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Municipio Autónomo de Comerío

U.S. ENV. PROT. AGENCY

November 23, 2009 .

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RETURN RECEIPT
CEPD-DIRECTOR OFFICE REQUESTED

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Multi-Media Permits and Compliance Branch
Centro Europa Building, Suite 417
1492 Ponce de Leon Ave.
San Juan, PR 00907

**Re: Municipality of Comerío Separate Storm Sewer System
NPDES Storm Water Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System MS 4
General Permit PRR 040000**

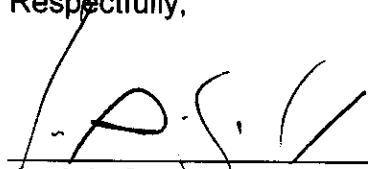
As required in Part 2.3 of the NPDES Storm Water Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System MS 4 General Permit PRR 040000, enclosed please find the following documents:

1. Notice of Intent
2. Storm Water Management Program

Both documents are included in hard copies and electronic form in a compact disc (CD).

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Respectfully,



José A. Santiago Rivera
Mayor
Municipality of Comerío



**MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF COMERIO
COMERIO, PUERTO RICO**

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
APPLICATION FOR REGULATED SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM
SEWER SYSTEMS IN PUERTO RICO**

NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)

**1. ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT.**

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) located in Comerío, Puerto Rico

**2. NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, AND LOCATION OF THE FACILITY FOR
WHICH THE APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED.**

Municipal Government of Comerío
PO Box 1108
Comerío, Puerto Rico 00782-1108

Telephone Number: (787) 875-3445

**3. STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (SIC) CODE THAT
REFLECTS THE SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE FACILITY.**

The SIC Code for the Municipality of Comerío is 9199.

**4. OPERATOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, OWNERSHIP
STATUS, AND STATUS AS A FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, TRIBAL OR
OTHER PUBLIC ENTITY.**

Hon. Jose A. Santiago Rivera
Mayor
Municipality of Comerío

The mailing address is provided in section 2.

**5. LIST OF PERMITS OR CONSTRUCTION APPROVALS RECEIVED OR
APPLIED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS: RESOURCE
CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT, UNDERGROUND INJECTION
CONTROL UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT, NATIONAL
POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM UNDER THE
CLEAN WATER ACT, PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION
PROGRAM UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ACT, NONATTAINMENT PROGRAM
UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ACT, THE NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS
FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS, PRECONSTRUCTION APPROVAL**

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2009 NOV 24 AM 10:35
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UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ACT, OCEAN DUMPING PERMITS UNDER THE MARINE PROTECTION RESEARCH AND SANCTUARIES ACT, DREDGE OR FILL PERMITS UNDER SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT OR OTHER RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS, INCLUDING STATE PERMITS.

- a. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act- not applicable
- b. Underground Injection Control under the Safe Drinking Water Act- not applicable
- c. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System under the Clean Water Act- the Municipality of Comerío is hereby submitting this NOI as part of the NPDES MS4 General Permit No. OPR40000 requirements.
- d. Prevention of Significant Deterioration under the Clean Air Act- not applicable.
- e. Nonattainment Program under the Clean Air Act- not applicable.
- f. National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants- not applicable
- g. Preconstruction Approval under the Clean Air Act- not applicable
- h. Ocean Dumping Permits under the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act- not applicable.
- i. Dredge of Fill Permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act- not applicable
- j. State Permits

Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board

- Permit for collection and transportation of non-hazardous solid waste
Permit NO. SR-23-0278 Expires: February 24, 2012
- Permit for the operation of storage facility of non-hazardous solid waste
Permit NO. ET-23-0076 Expires: December 17, 2009
- Permit for the operation of transfer facility of non-hazardous solid waste
Permit # SR-23-0014 Expires: March 18, 2014

6. TOPOGRAPHIC MAP (OR OTHER MAP IF A TOPOGRAPHIC MAP IS UNAVAILABLE) OF THE FACILITY SHOWING: INTAKE AND DISCHARGE STRUCTURES, HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT, STORAGE OR DISPOSAL FACILITIES, WELLS FOR UNDERGROUND INJECTION OF FACILITY'S FLUIDS AND WELLS, SPRINGS AND OTHER SURFACE WATER BODIES AND DRINKING WATER WELLS LISTED IN PUBLIC RECORDS OR OTHERWISE KNOWN TO THE APPLICANT IN THE MAP.

