

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-05174-E-Re-Evaluation

HEROS Number: 900000010457149

Start Date: 03/06/2025

State / Local Identifier:

Project Location:, San Juan, PR 00920

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 18.416374, longitude -66.095663 at the address given above. Tax ID

Number: 062-055-008-23-001

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

This project entails the supplemental assistance of a small business recovery grant to THE PICKUP PLACE CORP, a antiquities and misc. retail store, at Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero, City Outlets Park, San Juan, PR 00920. The specific scope of work for this project includes the purchase of inventory, industrial fans, a set of displays, workshop equipment, a paint sprayer, sander, and vacuum. The industrial fans will be located on the ceiling of the business, new electric lines will be installed for them. The building was built ca. 1965.

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$97,883.23

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$97,883.23

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	For loans, loan insurance or guarantees, the	N/A	
Insurance	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.		
Floodplain	Mitigation/minimization measures not	N/A	
Management	required as the project activities are not	14/1	
	substantial improvement and the building		
	footprint is not being increased. Flood		
	insurance is required.		

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

03/17/2025 10:32 Page 2 of 3

	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)).
Prepai	rer Signature: Date: March.17.2025
Name	/ Title/ Organization: Ianmario Heredia / // Department of Housing - Puerto Rico
Respo	nsible Entity Agency Official Signature: A. A. A. Date: 4/2/2025
Name	/ Title Pedro A. de León Rodríguez, MSEM/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).

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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-05174-E-Re-Evaluation
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HEROS Number: 900000010457149

Start Date: 03/06/2025

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

Juan PR, 00928

State / Local Identifier:

RE Preparer: Ianmario Heredia

Certifying Office

r:

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Ent

ity):

Point of Contact:

Point of Contact: Blas Guernica
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: , San Juan, PR 00920

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 18.416374, longitude -66.095663 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 062-055-008-23-001

Direct Comments to: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

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

This project entails the supplemental assistance of a small business recovery grant to THE PICKUP PLACE CORP, a antiquities and misc. retail store, at Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero, City Outlets Park, San Juan, PR 00920. The specific scope of work for this project includes the purchase of inventory, industrial fans, a set of displays, workshop equipment, a paint sprayer, sander, and vacuum. The industrial fans will be located on the ceiling of the business, new electric lines will be installed for them. The building was built ca. 1965.

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

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Form.pdf

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation IUGF.pdf

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation EFOR.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:

05174-SIG-PAGE.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,

\$97,883.23

Assisted or Insured Amount:

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$97,883.23

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,	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation	Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)
§58.5, and §58.6	required?	

STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORD	DERS, AND REGULATION	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6
Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	□ Yes ☑ No	The project is within 15,000 feet of a military airport or within 2,500 of a civilian airport. However, it is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ. The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 14,027 feet away. 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]	□ Yes ☑ No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 33,028 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]	☑ Yes □ No	Flood Map Number 72000C0365J, effective on 11/18/2009: 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 ORD		ONS 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	□ Yes ☑ 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)	☐ Yes ☑ No	This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 788 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	☐ Yes ☑ 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	□ Yes ☑ 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	☐ Yes ☑ 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	□ Yes ☑ 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	☑ Yes □ No	This project is located in the FFRMS 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	☐ Yes ☑ No	(ca. 1955) Based on Section 106
National Historic Preservation Act of		consultation the project will have No
1966, particularly sections 106 and		Adverse Effect on historic properties.
110; 36 CFR Part 800		Conditions: None. Upon satisfactory
		implementation of the conditions,
		which should be monitored, the project
		is in compliance with Section 106.
Noise Abatement and Control	☐ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description, this
Noise Control Act of 1972, as		project includes no activities that would
amended by the Quiet Communities		require further evaluation under HUD's
Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart		noise regulation. The project is in
В		compliance with HUD's Noise
		regulation.
Sole Source Aquifers	☐ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description, the
Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as		project consists of activities that are
amended, particularly section		unlikely to have an adverse impact on
1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149		groundwater resources. According to
1121(0), 10 011(111111)		EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in
		Puerto Rico. The project is in
		compliance with Sole Source Aquifer
		requirements.
Wetlands Protection	☐ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description this
Executive Order 11990, particularly		project includes no activities that would
sections 2 and 5		require further evaluation under this
Sections 2 and 5		section. This project does not involve
		new construction, so a visual wetlands
		survey was not conducted. The project
		is in compliance with Executive Order
		11990.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	☐ Yes ☑ No	This project is not within proximity of a
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968,	_ 1es _ 10	NWSRS river. The project is located
particularly section 7(b) and (c)		113,006 feet from the nearest Wild and
		Scenic River. The project is in
		compliance with the Wild and Scenic
		Rivers Act.
HUD HO	OUSING ENVIRONMEN	TAL STANDARDS
	ENVIRONMENTAL J	USTICE
Environmental Justice	☐ Yes ☑ No	On January 21, 2025, President Donald
Executive Order 12898		Trump issued the Executive Order titled
		"Ending Illegal Discrimination and
		Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity",
		which revoked Executive Order 12898
		and eliminated federal mandates
		requiring agencies to assess

