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

IN RE: REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY

**CASE NO.:** CEPR-CT-2016-0018

SUBJECT: Gross Revenue and Financial

Statements Report.

## **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

### I. Introduction

On April 19, 2016, the Energy Bureau of the Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board ("Energy Bureau") certified<sup>1</sup>, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority ("PREPA") as an Electric Service Company pursuant to Regulation 8701<sup>2</sup>.

# II. Applicable Law and Analysis.

Act 57-2014<sup>3</sup> requires all electric service companies<sup>4</sup> to obtain a certification<sup>5</sup> and to file certain information under the terms established by the Energy Bureau. Section 4.02 of Regulation 8701, as amended, establishes the requirement for an electric service company to inform the Energy Bureau their gross revenue. Specifically, Section 4.02(A), (B), (E) and (F) of Regulation establishes the followings:

- A) All electric service companies operating in Puerto Rico before this Regulation entered into force must inform, along with their Personal Information filing under Section 2.01 of this Regulation, the Annual Gross Revenue generated during each Natural Year, as well as the latest compiled or audited financial statements, if any, as is applicable in accordance with Subsections (E) and (F) of this Section. For the following periods, electric service companies must inform their Annual Gross Revenue within a period of sixty (60) days following the conclusion each Natural Year. (Emphasis supplied.)
- B) Any Electric Service Company that has not been operating in Puerto Rico prior to the entry into force of these Regulations and to whom the Energy Bureau has issued a Certification, must report its Annual Gross Income to the Energy Bureau within sixty (60) days after the end of the







<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Resolution, In re: Request for Certification Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, Case No. CEPR-CT-2016-0018, April 19, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Amendment to Regulation No. 8618, on Certifications, Annual Fees and Operational Plans of Electric Service Providers in Puerto Rico, February 17, 2016 ("Regulation 8701"), as amended by Regulation No. 9182, Amendment to Regulation No. 8701, on Certifications, Annual Fees and Operational Plans of Electric Service Providers in Puerto Rico, June 24, 2020 ("Regulation 9182").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Known as the *Puerto Rico Energy Transformation and Relief Act*, amended.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Section 1.3(I) of Act 57-2014 defines the term "Electric Power Company" or "Electric Power Service Company" as follows: "Shall mean any natural or juridical person or entity, energy cooperative, engaged in the provision of generation services, transmissions and distribution services, billing, wheeling, grid services, energy storage, resale of electric power as well as any other electric power service as defined by the Bureau. The Electric Power Authority or its successor as well as any Contractor under a Partnership or Sales Contract executed in relation to PREPA Transaction conducted by virtue of Act No. 120-2018 shall be deemed Electric Power Service Companies for Purposes of this Act."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Section 6.13 of Act 57-2014. See also Section 1.3(h) of Act 57-2014 which defines the term "Certified" as follows: "Shall mean every electric power service company that has been evaluated and authorized by the Energy [Bureau]."

Calendar Year, starting in the year in which it has started its operations in Puerto Rico. (Emphasis supplied.)

- E) When the Annual Gross Revenue of an Electric Service Company during a Calendar Year is equal to or less than three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00), the Annual Gross Revenue report must be signed by the authorized representative of the Electric Service Company. The signature of the authorized representative shall constitute a certificate under oath, under penalty of perjury, that such information is correct and complete. In addition, the Electric Utility Company shall submit to the Energy Bureau its financial statements for each Fiscal Year compiled by an Authorized Public Accountant (CPA) authorized to practice such profession in Puerto Rico, or in any jurisdiction of the United States of America. Such compiled financial statements shall be submitted to the Energy Bureau within one hundred and twenty (120) days, counted from the date on which the Electric Service Company's Fiscal Year ends. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to any successor to the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority.
- F) When the Annual Gross Revenue of an Electric Power Company during a Calendar Year exceeds three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00), the gross revenue report must be signed by the Authorized Representative of the Electric Power Company. The signature of the authorized representative shall constitute a certificate under oath, under penalty of perjury, that such information is correct and complete. Likewise, the company must submit to the Energy Bureau a copy of the financial statements corresponding to the Fiscal Year, audited by an Authorized Public Accountant (CPA) authorized to practice said profession in Puerto Rico, or in any jurisdiction of the United States of America. Such audited financial statements shall be submitted to the Energy Bureau within a term of one hundred and twenty (120) days, counted from the date on which the Electric Power Company's Fiscal Year ends. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to any successor to the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority.

