805
110038763344	PRR000022103
110038763344	81661
110035859862	PRR040047
110035859862	PRU201980
110004894730	PRR000010249
110070048527	PRR100002
110007812126	PRD987378692
110004895187	PRR000011569
110024778034	PRR040008
110007803984	PRD000689380
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110004896024	PRR000013557
110007807640	PRD101797280
110009436841	PRN008005290
110004893900	PRR000008540
110064869628	PRR053125
110070893978	PRU009434
110007818807	PRR000005272

Name

COMAR LLC
NYPRO PUERTO RICO INC
NYPRO PUERTO RICO INC
PHILIPS INDUSTRIES OF PR INC
DEPT OF ED SU EUGENIO M DE HOSTOS
TOTAL PETROLEUM PUERTO RICO CORP SERVICE STATION 304146
PRINTECH
OLD MENONITA HOSPITAL
ANTIGUO HOSPITAL MENONITA
CAYEY
MUNICIPALITY OF CAYEY
LUIS MONTANO SS
CONSTRUCTION ROTONDA EL POLVORIN
ESCUELA BENIGNO FERNANDEZ GARCIA
CINO FOTO
UPR CAYEY
CAYEY STP
PRECIOUS METALS INC
DEPT OF ED EMERITA LEON SCHOOL
ESSO STANDARD OIL CO PR CO 243
PEP BOYS MANNY MOE JACK THE 909
ESSO STANDARD OIL CO PR CO 282
FARMACIA EL AMAL 15
THERMO FISHER SCIENTIFIC PUERTO RICO DISTRIBUTION CENTER
JR COLON
PR PUBLIC HOUSING ADMIN LUIS M MORALES
NYPRO PUERTO RICO INC
CANTERA II
SHELL CO PR LTD SS 3034 SAN ANTONIO

Location	Municipio	Latitude	Longitude
1801 ANTONIO R BARCEL AVENUE	CAYEY	18.11425	-66.16358
15 LUIS MUNOZ MARIN AVE KM 15 4	CAYEY	18.112817	-66.163415
PO BOX 8000 CAYEY PR IND AVE 15	CAYEY	18.112817	-66.163415
8 INDUSTRIAL AVE	CAYEY	18.11273	-66.16342
CALLE 14 KM 65 0 BO TOITA	CAYEY	18.11399	-66.16263
CARR 14 KM 73 3 INT	CAYEY	18.11399	-66.16263
RD 15 KM 25 5	CAYEY	18.112231	-66.162907
4 CALLE HERADIO MENDOZA	CAYEY	18.1121	-66.1661
4 HERACLIO MENDOZA STREET	CAYEY	18.1121	-66.1661
NUNEZ ROMEO STREET LUIS MUNOZ RIVERA CORNER	CAYEY	18.113056	-66.166667
CALLE MU OZ ROMEO CORNER LUIS MU OZ RIVERA	CAYEY	18.113056	-66.166667
INDUSTRIAL AVE 2	CAYEY	18.11202	-66.16212
AVE INDUSTRIAL 15	CAYEY	18.11202	-66.16212
CALLE BARBOSA	CAYEY	18.112145	-66.166964
3 CALLE PALMER	CAYEY	18.111389	-66.166945
205 AVENIDA ANTONIO R BARCELO	CAYEY	18.117722	-66.162556
MUNOZ RIVERA 45TH ST	CAYEY	18.118056	-66.166111
LINCOLN AT WASHINGTON	CAYEY	18.11351	-66.17
RES LUIS MUNOZ MORALES	CAYEY	18.11022	-66.16956
CALLE JOSE DE DIEGO 214	CAYEY	18.115068	-66.170498
CARR ESTATAL 1 INTER PR 735	CAYEY	18.11187	-66.1709
CARR 1 KM 57 4 BO MONTELLANO	CAYEY	18.11187	-66.1709
CARR 1 CAYEY SHOPPING CTR	CAYEY	18.11187	-66.1709
CARRETERA NO 1 KM 56 4	CAYEY	18.11187	-66.1709
CARR 1 KM 52 1	CAYEY	18.11187	-66.1709
AVE FERNANDEZ GARCIA EDIF 1	CAYEY	18.10652	-66.1645
ROUTE 15 KM 25 4 LUIS MU OZ MAR N AVE	CAYEY	18.108222	-66.159095
PR 1 KM 60 1 BO MATON ARRIBA	CAYEY	18.1125	-66.172611
JESUS T PINERO AVE	CAYEY	18.106944	-66.159722