environmental justice impacts.
Consequently, there is no longer a
federal requirement to address
environmental justice concerns in the
environmental compliance review
process.

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,	Mitigation Measure or	Comments on	Mitigation	Complete
Authority, or	Condition	Completed	Plan	
Factor		Measures		
Flood	For loans, loan insurance or	N/A		
Insurance	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.			
Floodplain	Mitigation/minimization	N/A		
Management	measures not required as the			
	project activities are not			
	substantial improvement and the			
	building footprint is not being			

	increased. Flood insurance is		
	required.		

Project Mitigation Plan

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities. Buyer must purchase flood insurance because the grant exceeds \$10,000 and the site is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. The structure is located in the Zone AE (100 yr floodplain), but mitigation/minimization measures not required as the project activities are not substantial improvement, and the building footprint is not being increased. The 5-step process is required.

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		24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D
prevent incompatible development		
around civil airports and military airfields.		

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

✓ Yes

2. Is your project located within a Runway Protection Zone/Clear Zone (RPZ/CZ) or Accident Potential Zone (APZ)?

Yes, project is in an APZ

Yes, project is an RPZ/CZ

✓ No, project is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload the map showing that the site is not within either zone below.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The project is within 15,000 feet of a military airport or within 2,500 of a civilian airport. However, it is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ. The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 14,027 feet away. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Airports.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Coastal Barrier Resources

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

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 33,028 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-05174-E-Re-evaluation CBRS.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Flood Insurance

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

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

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-05174-E-Re-evaluation FIRM.pdf

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The <u>FEMA Map Service Center</u> 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 72000C0365J, effective on 11/18/2009: 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

Nο

Air Quality

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Clean Air Act is administered	Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et	40 CFR Parts 6, 51
by the U.S. Environmental	seq.) as amended particularly	and 93
Protection Agency (EPA), which	Section 176(c) and (d) (42 USC	
sets national standards on	7506(c) and (d))	
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.		

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

Coastal Zone Management Act

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

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

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 788 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation 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		24 CFR
proposed for use in HUD programs be free of		58.5(i)(2)
hazardous materials, contamination, toxic		24 CFR 50.3(i)
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.		
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.

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.

^{*} 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.

✓ 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, NEPAssist, 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:

- * 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 Memorandum.

File Upload:

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Radon Memorandum.pdf

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-05174-E-Re-evaluation Toxic Sites Table.xlsx PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation EFOR(1).pdf PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Toxics.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Endangered Species

General requirements	ESA Legislation	Regulations
Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA)	The Endangered	50 CFR Part
mandates that federal agencies ensure that	Species Act of 1973	402
actions that they authorize, fund, or carry out	(16 U.S.C. 1531 et	
shall not jeopardize the continued existence of	seq.); particularly	
federally listed plants and animals or result in	section 7 (16 USC	
the adverse modification or destruction of	1536).	
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").		

1. Does the project involve any activities that have the potential to affect specifies 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

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation USFWS Self-Certification Form .pdf

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Wetlands.pdf

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Endangered Species.pdf

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Site Map.pdf

ESA Clearance Letter.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

γ_Pq

Explosive and Flammable Hazards

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

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 fu	el storage facilities and refineries)?

✓	No
	Vec

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

Farmlands Protection

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

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



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-05174-E-Re-evaluation Farmlands.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes



Floodplain Management

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

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 <u>local environmental officer</u> 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).

