



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
CITY VIEW PLAZA, SUITE 7000
#48 165 RD. KM 1.2
GUAYNABO, PR 00968-8069

NOV 10 2016

Hon. Dr. María E. Meléndez Altieri
Mayor
Autonomous Municipality of Ponce
P.O. Box 331709
Ponce, Puerto Rico 00733

Re: Coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System General Permit (Small MS4s General Permit)
Permit Number: **PRR040019**

Dear Mayor Meléndez:

This letter acknowledges that you have submitted a complete Notice of Intent (NOI) document to be covered under the NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems within urbanized areas (PRR040000) in Puerto Rico. Coverage under this general permit began at the conclusion of your thirty (30) day waiting period, on **October 25, 2016**.

The eligibility for coverage under the general permit is based on the validity of the certification you provided on the NOI. Your signature certifies that you have read, understood and are implementing all of the applicable requirements. An important aspect of this certification requires that you correctly determine whether you are eligible for coverage under this permit.

The Small MS4 General Permit requires existing permittees to revise and update the current municipal stormwater management program (SWMP) for your municipality and begin implementing it. This modified SWMP must be submitted to this office, one (1) year from the effective date of the general permit, by **July 1, 2017**. In addition, it outlines important measurable goals, storm sewer system mapping, detection and addressing non-storm water discharges, inspections and record keeping requirements. An electronic copy of the general permit and additional guidance materials can be viewed and downloaded at <https://www.epa.gov/region02/water/npdes/permits/index.html>.

If you have questions regarding the stormwater program or your responsibilities under the Small MS4 General Permit, please call Sergio Bosques at (787) 977-5838 or via email at bosques.sergio@epa.gov, or Yolianne Maclay at (787) 977-5849 or via email at maclay.yolianne@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Carmen R. Guerrero-Pérez
Director
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division

cc: María Torres Arroyo, NFIP Coordinator, Ponce (via email)