

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

NEPR Received: Apr 10, 2023 2:28 PM

IN RE:
IN RE: PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER
AUTHORITY PERMANENT RATE

CASE NO. NEPR-MI-2020-0001

**SUBJECT: Memorandum in Support of
Confidential Treatment of Exhibit to Motion in
Compliance with Resolution and Order of
March 23, 2023**

**MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF
EXHIBIT TO MOTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH RESOLUTION AND ORDER OF
MARCH 23, 2023**

TO THE PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU:

COME NOW LUMA Energy, LLC¹, and LUMA Energy ServCo, LLC², (jointly referred to as “LUMA”), through the undersigned legal counsel and respectfully submits the following:

I. Introduction

1. On March 15, 2023, LUMA filed before the Energy Bureau a *Submission of Reconciliations for December 2022 and, January and February 2023, and FCA, PPCA and FOS Calculated Factors and Request for Confidential Treatment* (“March 15th Submission”). LUMA submitted the quarterly reconciliations for the Fuel Charge Adjustment (“FCA”) and Purchased Power Charge Adjustment (“PPCA”) riders for September 2022 through February 2023, and the factors for the FCA, PPCA, and Fuel Oil Subsidy (“FOS”) riders for the period from April 1 until June 30, 2023. As part of the filing, LUMA included Excel spreadsheets filed publicly and confidential Excel spreadsheets with formulae intact.

¹ Register No. 439372.

² Register No. 439373.

2. On March 23, 2023, the Energy Bureau issued a Resolution and Order (“March 23 Order”) instructing the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“PREPA”), through LUMA, to submit on or before March 28, 2023, at 3 p.m., a report of the status of the claims made to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) and/or insurance companies due to the damages sustained as a consequence of Hurricane Fiona. The report shall include whether there has been any disbursement to PREPA associated with such claim(s) that can be credited in favor of the consumer. Further, the Energy Bureau ordered PREPA, through LUMA, to present the necessary information to validate the amount of \$5,977,764.63 for alleged excess natural gas nominations and the corresponding credits to July and August 2022.

3. On March 28, 2023, LUMA filed, on behalf of PREPA, a *Motion in Compliance with Resolution and Order of March 23, 2023*. Therein, LUMA included a report of the status of the claims made to FEMA and/or insurance companies due to the damages sustained as a consequence of Hurricane Fiona. LUMA also submitted, on behalf of PREPA, information to validate the amount of \$5,977,764.63 for alleged excess natural gas nominations and the corresponding credits to July and August 2022.

4. Along with the aforementioned filing, LUMA, on behalf of PREPA, submitted a redacted public version of a FEMA Cost Obligation Approval (“FEMA Approval”), Exhibit A-1 to the Motion, protecting confidential information associated with Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (“CEII”). The information therein is protected from disclosure as CEII, *see e.g.*, 6 U.S.C. §§ 671-674; 18 C.F.R. §388.113 (2020), and pursuant to the Bureau’s Policy on Management of Confidential Information. *See* Energy Bureau’s Policy on Management of

Confidential Information, CEPR-MI-2016-0009, issued on August 31, 2016, as amended by Resolution dated September 20, 2016.

II. Memorandum of Law in Support of Request for Confidentiality

A. Applicable Laws and Regulations to Submit Information Confidentially Before the Energy Bureau

5. The bedrock provision on the management of confidential information filed before this Energy Bureau, is Section 6.15 of Act 57-2014, known as the “Puerto Rico Energy Transformation and Relief Act”. It provides, in pertinent part, that: “[i]f any person who is required to submit information to the [Energy Bureau] believes that the information to be submitted has any confidentiality privilege, such person may request the [Energy Bureau] to treat such information as such [...]” 22 LPRA §1054n. If the Energy Bureau determines, after appropriate evaluation, that the information should be protected, “it shall grant such protection in a manner that least affects the public interest, transparency, and the rights of the parties involved in the administrative procedure in which the allegedly confidential document is submitted.” *Id.* §1054n(a).