Evalu	ation
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

Evaluation

This project is located in the FFRMS 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-05174-E-Re-evaluation PFIRM.pdf
PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation FFRMS Floodplain 5-Step Process.docx
PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation FIRM(1).pdf
PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation ABFE.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Historic Preservation

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

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:

Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero, City Outlets Parks and adjacent buildings in the Puerto Nuevo Historic District

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
Puerto Nuevo Historic District	Eligible	Yes	✓ Not Sensitive

Additional Notes:

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

Yes

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:

The addition of the new ceiling fans and the display will not have an adverse effect on the adjacent potentially eligible Puerto Nuevo Historic district, as they will be installed on the building's interior and will not be visible from the street.

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

Evaluation

(ca. 1955) 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

<u>PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Historic.pdf</u> <u>PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation SHPO Consultation Package.pdf</u>

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

✓ No

Sole Source Aquifers

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

1.	Does the project consist solely of acquisition, leasing, or rehabilitation of an existing
building	g(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. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation 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	Executive Order	24 CFR 55.20 can be
indirect support of new construction impacting	11990	used for general
wetlands wherever there is a practicable		guidance regarding
alternative. The Fish and Wildlife Service's		the 8 Step Process.
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.		

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



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. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Wetlands(1).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	The Wild and Scenic Rivers	36 CFR Part 297
provides federal protection for	Act (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287),	
certain free-flowing, wild, scenic	particularly section 7(b) and	
and recreational rivers	(c) (16 U.S.C. 1278(b) and (c))	
designated as components or		
potential components of the		
National Wild and Scenic Rivers		
System (NWSRS) from the effects		
of construction or development.		

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 113,006 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Wild and Scenic.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Environmental Justice

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Determine if the project	Executive Order 12898	
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.		

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

On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No



CDBG-DR PROGRAM

Small Business Financing (SBF) Program

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

APPLICATION GENERAL INFORMATION						
Application No.:	PR-SBF-C)517 4 -E	Applicant Name:	The Pi	ckup Place Co	orp.
PROPERTY INFORMATION	١					
Property Address: Industrial Mario Julia #255 C San Juan, PR 00920	Calle Mata	adero, City Outlets Park				
Latitude:		18.4166726	Longitude:		-66.0953226	
Property Type:		Commercial	Year Built:		1965	
Number of Buildings:		1	Are Utilities Connected?		Yes	
Property Remarks:						
Is there evidence of damag	ge from a	previous disaster?	No			
Damage Remarks:						
SIGNATURES OF INSPECTI	ON REPO	ORT				
Environmental Inspector:		Blas Guernica	R	13	_	12-04-2024
zaraominema mapeciol.		Printed Name	Signature			Date

ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS		
Item	Observation	Remarks
Are there any signs of poor housekeeping on the site? (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)	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Are there any 55-gallon drums or containers visible on the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
If drums located, are they leaking?	⊠ N/A □ Yes □ No	
Are there any signs of petroleum underground storage tanks (PUSTs) on the site?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Are there any UST locations visible from the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Are there any signs of above-ground storage tanks (ASTs) on the site, or immediate adjacent visible sites?	⊠ Yes □ No	There is one propane tank which belongs to an adjacent business
Are there any signs of surface staining?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Are there any ground water monitoring or injection wells on the site?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Is there evidence of a faulty septic system on the site?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site? (Do not include run-off or ponding from recent weather events.)	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Is there any distressed vegetation on the site?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Does the subject lot have water frontage?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Is there any visible apparent indication of other environmental conditions?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Is there any visible apparent evidence of deteriorated paint (chipping, peeling, cracking) present in the structure?	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Are there other unusual conditions on site? (Explain in attached supporting material. Please take photographs, if possible.)	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Is the structure 45 years or older?	⊠ Yes □ No	Ca. 1965
Is the applicant aware of any significant historical events or persons associated with the structure; or does the home have a historic marker?	☐ Yes ☑ No	

REQUIRED PHOTOS





Front of Property

Front of Property





Front of Property

Rear of Property

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





Rear of Property Rear of Property





Left Side of Property

Right Side of Property

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS (add additional pages as necessary)





Front of Property Outward

Rear of Property Outward





Left Side of Property Outward

Right Side of Property Outward







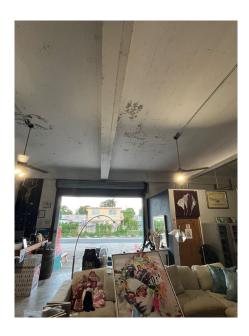
Streetscape



AST



Ceiling for Fan





Ceiling for Fan Ceiling for Fan







Ceiling for Fan



Ceiling for Fan





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 **The Pickup Place Corp.** (PR-SBF-05174-E), under the CDBG-DR Small Business Financing Program, consisting of the installation of industrial fans on the ceiling of the business located at Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero City Outlets Parks, San Juan, PR 00920, complies with:

Check	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.