Type	Report	Distance	Impact
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110064863820	381.7804	No
TRIS	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110023128694	427.8774	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110023128694	427.8774	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007806909	446.5956	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004891350	632.5002	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110042422679	632.5002	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110014361671	700.1467	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110038763344	790.6725	No
ACRES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110038763344	790.6725	No
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110035859862	809.7039	Cleared via
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110035859862	809.7039	Cleared via
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004894730	961.6	No
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110070048527	961.6	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007812126	1026.877	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004895187	1181.406	No
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110024778034	1646.806	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007803984	1745.512	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110058034906	1947.598	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007812297	2161.649	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110040052821	2191.946	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004891412	2339.763	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004892493	2339.763	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004896024	2339.763	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007807640	2339.763	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110009436841	2339.763	No
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004893900	2548.198	No
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110064869628	2665.234	No
NPDES	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110070893978	2878.76	Cleared via
RCRAINFO	https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007818807	2890.826	No

distance
distance

distance



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services

Field Office

P.O. Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622

JAN 14 2013

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R4/CESFO/BKT/HUD

Mr. Efrain Maldonado
Field Office Director
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
235 Federico Costa Street, Suite 200
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918

Re: Blanket Clearance Letter for Federally
sponsored projects, Housing and Urban
Development

Dear Mr. Maldonado:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is one of two lead Federal Agencies responsible for the protection and conservation of Federal Trust Resources, including threatened or endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (ESA). In the U.S. Caribbean, the USFWS has jurisdiction over terrestrial plants and animals, the Antillean manatee and sea turtles when nesting. The National Marine Fisheries Service has jurisdiction over marine species, except for the manatee. The ESA directs all Federal agencies to participate in conserving these species. Specially, section 7 of the ESA requires Federal agencies to consult with the USFWS to ensure that actions they fund authorize, permit, or otherwise carry out will not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. The USFWS issued regulations in 1986 detailing the consultation process. As part of this consultation process, the USFWS review development projects to assist Federal agencies on the compliance of the ESA.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) typically allocate grant funds for rural and urban development projects. Obligations under the ESA, as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), require HUD to perform consultation and an environmental impact review prior to the project's authorization. Primarily, these projects involve repair or reconstruction of existing facilities associated with developed land.

In order to expedite the consultation process, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office has developed this Blanket Clearance Letter (BCL) to cover for activities and projects that typically result in no adverse effects to federally-listed species under our jurisdiction. If projects comply with the project criteria discussed below, no further consultation with the USFWS is needed.

Project Criteria

1. Street resurfacing.
2. Construction of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.
3. Reconstruction or emergency repairs of existing buildings, facilities and homes.
4. Rehabilitation of existing occupied single family homes, and buildings; provided that equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation and that the lighting associated to the new facilities is not visible directly or indirectly from a beach.
5. Demolition of dilapidated single family homes or buildings; provided that the demolition debris is disposed in certified receiving facilities; equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation.
6. Rebuilding of demolished single family homes or buildings, provided that the new construction is within the existing footprint of the previous structure and/or within pre-existing grassed or paved areas, and that the lighting associated to the new facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from a beach.
7. Activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) of roads, bridges and highways, when limited to actions that do not involve cutting native vegetation or mayor earth moving; and are not located within, or adjacent to, drainages, wetlands, or aquatic systems. These activities include the installation of potable water and sanitary pipelines.
8. Improvements to existing recreational facilities, including the installation of roofs to existing basketball courts, provided that the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
9. Construction of electric underground systems in existing towns and communities, provided that the property is not a wetland area and the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
10. Construction of facilities on vacant properties covered with grasses in urban areas, provided that the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
11. Construction of houses, buildings or acquiring lands in urban areas covered by grass for relocation of low income families and/or facilities that have been affected by weather conditions.

Determination:

Based on the nature of the projects described above and habitat characteristics described on project criteria, we have determined that the actions and type of projects described above may be conducted within this BCL without adversely affecting federally-listed

species under our jurisdiction. Thus, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required.

In all situations, HUD, and the municipalities are expected to implement Best Management Practices, where applicable, to ensure that impacts from erosion and stream sedimentation are appropriately minimized.

The Service encourages your agency to enhance the conservation of our trust resources (i.e.; listed species, wetlands, aquatic habitats, migratory birds and marine mammals). We therefore, provide the following recommendations that have proven to help in this way.

