# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION 2**

In the Matter of:

MUNICIPALITY OF TOA ALTA P. O. Box 82 Toa Alta, Puerto Rico 00954-0082

### RESPONDENT

Proceeding pursuant to Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)

## **PROCEEDING TO ASSESS A CLASS II CIVIL PENALTY**

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MOTION FOR ENTRY OF DEFAULT OR EXCLUSION OF EVIDENCE		<del></del> 5	TAL
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To the Honorable Court:

COMES NOW the Complainant to the instant action and very respectfully avers and prays as follows:

1. Pursuant to the Order Setting Prehearing Procedures, dated July 6, 2009 (Prehearing Order), and the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation or Suspension of Permits, 40 C.F.R. §22.1 et seq., (Rules of Practice) the Parties were directed to simultaneously file their initial prehearing exchanges, including any direct and/or rebuttal evidence to the Presiding Judge, the Regional Hearing Clerk, and to the other Party by Thursday, September 3, 2009.

2. That Complainant filed its Initial Prehearing Exchange on August 27, 2009.

3. That as of the date of this motion, November 10, 2009, over two months have elapsed and Respondent has failed to comply with the Prehearing Order requirements, as it has not filed its Initial Prehearing Exchange.

4. Complainant requests that this Honorable Court enter an Order of Default against Respondent Pursuant to Section 22.17 of the Rules of Practice, which states that "*[a] party may be found in default*, after motion. . . . upon failure to comply with the information exchange requirements of [the Prehearing Order]." 40 C.F.R. §22.17 (second emphasis added).

5. Complainant requests, in the alternative, that this Honorable Court enter an Order to Exclude Evidence, pursuant to Section 22.19(a) of the Rules of Practice, which states that "except in accordance with Section 22.22(a), any document not included in the prehearing exchange shall not be admitted into evidence, and any witnesses whose name and testimony summary are not included in the prehearing exchange shall not be admitted into evidence.

WHEREFORE, Complainant respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter a Default Order against Respondent, pursuant to the Prehearing Order and the Rules of Practice. In the alternative, Complainant respectfully requests that this Honorable Court strike all evidence Respondent submits hereafter and not allow any witnesses to testify on behalf of Respondent.

Respectfully submitted in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 9th day of November, 2009.

Roberto M. Durango, Esq. Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 Office of Regional Counsel—Caribbean Team Centro Europa Building, Ste. 417 1492 Ponce de León Ave. San Juan, PR 00907 Tel. (787) 977-5822; Fax: (787) 729-7748

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this day I have caused to be sent the foregoing **Motion for Entry of Default or Exclusion of Evidence**, dated November 9, 2009, and bearing the above-referenced docket number, in the following manner to the respective addressees below:

#### Original by Federal Express to:

Judge William B. Moran U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Administrative Law Judges Franklin Court Building 1099 14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Suite 350 Washington, D.C. 20460 Ph: 202.564.6255 / Fax (202) 565-0044

Original and copy by Federal Express to:

Karen Maples Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region 2 290 Broadway, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10007-1866

#### Copy by Certified Mail Return Receipt to:

Attorney for Respondent:

Hans Valiente, Esq. Counsel, Municipality of Toa Alta Lcdo. Ricardo Robles Caraballo & Associados PO Box 2130 Bayamón, Puerto Rico 00960

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