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 March 18,2025

Date



PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation End. Species



Endangered Species Habitat

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Site Map





United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office P.O. Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622

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

JAN 1 4 2013

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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

Mr. Maldonado

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 capture 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 controls 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:

- 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.

Mr. Maldonado 5

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

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988 & 13690 – 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-05174-E
THE PICKUP PLACE CORP

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

The proposed project is intended to renovate the structure as part of the Economic Development portion of the CDBG-DR grant. The specific scope of work for this project includes the purchase of inventory, industrial fans, a set of displays, workshop equipment, a paint sprayer, sander, and vacuum for the Small Business. The industrial fans will be located on the ceiling of the business, new electric lines will be installed for them.

The project is located at Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero, City Outlets Park, San Juan, PR 00920. The Tax Parcel ID of the site is 062-055-008-23-001. The Latitude is 18.416374 and the Longitude is -66.095663. The FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (500-Year) Flood Approach.

The project is located entirely within the FFRMS floodplain. The property is shown as being within Zone AE on the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map.

Executive Order (EO) 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690 within HUD Regulations 24 CFR Part 55 details floodplain management. The purpose of EO 11988 and 13690 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 FFRMS floodplain and for this reason, EO 11988 applies. The subject unit occupies 30,887 square feet of the FFRMS floodplain. An evaluation of direct and indirect impacts associated with the construction, occupancy, and modification of the FFRMS 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(b)(12) nor will the footprint be increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), 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 for early review of the proposal and involve the affected and interested public in the decision-making process.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The renovation is not considered a substantial improvement, and the structure footprint is not being increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), 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 FFRMS floodplain.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint increasing, therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), 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 Potential Direct and Indirect Impacts Associated with FFRMS Floodplain Development.

The HUD-funded SBF program intends to provide economic stimulus to Small Businesses for economic development. HUD's regulations limit what actions can be considered under the SBF program, including the prohibition of any construction in the floodway. Descriptions of the potential impacts of the proposed action are below:

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 the installation of new industrial fans on the ceiling 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. As the footprint of the structure will not change there are no anticipated impacts to 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 FFRMS floodplain or wetland and to restore and preserve their natural and beneficial functions and values.

The PRDOH and the Puerto Rico Permits Management Office requires elevation or floodproofing of all "substantially damaged or improved" structures in the FFRMS floodplain. When followed, these regulations will reduce the threat of flooding damage to properties located in the floodplain and reduce the impact of development on the floodplain. Applicants are required to adhere to the most recent FFRMS floodplain elevation levels when considering reconstruction of their "substantially damaged or improved" property. It is noted; however, that because the property is not to be improved substantially and the footprint of the structure is not increased, floodplain management options are not required. The footprint of the structure will not be increased, to minimize the potential harm to or within the FFRMS floodplain.

Step 6: HUD or the responsible entity shall 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.

Option A would involve the renovation of the non-residential structure. This option would not adversely impact on the FFRMS floodplain and would help the small business benefit as part of the economic recovery needed because of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. This meets the program goals of revitalizing and supporting the economic development and recovery of Puerto Rico.

Option B would mean the applicant does not receive funding. Due to the great need for economic revitalization after hurricanes Irma and Maria, this would put undue hardship on the applicant. Because of this option A was selected.