- a. Attachment No. 1 shows the Comerío MS4 permit coverage area, and a 1-mile buffered buffer zone surrounding the area covered by the permit.
- b. Attachment No. 2 shows intake and discharge structures, wells for underground injection of facility's fluids and wells, springs and other surface water bodies and drinking water wells listed in public records or otherwise known to the applicant.

7. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS.

The Municipality of Comerío is located in the central area of Puerto Rico. It forms part of one of its 78 municipalities. Comerío is bordered by the municipalities of Bayamón and Naranjito to the north, the municipalities of Aibonito and Cidra to the south, the municipality of Barranquitas to the west, and the municipality of Aguas Buenas to the east. It occupies an area of 28.1 square miles. According to the Census 2000, Comerío has a population of 20,002 habitants, and a population density of 711 habitants per square mile.

Similar to other municipalities, the municipality of Comerío elects a mayor and a municipal legislature which: develop and implement local rules and regulations, prepare and manage the municipal budget, and administers and provides municipal public services to all residents and visitors.

8. ESTIMATE OF THE SQUARE MILEAGE SERVED BY THE MS4.

The MS4 serves an approximate area of 0.52 square miles.

9. DESCRIPTION OF THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR EACH OF THE CONTROL MEASURES.

See Attachment No. 3

10. DESCRIPTION OF THE MEASURABLE GOALS FOR EACH OF THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, INCLUDING THE MONTH AND YEAR IN WHICH THE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN.

See Attachment No. 3

11. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING OR COORDINATING THE APPLICANT'S STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

The persons responsible for the implementation of the Storm Water Management Program and activities related to the MS4 operation will be:

Martin Ortiz Figueroa
Director of Planning Office
Municipality of Comerío
PO Box 1108
Comerío, Puerto Rico 00782-1108

Tel. (787) 875-5510

APPENDIX A

ELIGIBILITY AND SCREENING PROCEDURES RELATING TO SPECIES LISTED AND CRITICAL HABITAT DESIGNATED UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA).

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED FLORA AND FAUNA

Eligibility and screening procedures relating to species listed and critical habitat designated under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The MS4 operated by the Central Administration of the Municipality of Comerío meets **Criterion E:**

Storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and allowable non storm water discharges are not likely to adversely affect any federally listed endangered and threatened (listed) species or designated critical habitat.

Birds are the most predominant fauna group in the Municipality of Comerío. Reported species of birds in the Municipality includes migrant and endemic species. Invertebrates, amphibians, and reptilians compose the rest of the local fauna. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service official List of Threatened and Endangered Species reports two species of fauna which have being found to have significant population within the Municipality of Comerío. The species listed are:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Spanish Common Name	Group	Status
<i>Epicrates inornatus</i>	Puertorican Boa	Boa Puertorriqueña	Reptile	Endangered
<i>Patagioenas (Columba) inornata wetmorei</i>	Puertorican Plain Pigeon	Paloma Sabanera	Bird	Endangered

The flora in the Municipality of Comerío is composed of both endemic and many invasive as well as ornamental plant species. Well above over a hundred species of plants representing more than 40 families are to be found within the Comerío Municipality. The Fish and Wildlife Service List of Threatened or Endangered Species does not lists any plant species within the Municipality of Comerío. This information was reviewed with the official List of Endangered Species of the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources of Puerto Rico.

The best management practices (Item 9 of the Notice of Intent) proposed to control storm water in the MS4 operated by the local government will not affect these species or their habitat in within the Municipality. So, the MS4 is eligible for coverage under the NPDES General Permit for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under Criterion E.

APPENDIX B

ELIGIBILITY AND SCREENING PROCEDURES RELATING TO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AND THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT.

Historic Places

Eligibility and screening procedures relating to historic properties and the National Historic Preservation Act.