6. Access to confidential information shall be provided “only to the lawyers and external consultants involved in the administrative process after the execution of a confidentiality agreement.” *Id.* §1054n(b). Finally, Act 57-2014 provides that this Energy Bureau “shall keep the documents submitted for its consideration out of public reach only in exceptional cases. In these cases, the information shall be duly safeguarded and delivered exclusively to the personnel of the [Energy Bureau] who needs to know such information under nondisclosure agreements. However, the [Energy Bureau] shall direct that a non-confidential copy be furnished for public review.” *Id.* §1054n(c).

7. Relatedly, in connection with the duties of electric power service companies, Section 1.10 (i) of Act 17-2019 provides that electric power service companies shall provide the information requested by customers, except for confidential information in accordance with the Rules of Evidence of Puerto Rico.

8. Moreover, the Energy Bureau's Policy on Management of Confidential Information details the procedures a party should follow to request that a document or portion thereof be afforded confidential treatment. In essence, the referenced Policy requires identifying confidential information and filing a memorandum of law explaining the legal basis and support for a request to file information confidentially. *See* CEPR-MI-2016-0009, Section A, as amended by the Resolution of September 20, 2016, CEPR-MI-2016-0009. The memorandum should also include a table that identifies the confidential information, a summary of the legal basis for the confidential designation, and why each claim or designation conforms to the applicable legal basis of confidentiality. *Id.* at ¶ 3. The party who seeks confidential treatment of information filed with the Energy Bureau must also file both a "redacted" or "public version" and an "unredacted" or "confidential" version of the document that contains confidential information. *Id.* at ¶ 6.

9. The Energy Bureau's Policy on Management of Confidential Information states the following with regard to access to validated Trade Secret Information and CEII:

1. Trade Secret Information
Any document designated by the [Energy Bureau] as Validated Confidential Information because it is a trade secret under Act 80-2011 may only be accessed by the Producing Party and the [Energy Bureau], unless otherwise set forth by the [Energy Bureau] or any competent court.
2. Critical Energy Infrastructure Information ("CEII")
The information designated by the [Energy Bureau] as Validated Confidential Information on the grounds of being CEII may be

accessed by the parties' authorized representatives only after they have executed and delivered the Nondisclosure Agreement.

Those authorized representatives who have signed the Non-Disclosure Agreement may only review the documents validated as CEII at the [Energy Bureau] or the Producing Party's offices. During the review, the authorized representatives may not copy or disseminate the reviewed information and may bring no recording device to the viewing room.

Id. at § D (on Access to Validated Confidential Information).

10. Regulation No. 8543, *Regulation on Adjudicative, Notice of Noncompliance, Rate Review, and Investigation Proceedings*, also includes a provision for filing confidential information in proceedings before this Energy Bureau. To wit, Section 1.15 provides that “a person has the duty to disclose information to the [Energy Bureau] considered to be privileged pursuant to the Rules of Evidence, said person shall identify the allegedly privileged information, request the [Energy Bureau] the protection of said information, and provide supportive arguments, in writing, for a claim of information of privileged nature. The [Energy Bureau] shall evaluate the petition and, if it understands [that] the material merits protection, proceed according to [...] Article 6.15 of Act No. 57-2015, as amended.” *See also* Energy Bureau Regulation No. 9137 on *Performance Incentive Mechanisms*, § 1.13 (addressing disclosure before the Energy Bureau of Confidential Information and directing compliance with Resolution CEPR-MI-2016-0009).

B. Request for Confidentiality

11. The FEMA Approval with CEII contains portions of CEII that, under relevant federal law and regulations, are protected from public disclosure. LUMA stresses that the FEMA Approval with CEII warrants confidential treatment to protect critical infrastructure from threats that could undermine the system and negatively affect electric power services to the detriment of

the interests of the public, customers, and citizens of Puerto Rico. In several proceedings, this Energy Bureau has considered and granted requests by PREPA to submit CEII under seal of confidentiality.³ In at least two proceedings on Data Security,⁴ and Physical Security,⁵ this Energy Bureau, *motu proprio*, has conducted proceedings confidentially, thereby recognizing the need to protect CEII from public disclosure.