Water Crossing Structures:

1. Use of bottomless culverts or single span bridges instead of traditional box or RCP culverts or any other water crossing structure that impacts the stream bottom, particularly in streams which support native fish. The use of bottomless culverts or a short span bridge would provide a more stable crossing and would not alter the stream habitat. However, if bottomless structures or bridges are not feasible due to cost or engineering constraints, we recommend the following criteria be used to maintain good habitat in the streams:
 - a. The stream should not be widened to fit the bridge since this can lead to sedimentation during low flows and possible bank erosion during high flows. Rather, the bridge should be designed to fit the stream channel at the point of crossing. Culverts should be sized to carry natural bank full flow. Additional flow can be captured by culverts placed at a higher elevation so as not to impact bank full flows.
 - b. Bridge abutments, wing walls or any other structures should not intrude into the active stream channel.
 - c. All culvert footings must be countersunk into the stream channel at both the invert and outlet ends at a minimum of 10% of the culvert height. This will align the water crossing structure with the slope of the stream.
 - d. Waterways must not be blocked as to impede the free movement of water and fish. Materials moved during construction, such as grubbing, earth fills, and earth cut materials must not be piled where they can fall back into the stream and block the drainage courses.
 - e. Appropriate erosion and/or sedimentation control measures are to be undertaken to protect water quality until riverbanks are re-vegetated. It has been our experience that appropriate erosion and/or sedimentation control measures are not implemented properly by project contractors. In order to function properly, silt fences need to be buried 6" (proper depth is marked by a line on the silt fence) and supported at regular intervals by wood stakes. For that reason we are recommending that

the enclosed drawing of proper silt fence installation is included in all final project construction plans.

- f. Upon completion of a water crossing construction, any temporary fill, must be removed from the construction area and disposed in a landfill.

Limitations:

Actions that do not meet the above project criteria, such as actions requiring placement of fill, disturbance, or modification to land outside of an existing access road or ROW; actions that occur on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forest vegetation; actions requiring excavation, clearing of native vegetation, or alteration of storm water drainage patterns; or actions that require lighting which can be directly or indirectly seen from a beach, must be individually coordinated through the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office and will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

The Service reserves the right to revoke or modify this BCL if:

1. New information reveals that the categories of work covered in this BCL may affect listed or designated critical habitat in a manner, or to an extent, not previously considered.
2. The categories of work included in this BCL are subsequently modified to include activities not considered in this review.
3. New species are listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected.

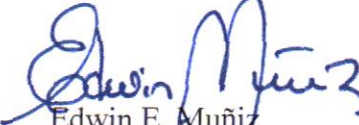
It is our mission to work with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people.

To obtain additional information on threatened and endangered species, you may visit our website <http://www.fws.gov/caribbean/ES> where you will also find the Map of the Species by Municipality and the Map of Critical Habitat. The USFWS has also developed a web based tool called IPac. Please visit <http://www.ecos.fws.gov/ipac> and familiarize yourself with the features we offer. We encourage you to begin your project planning process by requesting an **Official Species List** for your individual project that will include all species that may occur in the vicinity of the action area and includes a map of the action area. The site will also identify designated critical habitat, or other natural resources of concern that may be affected by your proposed project. At this time, best management practices or conservation measures are not available at the site but we expect the site to continue growing in its offering.

These maps provide information on the species/habitat relations within a municipality and could provide the applicants an insight if the proposed action is covered under this BCL or may affect a species, thus requiring individual review.

If you have any additional question regarding this BCL, please do not hesitate to contact Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor, at 787-851-7297 extension 206.