Section 3.05 of Regulation 8701 empowers the Energy Bureau to, among other things, issue a cease-and-desist order, revoke, and annul any decision, ruling or order issued in relation to the process of any Request for Certification, when an electric service company "... has failed to comply with its duty to provide or update the information required under Law 57-2014, as amended, or this Regulation."

The Energy Bureau has the power to impose penalties on electric service companies for violations of Act 57-2014, its regulations, and orders. Under Section 6.36 of Act 57-2014, the Energy Bureau has the power to impose these penalties:

> (a) The Energy Bureau shall impose administrative fines for violations of this Act, or the regulations and orders issued thereunder, committed by any person or electric power company subject to its jurisdiction, of up to a maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per day. Said fines shall never exceed five percent (5%) of the gross sales, fifteen percent (15%) of the net income, or ten percent (10%) of the net worth of the sanctioned person or the electric power company. The greater of the amounts corresponding to the most recent taxable year shall be the amount of the fine.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Section 6.7(h) of Act 57-2014.

- (b) If the person or certified electric power company commits a subsequent violation of this Act, the Energy Bureau may impose penalties of up to a maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per day. In such case and by unanimous determination of the Energy Bureau, it may impose fines up to twice the limitations on the basis of sales, income or assets set forth in subsection (a) of this Section and up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
- (c) Any claim or cause of action authorized by law filed by any person with legal standing shall not affect the powers granted under this Section to impose administrative sanctions.
- (d) Any person who intentionally violates any provision of this Act, omits, disregards, or refuses to obey, observe, and comply with any rule or decision of the Energy Bureau shall commit a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not to exceed six (6) months, or by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), at the discretion of the Energy Bureau. In the event of recurrence, the established penalty shall increase to a fine of not less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) nor more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), at the discretion of the Energy Bureau.
- (e) The Energy Bureau may resort to the pertinent forums to seek any remedy, including account garnishment, to ensure compliance with the penalties imposed.7

Under the above-mentioned legal provisions, PREPA had to inform its Gross Revenue for the Natural Year 2023 on or before March 1, 2024. According to the administrative record, PREPA has not filed its gross revenue for Natural Year 2023. PREPA has not complied with the reporting requirements of Section 4.02 of Regulation 8701.

#### III. Conclusion.

The Energy Bureau ORDERS PREPA to, within ten (10) days, from the notification date of this Order, (i) report its gross revenue of the Natural Year 2023, and (ii) show cause why the Energy Bureau should not impose an administrative fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) for its failure to comply with Act 57-2014 and Regulation 8701.

The Energy Bureau WARNS PREPA that non-compliance with Energy Bureau's orders and regulations may carry the imposition additional administrative fines.

Be notified and published.

Edison Avilés Deliz Chairman

Sylvia B. Ugarte Araujo

Associate Commissioner

Lillian Mateo Santos Associate Commissioner

Antonio Torres Miranda Associate Commissioner

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Section 6.36 of Act 57-2014.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the majority of the members of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau agreed on March 27 2024. Associate Commissioner Ferdinand A. Ramos Soegaard did not intervene. I also certify that on March 27 2024, I have proceeded with the filing of this Resolution and was notified by email to <a href="mailto:arivera@gmlex.net">arivera@gmlex.net</a>; <a href="mailto:mvalle@gmlex.net">mvalle@gmlex.net</a> and <a href="mailto:Lionel.santa@prepa.pr.gov">Lionel.santa@prepa.pr.gov</a>.

I sign this in San Juan, Puerto Rico, today, March 27, 2024.

Sonia Seda Gaztambide

Clerk