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Subject: Tres Palmas Sunset View project
Date: Thursday, November 06, 2025 1:27:34 PM

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Dear EPA Region 2 Enforcement Team,

I am submitting this comment in strong support of **robust** federal enforcement and a meaningful penalty in the Tres Palmas Sunset View case in Rincón, Puerto Rico.

This property has a documented history of unpermitted clearing, construction activity, and sediment runoff directly impacting a federally protected coastal ecosystem, including the Tres Palmas Marine Reserve. I've seen it first hand and I have called your enforcement team numerous times about this and the "bike path" that they want to build on Tres Palmas and on the coastline down to Dome's Beach.

As community members, we have repeatedly observed and reported runoff flowing into the coastal zone during and after rainfall, including sediment-laden water entering sensitive marine habitat. We have multiple ongoing **research projects in the Tres Palmas Marine Reserve that are federally funded** and are impacted by this runoff.

Our community has maintained a record of photographs, time-stamped videos, and eyewitness logs showing sediment discharge and improper controls. These images document ongoing erosion risks and ineffective or absent stormwater management measures on the site. I am happy to provide these materials to the EPA enforcement team upon request.

The Tres Palmas Marine Reserve protects critical habitat for endangered sea turtles, elkhorn coral, and other threatened species that are ecologically essential and culturally significant to Puerto Rico. Any activity that undermines its stability threatens public resources, community safety, and the long-term resilience of our coastline.

Given the history of repeated compliance concerns and observed violations, we respectfully request that EPA:

1. Impose the maximum appropriate penalty

2. Require corrective environmental restoration
3. Ensure continued monitoring and compliance reporting

It would be even better to revoke all permits along with the Rincón Bike Path considering the two go hand in hand and both have extensively failed to meet compliance.

This case sets an important precedent. Developers must understand that Puerto Rico's coastal ecosystems are not disposable and that federal environmental laws apply here as fully as anywhere in the United States.

I thank the EPA for its continued attention and enforcement efforts in Rincón. The community supports strong action to protect public coastal resources and prevent further damage.

Sincerely,

Tatianna Muniz

Resident of Rincón