Sincerely yours,

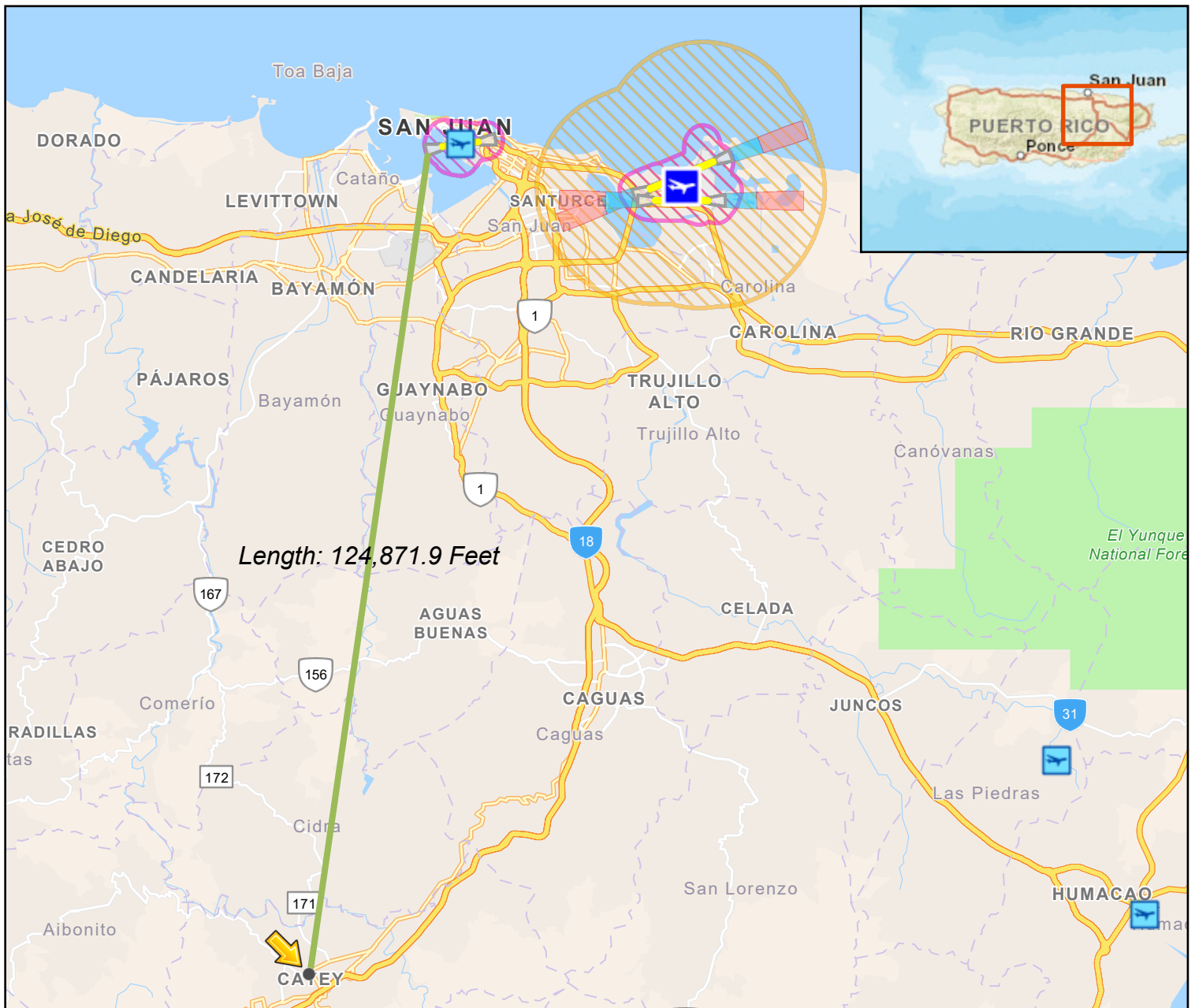


Edwin E. Muñiz
Field Supervisor

Enclosures (Fact Sheets)

cc: OCAM, San Juan
Office of Federal Funds, 78 Municipalities of Puerto Rico
AAA
PRFAA
DNER

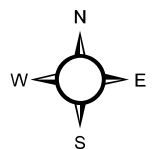
PR-SBF-00532-E Airports



Legend

- Military Airports 15,000ft Buffer
- Civilian Airports 2,500ft Buffer
- Military Accident Potential Zones APZ 2
- Military Accident Potential Zones APZ 1
- Runway Protection Zones
- Airport Runways
- Major
- Minor Airport