The MS4 operated by the Municipality of Comerío meets **Criterion B:**

Your discharge related activities (i.e. construction and/or installation of storm water best management practices that involve subsurface disturbance) will not affect historic properties.

There are two sites of historical value in the Municipality of Comerío which are listed in the National Registry of Historic Places of the State Historic Preservation Office. The listed sites are:

- La Mora Cave or “Cueva La Mora” as is commonly known in Spanish is an archeological site. In these caves archaeologist have found ceramic fragments dating back to the ostionoid (Taíno) period. The cave walls are replete with drawings of complex artistic design. The site is located near the intersection of State Road PR-172 and PR-7774 approximately two miles away from the Comerío urban center.
- Rio Hondo Bridge a double warren pony truss bridge from 1908, designed by the engineer Mr. Rafael Nones. The bridge is considered a historic place due to its age and architectural value. The bridge crosses the Rio Hondo River on State Road PR-156 Km 26.9 approximately 1.25 miles away from the Comerío urban center.

The best management practices (Item 9 of the Notice of Intent) proposed to control storm water in the MS4 operated by the Central Administration will not affect these places. So, the MS4 is eligible for coverage under the NPDES General Permit for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under Criterion B.

ATTACHMENT NO. 1
AERIAL PHOTO OF COMERIO MS4 CONVERGENCE AREA AND
1-MILE BUFFER ZONE

ATTACHMENT NO. 3

**DESCRIPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND
MEASURABLE GOALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF COMERIO
ATTACHMENT NO. 3

TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
1. Public Education and Outreach			
Development of new and review/evaluation of existing educational material related with stormwater pollution control, including themes such as: types of common storm water pollutants, toxic effects; simple water pollution control practices; environmental impacts, illegal discharge awareness, among others.	Quantity of educational material distributed and frequency of announcement with loud speakers system. Educational material includes pamphlets, flyers, ads, informational brochures for general information purposes.	General Public	2011
Conductance of conferences on storm water quality and the importance of water pollution prevention.	List of attendees from community groups, public and private schools, industry representatives, and other local components.	General Public	2011, and annually thereafter
Municipality sponsorship of storm water pollution control related public services announcements (PSA) of 30-seconds in duration for play on radio or television; creation of informational articles in the local newspaper media	Quantity of radio program and local newspaper co-sponsors, number of radio program callers, quantity of reading material distributed. Create a Web Site to disseminate any information related to the program.	General Public	2011

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
1. Public Education and Outreach (Cont.)			
Creation of school educational material to be offered to public and private schools students on storm water pollution control importance.	Number of reached students.	Elementary, intermediate and high school students	2011
Development of storm water-related posters for display in schools and municipal government localities. This activity will be performed in coordination with the Department of Education.	Number of schools and local government offices reached by the educational material	Students and general public	2011
2. Public Participation			
Development of an on-going program of catch basin stenciling until all basins in the municipality have been stenciled. The stenciling program will consist on volunteers applying stenciled messages to storm drains advising people not to dump substances other than rainwater because the basins drain directly into water courses.	Amount of catch basins stenciled.	General Public.	2012

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
2. Public Participation (Cont.)			
<p>Conductance of on-going series of public forums/discussions related to the development and implementation of a municipal ordinance for stormwater pollution control in the Municipality of Comerío</p>	<p>The municipality will conduct at least one public forum directed at development of ordinances for construction and post-construction storm water pollution controls.</p>	<p>Local contractors, General Contractors Association, Homeowners Contractors Association, local and state Chamber of Commerce, Industries Association, College of Engineers and Surveyors of Puerto Rico, College of Architects of Puerto Rico, state and local government representatives, farmers, cattle growers.</p>	2012
	<p>The municipality will conduct public work sessions and public hearings on proposed storm water pollution control ordinances, public construction and post-construction sites runoff control.</p>		2012
	<p>Proposed creation/ amendments to municipal ordinances to be presented at public meeting, and at least one public hearing on the proposed changes.</p>		2012
	<p>Final ordinances on storm water pollution control</p>		2012

