
PRHTA I Priority Plan for the Stabilization of the Electric Grid

From Jean Peña <JPena@prhta.org>

Date Thu 10/3/2024 9:48 AM

To Comentarios <comentarios@jrsp.pr.gov>

Cc lotero@acdetpr.com <lotero@acdetpr.com>; Miguel Vega <mvega@hidevelopmentpr.com>; Clarisa Jimenez <CJimenez@prhta.org>; Noel Vera-Ramírez (nvera@nvrprlaw.com) <nvera@nvrprlaw.com>

 2 attachments (101 KB)

Outlook-pevvl50c; PRHTA I Plan for the Stabilization of the Electric Grid.pdf;

Dear Mr. Avilés Deliz:

For the past 74 years, the Puerto Rico Hotel & Tourism Association has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Puerto Rico's tourism economic sector. We represent the shared interests of more than 400 corporate members. As the primary voice of Puerto Rico's hotel and tourism sector, we are dedicated to representing, promoting, and protecting our industry. It is important to highlight that the tourism industry employs approximately 96,000 employees, or 11.8% of the total Puerto Rico workforce, representing 7.2% of the gross domestic product. It is an industry with the potential to continue its expansion and has been vital to sustaining our economy.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for the stabilization of the electric system in Puerto Rico and look forward to having the Energy Bureau working with urgency to enable projects that will allow Puerto Rico to have the energy system it deserves.

Cordially,

Jean Peña Payano, J.D

Director of Government Affairs

Puerto Rico Hotel & Tourism Association

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October 2, 2024

By Email: comentarios@jrsp.pr.gov

Hon. Edison Avilés Deliz
Chairman
Puerto Rico Energy Bureau

Re: Public Comments on Priority Plan for the Stabilization of the Electric Grid, Case No. NEPR-MI-2024-0005

Dear Mr. Avilés Deliz:

For the past 74 years, the Puerto Rico Hotel & Tourism Association has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Puerto Rico's tourism economic sector. We represent the shared interests of more than 400 corporate members. As the primary voice of Puerto Rico's hotel and tourism sector, we are dedicated to representing, promoting, and protecting our industry. It is important to highlight that the tourism industry employs approximately 96,000 employees, or 11.8% of the total Puerto Rico workforce, representing 7.2% of the gross domestic product. It is an industry with the potential to continue its expansion and has been vital to sustaining our economy.

No different than for all other individual and economic sectors in Puerto Rico, for the tourism industry and our image as a destination, it is essential to have a stable and reliable electric power service. Our worldwide competitiveness depends largely on our services in general, which includes the ability to provide a reliable electric power service, since visitors need to have a pleasant experience during their stay and while visiting any other place in the Island. Electric power failures or instability affects, not only the stay experience, but also communications, transportation and the successful operation of other economic sectors of Puerto Rico, which provide support or otherwise benefit from the visitors and tourists in the Island. We strongly support public policy decisions that advance the strengthening of the electric power service in Puerto Rico, including an efficient and ecofriendly generation and distribution of electricity. Accordingly, due to the fragile electric system in place, it is imperative that you consider swiftly short-, medium- and long-term solutions to our existing problems, in order to achieve permanent solutions for a steady, reliable and more affordable electric power system in Puerto Rico. As an organization, we support renewable energy alternatives that work best for our geographic and environmental reality, together with other facilities that provide support and redundancy to the electric system, in order to maintain the stability and reliability needed for the system. Knowing the Island's exposure to hurricanes and other inclement weather conditions, it is essential that the final electric system implemented be able to withstand the challenges of such weather conditions,

at affordable costs. Therefore, any reasonable attempt to provide a stability and reliability of the electric system on a short- and medium-term basis, while other permanent projects are conceived and implemented, are necessary in order to maintain a viable operation of the private and public economic sectors in Puerto Rico. We cannot pretend to continue our economic growth and development, if we cannot count on a reliable and affordable electric system, and such goal is in your hands.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for the stabilization of the electric system in Puerto Rico and look forward to having the Energy Bureau working with urgency to enable projects that will allow Puerto Rico to have the energy system it deserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Miguel Vega', written in a cursive style.

Miguel Vega
Chairman of Board of Directors
Puerto Rico Hotel & Tourism Association