0 2.75 5.5 11 mi



Runway Protection Zones

Major Civil and Military Airport

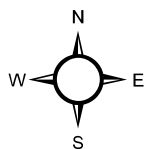
PR-SBF-00532-E CBRS



Legend

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

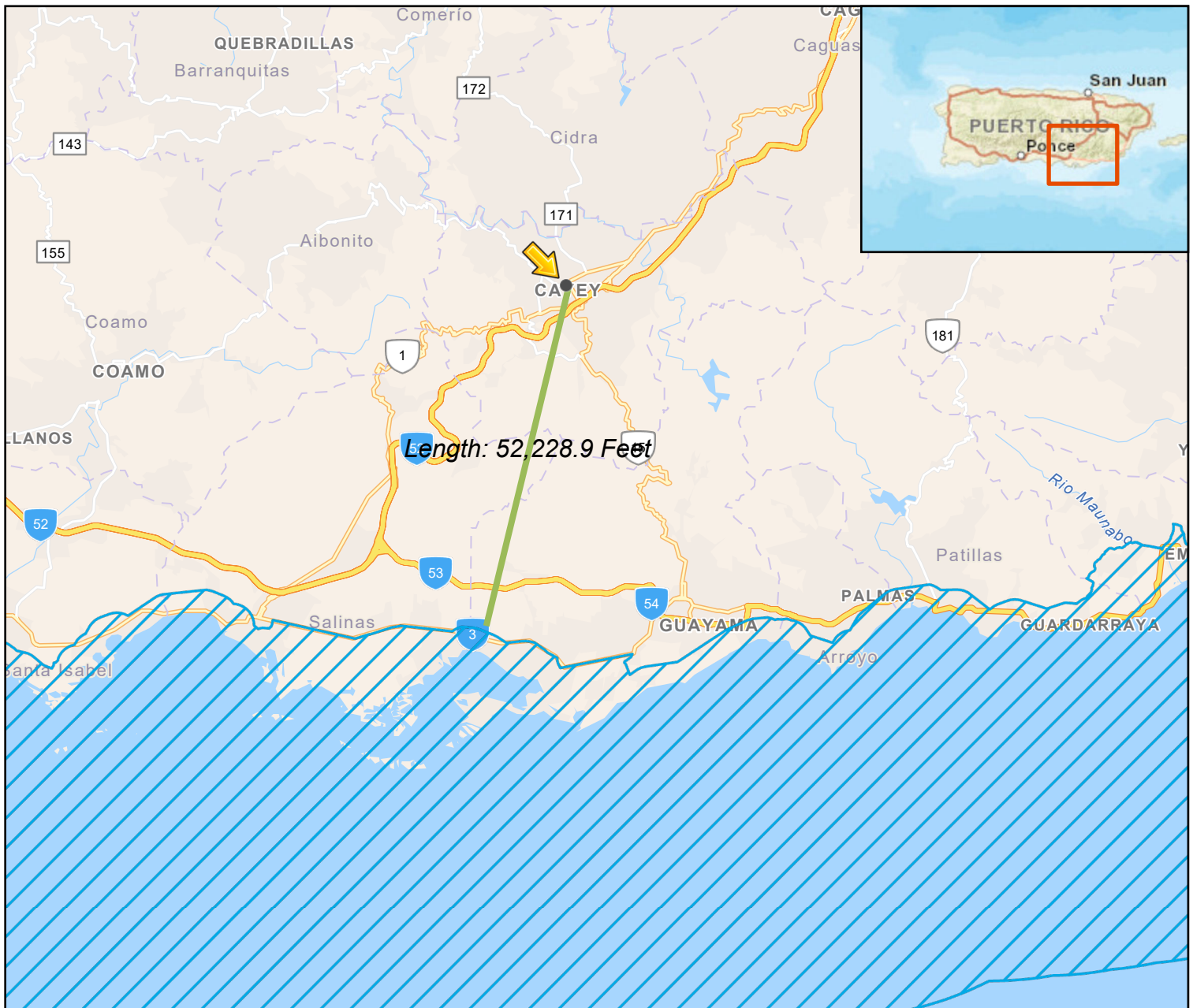
0 2.75 5.5 11 mi




U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program

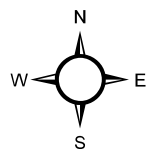
PR-SBF-00532-E CZM



Legend

 Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary

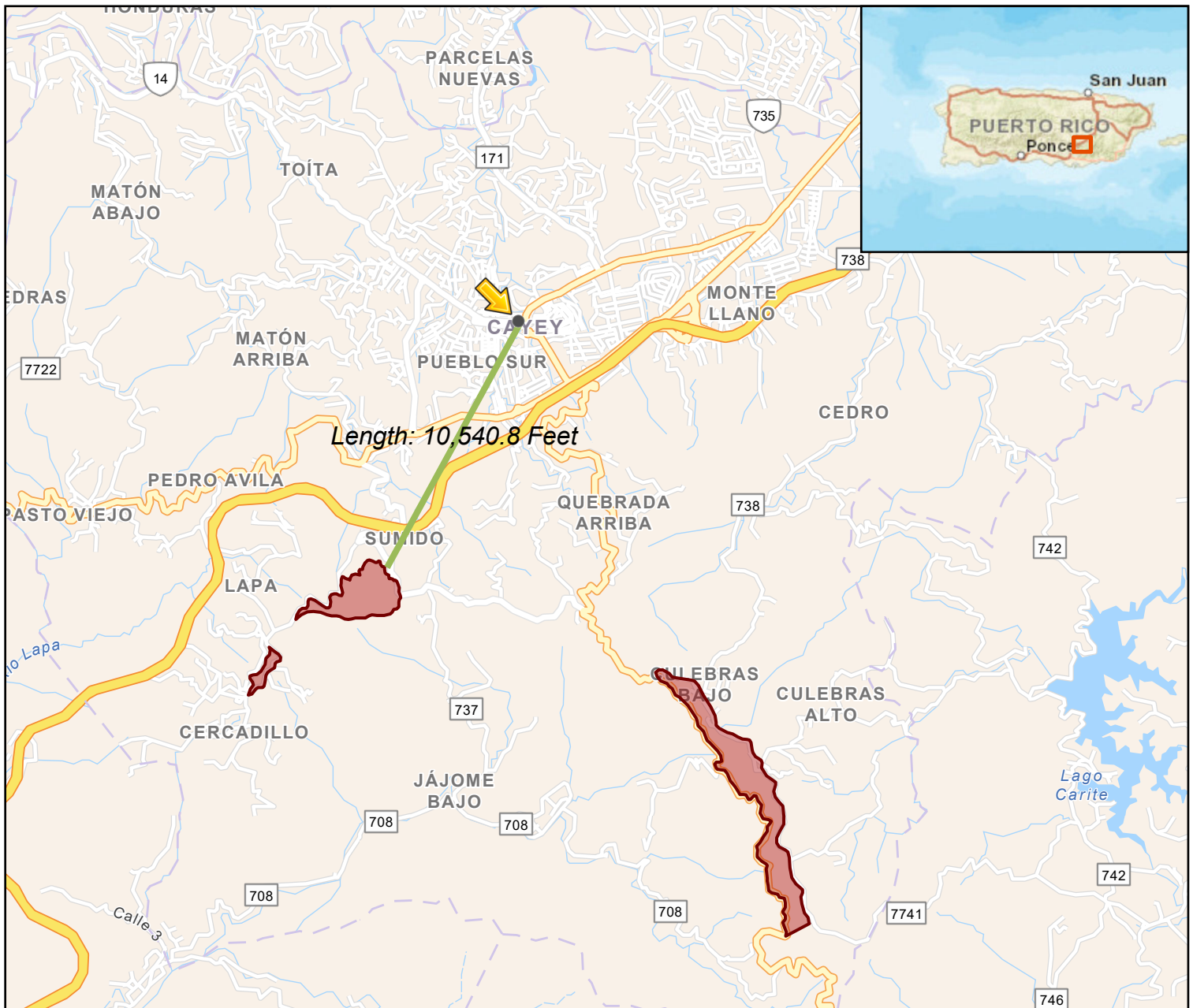
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NOAA

Coastal Zone Management Act

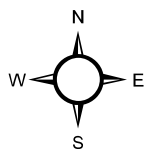
PR-SBF-00532-E Endangered Species



Legend

 USFWS Critical Habitat - Polygon (live agency service)

0 0.5 1 2 mi



Endangered Species Habitat

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PR-SBF-00532-E Farmlands

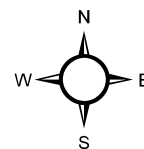


Legend

ClassName

Not Prime Farmland

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



USGS USA Soils

Farmland dataset

PR-SBF-00532-E Flood Map

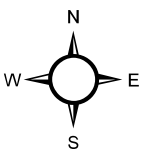


Legend

FEMA Flood Zones - Effective

- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Regulatory Floodway
- Special Floodway
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Area with Reduced Risk Due to Levee
- X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard
- FEMA Flood Zone Panel