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
2. Public Participation (Cont.)			
<p>Development of a stencil maintenance program where the municipality staff is instructed to inspect catch basin stenciling and re-do the stenciling if needed, every time they clean a basin that is already stenciled.</p>	<p>Implementation of a municipal stenciling maintenance program in conjunction with routine catch basin cleaning. And amount of catch basins were re-stenciling is completed.</p>	<p>Municipality employees</p>	<p>2013</p>
<p>Establish an "adopt-a-stream" program where light infrastructure debris will be removed and maintenance needs will be identified. Development of an on going, voluntary, "adopt-a stream" program. "Stream walks" will be conducted on identified stretches of streams.</p>	<p>Number of streams adopted and maintenance activities performed by the groups.</p>	<p>Local residents, community groups, schools, municipality public works department</p>	<p>2011 and annually thereafter.</p>

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
3. Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination			
<p>Creation of a Storm Drain System Map. Prepare a storm water infrastructure inventory for the urban area; Account for all components of the Municipality's Storm Water System (SWS) including structural pollution control devices, outfalls locations, and identification of receiving water bodies.</p>	<p>Percentage of area completed in the inventory.</p>	<p>MS4 municipal managers, developers, contractors, and emergency response personnel.</p>	<p>2011</p>
<p>Identify illicit connections through survey of outfalls and SWS.</p>	<p>Account for all existing points of illicit discharge into the SWS. And the elimination of all known points of illicit discharge into SWS.</p>	<p>MS4 municipal managers.</p>	<p>2011</p>
<p>Create an ordinance aimed at the establishment of a Storm Water System Compliance and Enforcement Program.</p>	<p>Development and implementation of a Storm Water System Compliance and Enforcement Program.</p>	<p>Regulated Community</p>	<p>2014</p>

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
3. Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination Cont.			
Create an ordinance which prohibits the illegal disposal of waste in an unpermitted area or into a storm drain system.	Pollutant reduction as evidenced by water quality sampling results.	Community residents, commercial sector representatives, and local industries.	2013
Create a communication channel to report illicit discharge occurrences.	Reduction of illegal dumping and/or illicit discharge occurrences.	Community residents, commercial sector representatives, and local industries.	2011
Develop a Storm Water System inspection program.	General assessment of Storm Water System Conditions	MS4 municipal managers	2013

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control			
Request from contractors to submit a certified plan for the control of storm water runoff.	Number of projects which submit a plan for the control of storm water run off.	MS4 municipal managers and contractors.	2013
Request from contractors to certify that all Storm Water System connections were performed in accordance with approved plans and specifications	Number of projects which receive the certification.	MS4 municipal managers and construction business community.	2013
Require from developers, contractors and designers, on all construction contracts, to submit "as built" drawings showing all new connections to storm water system, conveyances and discharge point for developments and commercial activities to the Municipal Government.	Number of projects that submit as-built drawings to the municipality.	MS4 municipal managers and municipality legal representatives.	2013

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment.			
Develop and implement a program for inspection and preventive maintenance of structural storm water controls.	Quantity of work orders issued for corrective maintenance.	MS4 municipal managers	2014
Protect municipal properties within upland watershed susceptible to erosion problems.	Quantity of inspection reports for preventive maintenance. Amount of protected area.	MS4 municipal managers and municipal public works personnel.	2011

**TABLE 1:
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) FOR EACH MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE UNDER MS4 PERMIT
(Cont.)**

BMP Description	Measurable Goal	Target Audience	Expected Implementation Date Start
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations			
Certification of No Exposure for its vehicle maintenance facilities or from any private vehicle maintenance company dedicated to provide such maintenance services to the municipality.	Number of establishments with certification once the practice is implemented.	Municipal vehicle maintenance operators.	2012
Implement recommended improvements resulting from the most recent Municipal Compliance inspection, and will maintain compliance throughout the permit period.	Number of installations that implement the recommended improvements.	Municipal vehicle maintenance operators.	2012, and each year thereafter.
Development of an on-going training program for Public Works personnel related to stormwater management and handling of hazardous materials; obtain training certifications on storm water management from private vehicle maintenance providers.	Number of municipality personnel that acquire the certification.	Municipal vehicle maintenance operators.	2011