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 55.14(d), 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

Step eight is the implementation of the proposed action. 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.

```
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```

Name	Location Municipio
NORTHWESTERN SELECTA INC	796 CALLESAN JUAN
TRANSCAT	281 MATA SAN JUAN
TERRASA TRUCKING	AVENUE (SAN JUAN
INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING AGENCY INC	CALLE C FSAN JUAN
STERICYCLE OF PR INC	AVE C LO SAN JUAN
AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS LLC SAN JUAN RSC	501 CALLESAN JUAN
RIO PUERTO NUEVO UPPER MARGARITA CHANNEL STA 46 00 TO 56	0 MARGARITA CHANN
P P G INDUSTRIES INC	459 CALLESAN JUAN
EMERITO ESTRADA RIVERA	AVE KENNSAN JUAN
AUTOS VEGA INC	AVE KENNSAN JUAN
TRIANGLE TOYOTA DE SS	JOHN F KI SAN JUAN
TREBOL MOTORS	296 AVE KSAN JUAN
DESAROLLOS METROPOLITANOS	AVE KENNSAN JUAN
BAUER	1329 ROO SAN JUAN
GULF TREATING CORP	CALLE JO SAN JUAN
GULF TREATING INC	JOHN ALB SAN JUAN
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION CARIBBEA	P O BOX 2167
US DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION	PO BOX 2 SAN JUAN
PRHA SAN FERNANDO PUBLIC HOUSING	729 DE DIISAN JUAN
RICARDO TIRE CENTER	251 DE DIISAN JUAN
MGM OPTICAL LABORATORY	621 DE DIISAN JUAN
MGM OPTICAL LABORATORY	621 DE DIISAN JUAN
PREMIER DRY CLEANER	DE DIEGO AVE 201 §
PREMIER DRY CLEANERS	AVE DIERO 201 PLAZ
ACE POLAR TECHNOLOGY	913 ESCO SAN JUAN
TEXACO PUERTO RICO INC PARQUE SS	950 ROOS SAN JUAN
PR 22 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION	PUERTO RICO PR 22
BEST PETROLEUM CORP	RD 28 KM 0 2 PUEBL
PUMA ENERGY CARIBE LLC TERMINAL GUAYNABO 1	CARRETERA PR 28 F
PUMA ENERGY PUERTO RICO INC	STATE RC GUAYNAB
ENVIRO AMBIENTAL CORP	1254 FRAI SAN JUAN
BEST PETROLEUM CORP	STATE RC GUAYNAB
GOMEZ HERMANOS KENNEDY LLC	MARGINAI SAN JUAN
RIMCO INC	STATE RCSAN JUAN
BANFIELD PET HOSPITAL 2160	F5 CALLE GUAYNAB
SHOP THE	3 BECHAF SAN JUAN
TEXACO PR INC PUERTO NUEVO SS	ROOSEVE SAN JUAN
CONCRE TECH	CALLE MASAN JUAN
FARMACIA EL AMAL 10	AVE ROO! GUAYNAB
READY MIX CONCRETE INC PLANT 2	MARIANI FSAN JUAN
CEMEX CONCRETOS BECHARA	AVENIDA ISAN JUAN

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https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110056145602	2735.509 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110006623029	2763.561 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110069288041	2769.42 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110017614241	2842.787 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004894222	2906.91 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110067190854	2927.662 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007904642	2936.428 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007817327	2976.171 No
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007817327	2976.171 No

Distance Impact

Report

Update Date

3/5/2025, 8:00 PM

2/5/2025, 0:00 DN

3/5/2025, 8:00 PM





MEMORANDUM TO FILE

Date: March 6, 2025

From: Blas Guernica

Senior Environmental Associate

CDBG-DR Program

Small Business Financing Program
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Application Number: PR-SBF-05174-E

Project: THE PICKUP PLACE CORP

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-SBF-05174-E 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 reason:

 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

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Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing
Page 2 of 3