12. Additionally, this Energy Bureau has granted requests by LUMA to protect CEII in connection with LUMA's System Operation Principles. *See* Resolution and Order of May 3, 2021, table 2 on page 4, Case No. NEPR-MI-2021-0001 (granting protection to CEII included in LUMA's Responses to Requests for Information). Similarly, in the proceedings on LUMA's proposed Initial Budgets and System Remediation Plan, this Energy Bureau granted confidential designation to several portions of LUMA's Initial Budgets and Responses to Requests for Information. *See* Resolution and Order of April 22, 2021, on Initial Budgets, table 2 on pages 3-4, and Resolution and Order of April 22, 2021, on Responses to Requests for Information, table 2 on pages 8-10, Case No. NEPR-MI-2021-0004; Resolution and Order of April 23, 2021, on Confidential Designation of Portions of LUMA's System Remediation Plan, table 2 on page 5,

³ *See e.g., In re Review of LUMA's System Operation Principles*, NEPR-MI-2021-0001 (Resolution and Order of May 3, 2021); *In re Review of the Puerto Rico Power Authority's System Remediation Plan*, NEPR-MI-2020-0019 (order of April 23, 2021); *In re Review of LUMA's Initial Budgets*, NEPR-MI-2021-0004 (order of April 21, 2021); *In re Implementation of Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority Integrated Resource Plan and Modified Action Plan*, NEPR MI 2020-0012 (Resolution of January 7, 2021, granting partial confidential designation of information submitted by PREPA as CEII); *In re Optimization Proceeding of Minigrad Transmission and Distribution Investments*, NEPR-MI 2020-0016 (where PREPA filed documents under seal of confidentiality invoking, among others, that a filing included confidential information and CEII); *In re Review of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority Integrated Resource Plan*, CEPR-AP-2018-0001 (Resolution and Order of July 3, 2019 granting confidential designated and request made by PREPA that included trade secrets and CEII. However, *see* Resolution and Order of February 12, 2021, reversing in part, grant of confidential designation).

⁴ *In re Review of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority Data Security Plan*, NEPR-MI-2020-0017.

⁵ *In re Review of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority Physical Security Plan*, NEPR-MI-2020-0018.

and Resolution and Order of May 6, 2021, on Confidential Designation of Portions of LUMA's Responses to Requests for Information on System Remediation Plan, table 2 at pages 7-9, Case No. NEPR-MI-2020-0019.

13. As mentioned above, the Energy Bureau's Policy on Management of Confidential Information provides for the management of CEII. It directs that the parties' authorized representatives access information validated as CEII only after executing and delivering a Non-Disclosure Agreement.

14. Generally, CEII or critical infrastructure information is exempted from public disclosure because it involves assets and information which pose public security, economic, health, and safety risks. Federal Regulations on CEII, particularly, 18 C.F.R. § 388.113, state that:

Critical energy infrastructure information means specific engineering, vulnerability, or detailed design information about proposed or existing critical infrastructure that:

- (i) Relates details about the production, generation, transportation, transmission, or distribution of energy;
- (ii) Could be useful to a person in planning an attack on critical infrastructure;
- (iii) Is exempt from mandatory disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552; and
- (iv) Does not simply give the general location of the critical infrastructure.

Id.

15. Additionally, "[c]ritical electric infrastructure means a system or asset of the bulk-power system, whether physical or virtual, the incapacity or destruction of which would negatively affect national security, economic security, public health or safety, or any combination of such matters. *Id.* Finally, "[c]ritical infrastructure means existing and proposed systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, the incapacity or destruction of which would negatively affect security, economic security, public health or safety, or any combination of those matters." *Id.*

16. The Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002, 6 U.S.C. §§ 671-674 (2020), part of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, protects critical infrastructure information (“CII”).⁶ CII is defined as “information not customarily in the public domain and related to the security of critical infrastructure or protected systems [...]” 6 U.S.C. § 671 (3).⁷

⁶ Regarding protection of voluntary disclosures of critical infrastructure information, 6 U.S.C. § 673, provides in pertinent part, that CII:

