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September 14, 2007

**BY CERTIFIED MAIL AND
EMAIL (maples.karen@epa.gov)**

Ms. Karen Maples
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 16th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

**Re: Time Extension Request of the Department of Housing to
File an Answer to the Administrative Complaint, and
Notice of Opportunity to Request a Hearing (the
"Complaint")**

Docket Number CAA-02-2007-1214

**In the Matter of Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
Department of Housing, Fullana Heavy Works; Proceeding
under Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act**

Dear Ms. Maples:

On behalf of the Department of Housing of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico ("DOH"), we hereby confirm our telephone conference of last Tuesday, September 11, 2007, with Héctor L. Vélez Cruz, Esq., from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), Caribbean Environmental Protection Division, regarding the above referenced matter. EPA issued the referenced Complaint on August 17, 2007, for alleged violations of Sections 112 and/or 114 of the Clean Air Act ("Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7412 and/or 7414, against Respondents DOH and Fullana Heavy Works ("FHW").

As discussed with Mr. Vélez, DOH received the Complaint on August 22, 2007. Recently, we assumed DOH's legal representation with respect to the proceedings on the Complaint, and, thus, are in the process of preparing DOH's answer to the Complaint pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.15 and Section IV of the

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Complaint. In order to prepare said pleadings, we are gathering all relevant information from this project, which as alleged in the Complaint dates on or around the year 2005. We are also in the process of coordinating meetings with DOH's representatives, co-respondents' representatives, and pertinent contractors and subcontractors of the project.

In light of the above, we contacted Mr. Vélez last Tuesday, September 11th, to confirm EPA's position about DOH's request for a time extension. During our phone conversation, Mr. Vélez expressly indicated that he has no objection to the aforementioned request. Given the situation explained above, DOH requires a time extension of twenty (20) days in addition to the time period provided by 40 C.F.R. §22.15, to file its answer to the Complaint.¹ Thus, subject to EPA's approval of the above request, DOH would file its answer to the Complaint by Thursday, October 11, 2007.

Based on Mr. Vélez' suggestion during our phone conference, we hereby submit this letter to request EPA for an extension of time for filing Respondent DOH's answer to the Complaint by Thursday, October 11, 2007. Accordingly, DOH understands that this petition complies with or is in lieu of the 40 C.F.R. § 22.7(b) provisions.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Cordially,



Mariacté Correa-Cestero

c: Héctor L. Vélez Cruz, Esq. (EPA)
Bernardo Hernández Berríos, Esq. (DOH)
Mr. Pedro Fullana (FHW)
Jorge L. San Miguel, Esq.

¹ As previously mentioned in this letter, DOH received the Complaint on August 22, 2007. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(a), DOH must file its answer to the Complaint by September 21, 2007.