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.

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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.

Radon Attachments



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: guerrero.carmen@epa.gov

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

The Puerlo Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerlo 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.

Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103. This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and milligation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assited properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Miligation (CDBG-DR/MII), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MII programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any miltigation efforts within the Islands of Puerto Rico. Rico.

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

 $\underline{Radon\ testing\ data} - Results\ from\ radon\ testing\ conducted\ within\ your\ agency's\ purview,\ including\ details\ on\ location,\ testing\ methods,\ and\ recorded\ radon\ levels.$

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



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

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.

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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. Cordeto Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (767) 274-2527 | https://doi.org/10.1002/j.com/noenda.pr.g.gg/

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

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

<u>Policies and quidelines</u> – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

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

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

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

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

llmn (rez Rodfiguez, Esq.

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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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.

My Rodríguez, Esq.

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



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: OIA@cdc.gov

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

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 Inis Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and miligation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Biosaster Recovery and Miligation (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 miligation efforts within the islands of Puerto Rico.

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following

 $\frac{Radon\ testing\ data}{Results} - Results\ from\ radon\ testing\ conducted\ within\ your\ agency's\ purview,\ including\ details\ on\ location,\ testing\ methods,\ and\ recorded\ radon\ levels.$

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



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: anais.rodriquez@drna.pr.gov

RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing

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 testling and miligation 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. It setting practices, and any militardine reforts within the intensic of Puerto testing practices, and any mitigation efforts within the islands of Puerto

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

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. [787] 274-2527 | www.vivienda.pr.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Ric
