

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II

CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

CITY VIEW PLAZA II, SUITE 7000

GUAYNABO, PUERTO RICO 00968-8069

Public Notice No. 2013-02

Date: November 9, 2012

NOTICE: PREPARATION OF DRAFT NPDES PERMITS

Notice is hereby given that the following party:

**Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA)**

P.O. Box 7066

Barrio Obrero Station

San Juan, Puerto Rico 00916

have applied to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. ' 1251 et seq. (the Act), for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge pollutants from the following facilities into waters of the United States.

<u>NPDES</u>			<u>Receiving Water / Classification</u>
<u>Number</u>	<u>Facility Name</u>	<u>Flow (MGD)*</u>	
PR0026948	PRASA Yahuecas WTP	0.144	Blanco River / SD
PR0025721	PRASA Guajataca WTP	0.3	Guajataca River / SD

PR0020648	PRASA Maricao WWTP	0.175	Maricao River/SD
PR0024678	PRASA Jagua Pasto WTP	0.0073	Guayanilla River / SD
PR0024902	PRASA Unibón WWTP	0.190	Unibón River / SD
PR0020214	PRASA Adjuntas WWTP	0.553	Cidra River / SD
PR0022837	PRASA Yabucoa WTP	0.048	Intermittent Creek tributary to Aguas Largas Creek / SD
PR0026131	PRASA La Maquina WTP	0.0216	Intermittent Creek tributary to Las Cruces River / SD
PR0022934	PRASA Monte del Estado WTP	0.0288	Guanajibo River / SD
PR0026018	PRASA San Salvador WTP	0.029	Intermittent Creek tributary to Morena Creek / SD
PR0026204	PRASA Guama WWTP	0.031	Artificial Channel tributary to Caín River / SD
PR0026883	PRASA Bucarabones WTP	0.0137	Unmed Creek tributary to Guabá River / SD
PR0022543	PRASA Cidra WTP	1.3	Bayamón River / SD
PR0022900	PRASA Mayaguez WTP	0.407	Yagüez River / SD
PR0020834	PRASA San Lorenzo WTP	2.0	Río Grande de Loíza / SD
PR0022756	PRASA Ponce Nueva WTP	1.0	Canas River / SD
PR0020761	PRASA Peñuelas WWTP	0.75	Tallaboa River / SD
PR0022691	PRASA Adjuntas WTP	0.040	Cienaga River / SD

\*Million gallons per day.

This Notice is being given to inform the public that the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) has provided the certifications required by Section 401 of the Act and EPA has prepared drafts permit based on EQB's Water Quality Certificates. These draft permits contain effluent limitations, standards, prohibitions and other conditions necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act. If, after the conclusion of the proceedings summarized below, EPA makes a final decision

to issue the permits, the applicant will be required to comply with all the conditions in those permits.

The draft permits prepared by EPA are based on the administrative records. Among other documents, the administrative record required by ' 124.9 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, 40 C.F.R. 124.9, 45 Federal Register 33488 (May 19, 1980), consists of the application, draft permit, and statement of basis or fact sheet describing the reasons for the conditions in the draft permit. The administrative records (with the exception of material readily available at EPA, Region II, or published material which is generally available) are filed at the EPA Region 2 Caribbean Environmental Protection Division Office in City View Plaza II, Suite 7000, #48 RD. 165 Km, 1.2 Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 00968-8069 and may be inspected at anytime between 8:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. A copy of the draft permits and other available information may be obtained at a charge of \$0.15 per page by writing to the above address, or by calling (787) 977-5870. The draft permit and fact sheet are also available on the EPA website at the following web address:

<http://www.epa.gov/region02/water/permits.html>.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit to the Director, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division, at the above address by no later than 30 days from this notice. All persons, including the applicant, who believe that the preparation of the draft permits was inappropriate or that any of the conditions of the draft permits are not appropriate either because one of the variances or modifications listed in 40 C.F.R. ' 122.53(1) should be granted or for some other reason, have an obligation to raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit

all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their positions, including all supporting materials, by the close of the public comment period. All supporting materials must be submitted in full unless it is already included in the administrative record. If EPA finds that timely comments were submitted which appear to raise substantial new questions, EPA may reopen the public comment period.

In lieu of, or in addition to, the submission of comments as above provided, any interested persons may request a public hearing. Any request for a public hearing under 40 C.F.R. ' 124.12 on EPA's draft permits must be in writing, state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing, and be submitted to the Director, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division Office City View Plaza II, Suite 7000, #48 RD. 165 Km, 1.2 Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 00968-8069, by no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. EPA's decision on the question of whether to hold a public hearing on the draft NPDES permits, the administration of any hearing and the rights and obligations of participants are governed by regulations at 40 C.F.R. ' 124.12. If EPA holds a public hearing, the public comment period in this Notice shall automatically be extended to the close of the public hearing.

If EPA does not hold a public hearing or reopen the comment period, EPA shall consider the issuance of a final permit to the applicant as soon as possible after the date indicated above for the submission of comments. All timely comments, submitted by interested persons in response to this Notice, and statements and other evidence properly submitted at any public hearing held by EPA shall be considered in making the final decision with respect to these permit

applications. All comments shall be answered as provided in 40 C.F.R. ' 124.17. The Applicant and any other person who submits timely written comments or requests notice of final permit decision shall receive notice of EPA's final decision. Within 30 days of service of such notice, any interested person who has submitted timely written comments may file a notice of appeal and petition for review to the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision. Any person who failed to file comments or failed to participate in the public hearing on the draft permit may petition for review only to the extent of the changes from the draft to the final permit decision. Any such appeal must meet the requirements of 40 CFR ' 124.19. All pleadings sent through the U.S. Postal Service (except by Express Mail) must be addressed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Clerk of the Board, Environmental Appeals Board (MC 1103B)  
Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460-0001

Documents that are delivered to the Board by hand or courier, including Federal Express, UPS, and U.S. Postal Express Mail, must be delivered to the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Clerk of the Board, Environmental Appeals Board  
Ronald Reagan Building, EPA Mail Room  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Documents that are hand-carried may be delivered to the Clerk of the Board from 8:30 a.m. to

12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding federal holidays).

José C. Font, Acting Director

Caribbean Environmental Protection Division

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency