

**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATORY BOARD
ENERGY BUREAU**

NEPR Received: Apr 28, 2022 5:29 PM
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IN RE: PRELIMINARY STUDIES FOR
NEW COMBINED CYCLE POWER PLANT
IN PALO SECO

CASE NO.: NEPR-MI-2021-0003

SUBJECT: Motion to Inform Regarding the
Feasibility Study

MOTION TO INFORM REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY STUDY

TO THE HONORABLE PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU:

COMES NOW, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA), through its counsel of record, and respectfully submits and prays:

1. On February 1, 2021, the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau of the Public Service Regulatory Board (“Energy Bureau”) entered the *Resolution and Order* (“Order”) opening the captioned matter and directing PREPA to, on the 15th day of each subsequent month, submit a report on the status of the development of studies for a new combined cycle gas turbine in the San Juan area.

2. PREPA has submitted to the Energy Bureau multiple reports in compliance with the Order. On October 15, 2021, PREPA submitted the *Motion to Submit October 2021 Status Report in Compliance with Order Entered on February 2, 2021*, with the *New Combined Cycle Planning and Studies Monthly Progress Status Report* dated October 15, 2021 (“October 2021 Report”) as Exhibit A. The October 2021 Report informed that the Feasibility Study would be completed by October 31, 2021.

3. However, after the change in PREPA’s management at the end of September 2021, several initiatives, policies and workstreams were revised, amongst which was the schedule to complete the Feasibility Study.

4. As a result, and as informed to the Energy Bureau on November 15, 2021, PREPA moved the target date to complete the Feasibility Study to February 2022.¹

5. Thereafter, on December 15, 2021, PREPA reported to the Energy Bureau that the milestone to complete the Feasibility Study was moved to March 31, 2022.² This deadline had not been altered in subsequent reports. PREPA worked arduously to meet this new milestone. However, due to unforeseen circumstances that were not under PREPA's control, PREPA was not able to complete the report on time and has decided to further postpone the milestone to complete the Feasibility Study.

6. The last weeks have been particularly challenging for PREPA, specially to the Generation team. As it is generally known, on April 6, 2022, approximately at 8:40 p.m., Puerto Rico's electric system collapsed, leaving approximately 1.2 million of customers without service. PREPA has been working arduously, most of the teams in shifts of more than twelve (12) hours, to first, put the generation units back in service and then, to stabilize the generation system. The officers that oversee the generation operations are also the project managers of the studies that are being conducted to assess the feasibility of the planning and construction of a new dual-fuel, combined cycle power plant in the San Juan area, including the Feasibility Study. Therefore, balancing the priorities at the time, the Generation team dedicated all its resources to restore the generation with the urgency that it has. Once of the projects that was delayed because of the shift in works that were being performed at the time of the incident was the revision of the Feasibility Study.

7. PREPA recently resumed the task of reviewing the Feasibility Study and, after a careful analysis, hereby informs the Energy Bureau that the final version of the report will be produced

¹ See *Motion to Submit November 2021 Status Report in Compliance with Order Entered on February 1, 2021* (Nov. 15, 2021) at Exhibit A, p. 4, ¶¶ 3-6,

² *Motion to Submit December 2021 Status Report in Compliance with Order* (Dec. 15, 2021).

during the first week of May 2022 and therefore, PREPA will submit the final version of the Feasibility Study to the Energy Bureau on May 16, 2021, when the next monthly status report is due.

WHEREFORE, PREPA respectfully requests the Energy Bureau to note the foregoing.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 28th day of April 2022.

s/ Katuska Bolaños-Lugo

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