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agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

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

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

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

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

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

D. Rodríguez, Esq

CD8G-DR/MIT Pro Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerli

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

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

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

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

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.

Secretary

Mr. Luis Márquez, <u>secretariaaire@drna.pr.gov</u> Eng. Amarilys Rosario, <u>aire@drna.pr.gov</u> Mrs. Elid Ortega, <u>eortega@drna.pr.gov</u>



August 20, 2024

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

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

RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing nd 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 milligation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Miligation (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

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

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

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (787) 274-2527 | https://doi.org/10.1007/j.com/noses/21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: hsweyers@usgs.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.

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

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Roo

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

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

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

Sincerely.

Ladriguez Rodriguez, Esq.

Mr. Raúl Hernández Doble, rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov

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Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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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

Ariauez Rodriguez, Esq.

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); Rzeszotarski, Peter

(CDC/NCEH/DEHSP); Vinson, D. Aaron (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)

Cc: Kostak, Liana (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Vazquez, Germaine (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)

Subject: RE; REHi: Puerto Rico Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good morning, Sandra and others,

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

I was not able to find any data in the CDC systems and this was confirmed by Mr. Vinson. We also reached out the US Environmental Protection Agency who indicated they had no radon data in their systems. Please relay this information to Mr. Rodríguez 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
Geociences 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- Randon testing and levels

Good afternoon, Ms. Medina

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

Raul Hernandez Doble
Director, Seccion Salud Radiologica
Division de Salud Ambiental
Secretaria Auxiliar para la Vigilancia y la Proteccion de la Salud Publica
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

<a href="mailto:Aarivera@vivie

<<u>Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov</u>>; Povetko, Oleg <<u>Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov</u>>