- (A) shall be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act;
- (B) shall not be subject to any agency rules or judicial doctrine regarding ex parte communications with a decision-making official;
- (C) shall not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used directly by such agency, any other Federal, State, or local authority, or any third party, in any civil action arising under Federal or State law if such information is submitted in good faith;
- (D) shall not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used or disclosed by any officer or employee of the United States for purposes other than the purposes of this part, except—
 - (i) in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; or
 - (ii) when disclosure of the information would be--
 - (I) to either House of Congress, or to the extent of matter within its jurisdiction, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any joint committee thereof or subcommittee of any such joint committee; or
 - (II) to the Comptroller General, or any authorized representative of the Comptroller General, in the course of the performance of the duties of the Government Accountability Office
- (E) shall not, be provided to a State or local government or government agency; of information or records;
 - (i) be made available pursuant to any State or local law requiring disclosure of information or records;
 - (ii) otherwise be disclosed or distributed to any party by said State or local government or government agency without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information; or
 - (iii) be used other than for the purpose of protecting critical Infrastructure or protected systems, or in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act.
- (F) does not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection provided under law, such as trade secret protection.

⁷ CII includes the following types of information:

- (A) actual, potential, or threatened interference with, attack on, compromise of, or incapacitation of critical infrastructure or protected systems by either physical or computer-based attack or other similar conduct (including the misuse of or unauthorized access to all types of communications and data transmission systems) that violates Federal, State, or local law, harms interstate commerce of the United States, or threatens public health or safety;

17. The FEMA Approval with CEII qualifies as CEII because this document contains the express coordinates to power transmission and distribution facilities (18 C.F.R. § 388.113(iv)), and these specific coordinates could potentially be helpful to a person planning an attack on the energy facilities listed as part of this FEMA Approval. The information identified as confidential in this paragraph is not common knowledge and is not made publicly available. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, on balance, the public interest in protecting CEII weighs in favor of protecting the relevant portions of the FEMA Approval with CEII from disclosure, given the nature and scope of the details included in those portions of the Exhibit.

18. Based on the above, LUMA respectfully submits that the FEMA Approval with CEII should be designated as CEII. This designation is a reasonable and necessary measure to protect the specific location of the energy facilities listed or discussed in this FEMA Approval. Given the importance of ensuring the safe and efficient operation of the generation assets and the T&D System, LUMA respectfully submits that these materials constitute CEII that should be maintained confidentially to safeguard their integrity and protect them from external threats.

C. Identification of Confidential Information

19. In compliance with the Energy Bureau's Policy on Management of Confidential Information (CEPR-MI-2016-0009), below, find a table summarizing the portions of the FEMA Approval for which we present this request for confidential treatment.

(B) the ability of any critical infrastructure or protected system to resist such interference, compromise, or incapacitation, including any planned or past assessment, projection, or estimate of the vulnerability of critical infrastructure or a protected system, including security testing, risk evaluation thereto, risk management planning, or risk audit; or

(C) any planned or past operational problem or solution regarding critical infrastructure or protected systems, including repair, recovery, construction, insurance, or continuity, to the extent it is related to such interference, compromise, or incapacitation.

Document	Name	Pages in which Confidential Information is Found, if applicable	Summary of Legal Basis for Confidentiality Protection, if applicable	Date Filed
Exhibit A-1	FEMA Cost Obligation Approval	Pages 3 and 8	Critical Energy Infrastructure Information, 18 C.F.R. § 388.113; 6 U.S.C. §§ 671-674.	March 28, 2023

WHEREFORE, LUMA respectfully requests that the Energy Bureau **take notice** of the aforementioned; and **grant** the request for confidential treatment of Exhibit A-1.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

We hereby certify that we filed this motion using the electronic filing system of this Energy Bureau. We will send an electronic copy of this motion to counsel for PREPA Joannely Marrero, jmarrero@diazvaz.law, and to the Independent Consumer Protection Office, through Director Hannia Rivera, hrivera@oipc.pr.com.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 10th day of April 2023.



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