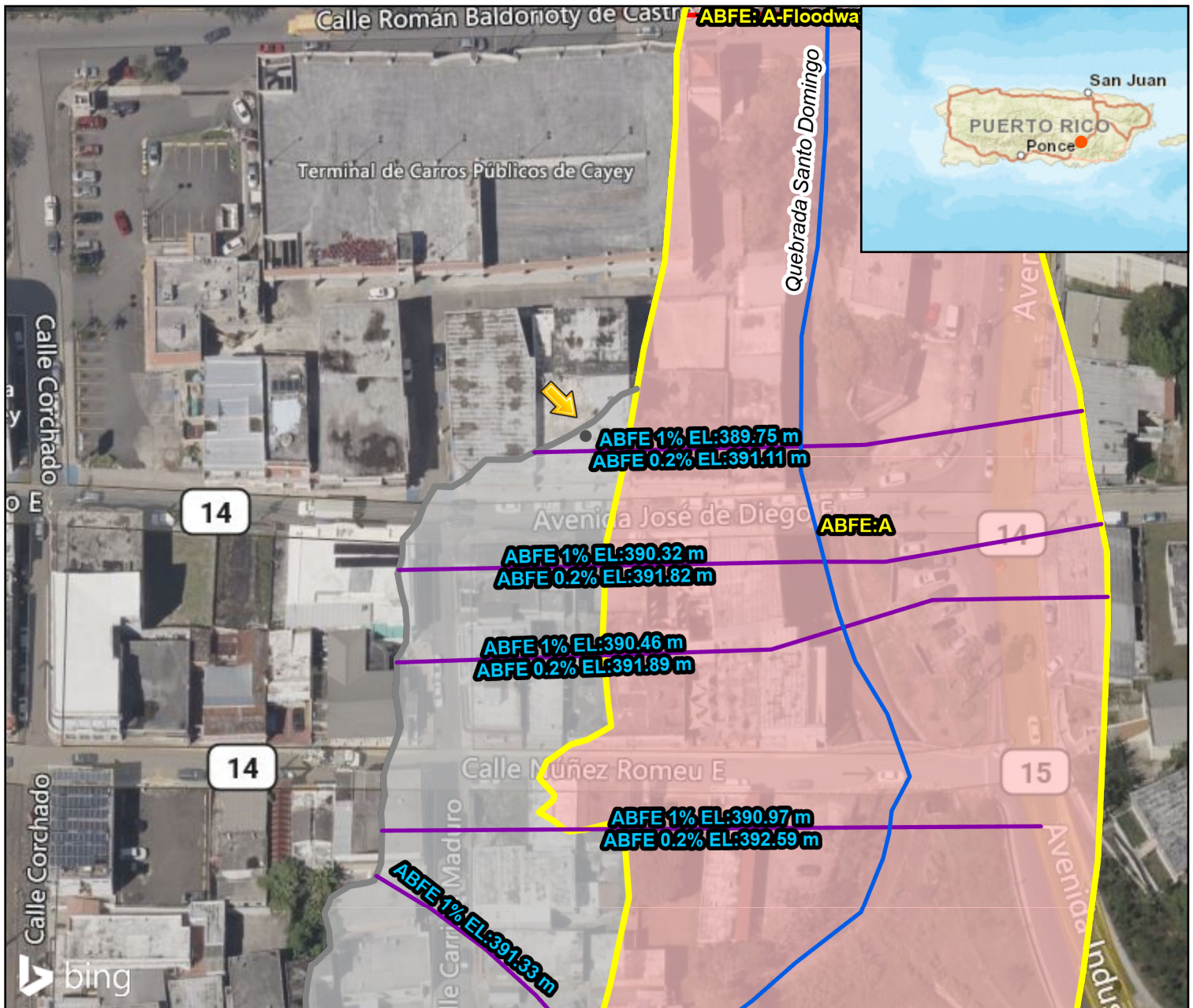
0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



FEMA Map Service

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

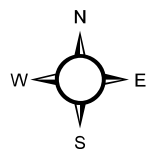
PR-SBF-00532-E ABFE



Legend

- A
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Zone
- A-Floodway
- Zone/BFE Boundary
- 1% Annual Chance Flood
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation (zoom in to make visible)
- Streamline (zoom in to make visible)