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





September 23, 2024

VIA EMAIL

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

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

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodríguez Rodríguez

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 pC/L (piccouries per liter), perhaps locally reaching very high levels above 50 pC/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 Irms 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, Aguadalli, stabela, Questradillas, Barecloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARS) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS) 1939. 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 ystems. 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 and on sampling professionals led by one such professional form 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. Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered levels.

Mapping radon in Puerto Rico proved to be a complicated endeavor given the COVID-19 pandemic in wapping fault in Puter to Nico proved to de Econipactace encessor given the COVID-19 panietin. In 2020. EPA and UPM 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.

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR ROUTE 165 GUAYNABO, PR 00968

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

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

Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez Director

Roberto Mendez, Esq (Acting Secretary, PR Department of Natural and Env. Resources)

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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.



PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation ABFE



FEMA Map Service

ABFE 1PCT



Runway Protection Zones

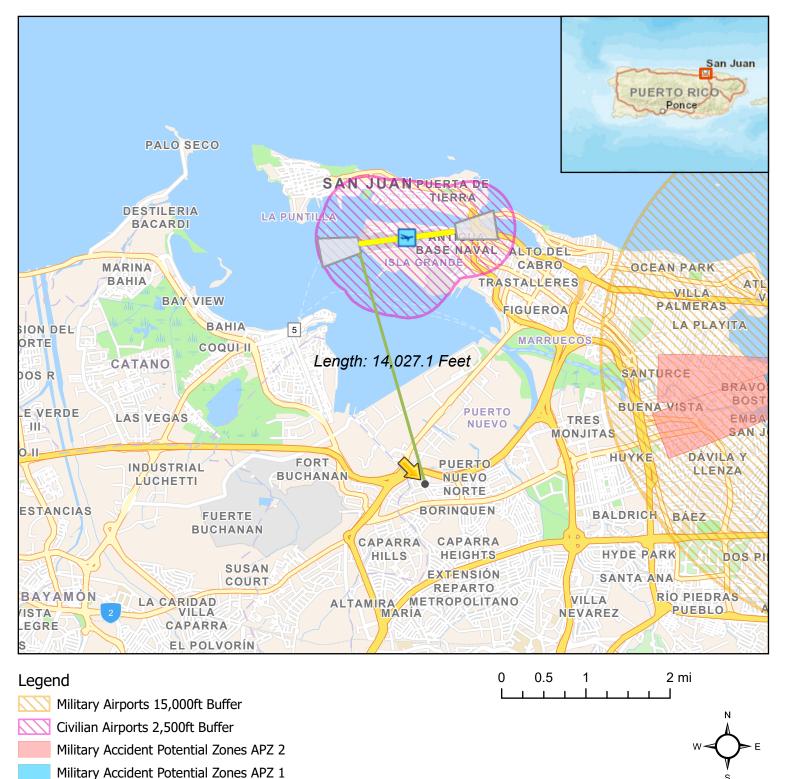
Airport Runways

Minor Airport

THE PICKUP PLACE CORP Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero, City San Juan, PR 00920

18.4166726, -66.0953226

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Airports



Runway Protection Zones

Major Civil and Military Airports



PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation CBRS



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program



THE PICKUP PLACE CORP Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero City San Juan, PR 00920 18.4166726, -66.0953226

PR-SBF-05174-E CZM



Coastal Zone Management Act



PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation End. Species

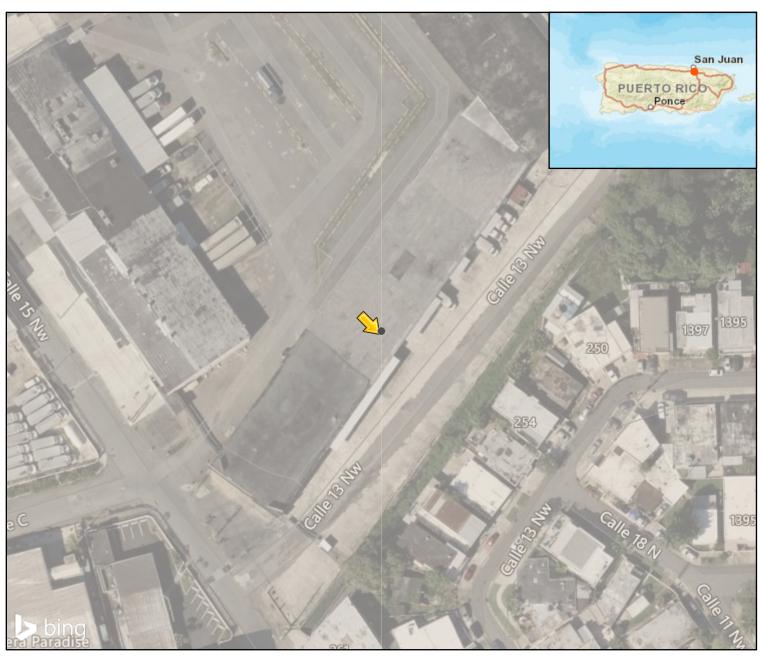


Endangered Species Habitat

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



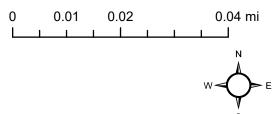
PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Farmlands



Legend

ClassName

Not Prime Farmland



USGS USA Soils

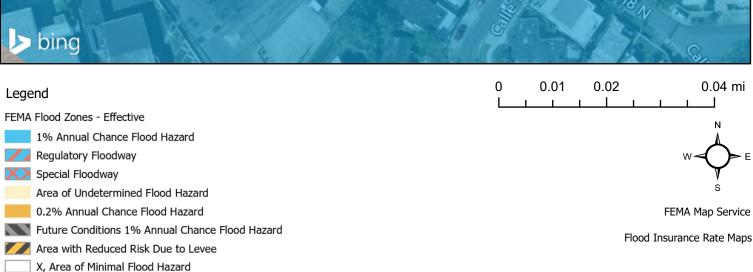
Farmland dataset



THE PICKUP PLACE CORP Industrial Mario Julia 255 Calle Matadero, City San Juan, PR 00920

PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation FIRM



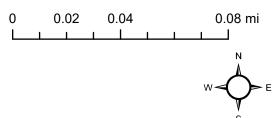


FEMA Flood Zone Panel



PR-SBF-05174-E PFIRM





FEMA Map Service

FEMA Floodzones - Preliminary

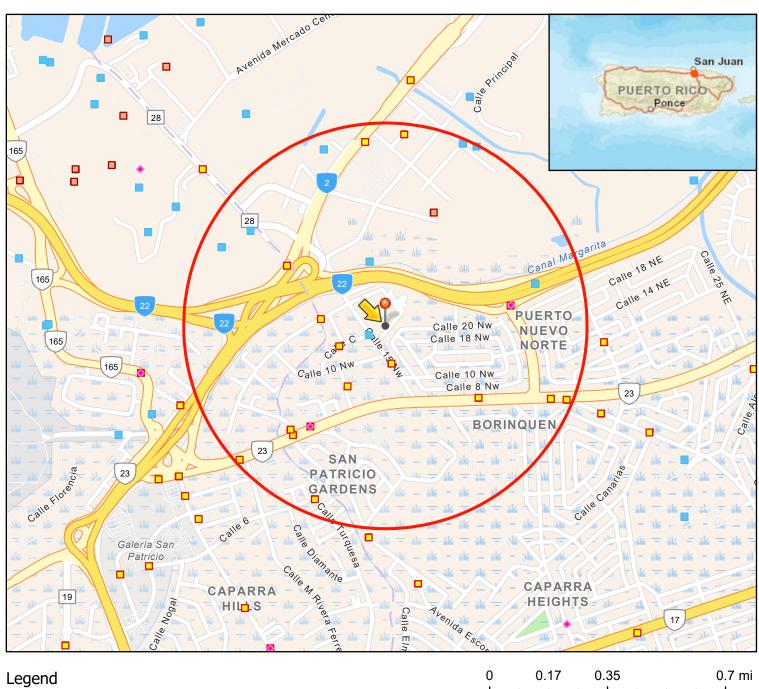


PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Site Map





Toxic releases



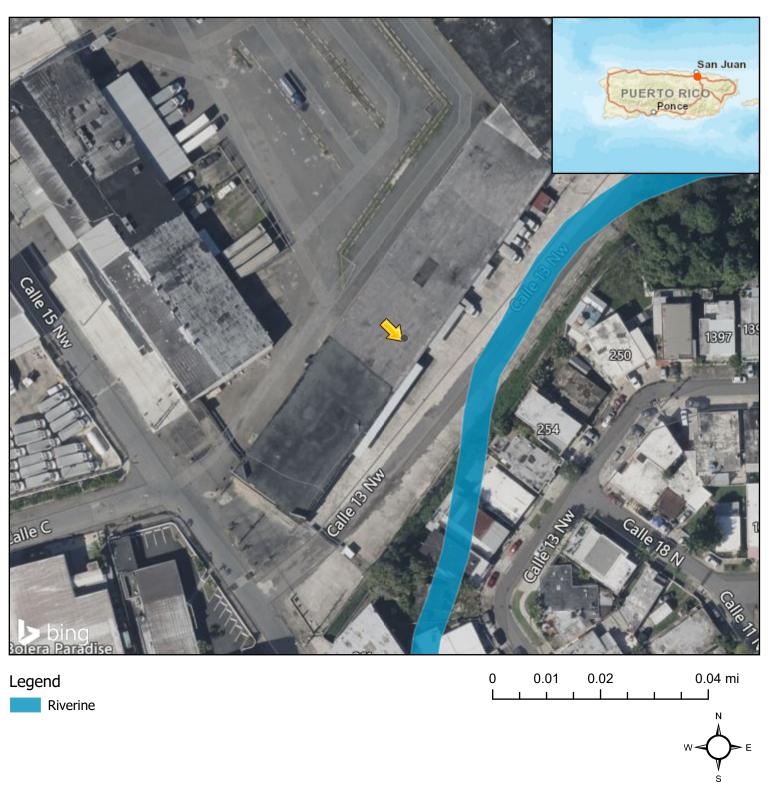


Envirofacts Facility Locations

EPA



PR-SBF-05174-E-Re-evaluation Wetlands



National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service