



PUERTO RICO INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING AUTHORITY

December 18, 2000

Héctor L. Russe Martínez, Esq.  
Chairman  
Environmental Quality Board  
National Plaza Building  
431 Ponce de León  
Hato Rey, PR 00910

Dear Chairman Russe:

Re: PUERTO RICO TRANSSHIPMENT PORT, EQB DOCKET NO. JCA-01-0009

The Puerto Rico Infrastructure Financing Authority (AFI) respectfully submits herewith the "Preliminary Environmental Impact Statement, Puerto Rico Transshipment Port".

The preliminary Environmental Impact Statement (P-EIS) was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board under the provisions of Article 4(C) of Law No. 9 of June 18, 1970. This P-EIS document presents available information pertaining to the proposed Project and is intended for the purpose of public review and comment. We believe that the proposed Project design, and location, with appropriate mitigation measures, including the receipt of necessary permits and approvals, will have limited adverse environmental impact.

The P-EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the proposed Puerto Rico Transshipment Port Project (P RTP), as well as the impacts associated with the siting selection. An evaluation of alternatives to the proposal is also presented. The Project includes the following facilities.

- A staged construction of a berthing pier of up to approximately 6,000-foot for the loading and unloading of multiple cargo ships, many of which will be of the post-Panamax Class. The pier will be equipped with gantry cranes for the loading and unloading of the vessels.

- A port area associated with the storage, handling, and transfer of container units. This container storage area will initially encompass up to 125 acres of reclaimed and industrial lands; eventually building out to up to 250 acres of land.
- An Added Value Land area in excess of 500 acres for the future, independent development of light industrial and commercial enterprises to support the port operations. The added-value enhancement of cargo that these industrial enterprises may provide include simple packaging and/or labeling, consolidation or de-consolidation, technology addition, assembly, and customization.

The P-EIS has been placed in the public files of AFI and is available for public inspection at the following address:

Infrastructure Financing Authority  
2 Capital Center Building  
235 Arterial Hostos Avenue  
San Juan, PR 00918  
(787) 767-8181

Copies have been mailed to Puerto Rico and local government agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, public libraries, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

A limited number of copies of the P-EIS are available from:

AFI - Central Librarian  
2 Capital Center Building  
235 Arterial Hostos Avenue  
San Juan, PR 00918  
(787) 763-5757

The availability of this document will be publicly noticed via announcements in El Nuevo Día and El Vocero newspapers on or about December 30, 2000.

AFI is committed with the protection and enhancement of the environment, natural and cultural resources, human health and the economic development of Puerto Rico. This project attests AFI's commitment with the economic development of the island in compliance with the environmental laws and regulations in place. It is hereby requested your support to expedite the administrative process in the evaluation of this document.

I hereby certify that the above statements and information presented in the enclosed Puerto Rico Transshipment Port Project P-EIS were prepared by qualified personnel under my supervision and to the best of my knowledge and belief are true, accurate and complete.

Sincerely yours,

Miguel A. Cordero, P.E.  
Executive Director

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