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



FEMA Map Service

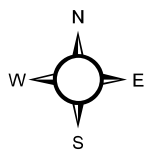
ABFE 1PCT

PR-SBF-00532-E Site Map



Legend

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



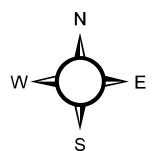
PR-SBF-00532-E Sole Source Aquifers



Legend

Sole Source Aquifers - EPA August 2019

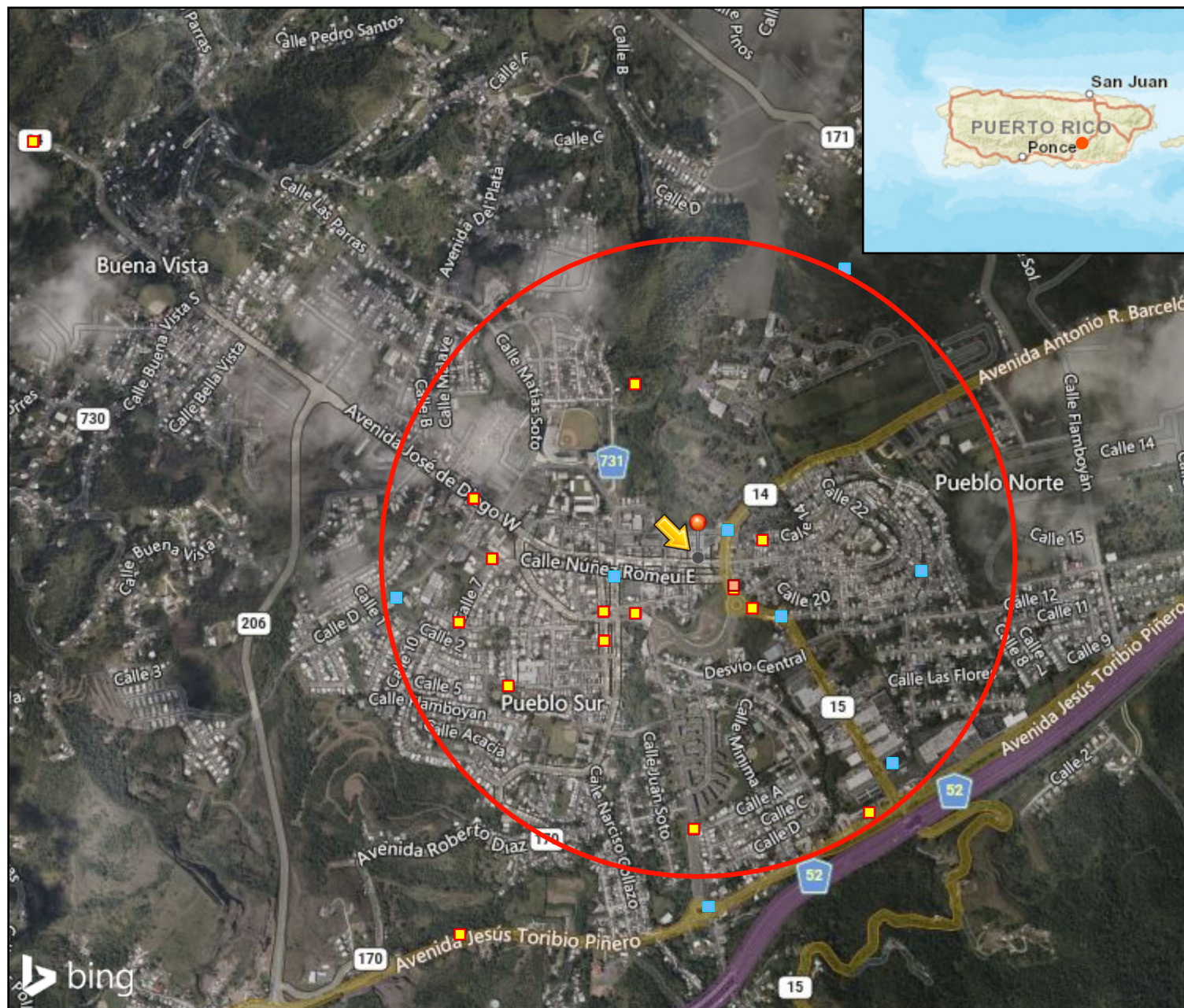
0 180 360 720 mi



Sole Source Aquifers

EPA

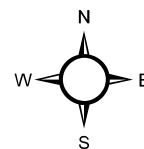
PR-SBF-00532-E Toxic Map



Legend

- Brownfields
- Hazardous waste
- Water dischargers
- Toxic releases
- 3,000 ft buffer

0 0.17 0.35 0.7 mi



Envirofacts Facility Locations

EPA

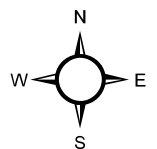
PR-SBF-00532-E W & S Rivers



Legend

— Wild and Scenic Rivers

0 5 10 20 mi



National Wild and Scenic River System

National Park Service

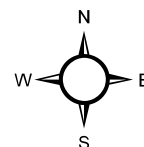
PR-SBF-00532-E Wetlands



Legend

Riverine

0 0.01 0.02 0.04 mi



National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service