From: BRUCE COOK
To: Region2-RegionalHearingClerk
Subject: Tres Palmas Sunset View
Date: Sunday, November 09, 2025 10:11:44 AM

[You don't often get email from bdsailboat1@aol.com. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Caution: This email originated from outside EPA, please exercise additional caution when deciding whether to open attachments or click on provided links.

Sent from my iPhone

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. As community members and citizen monitors, we have repeatedly observed and reported runoff flowing into the coastal zone during and after rainfall, including sediment-laden water entering sensitive marine habitat.

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

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.

We 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.

Bruce Cook

Email (To): maples.karen@epa.gov
Please copy (Cc): maclay.yolianne@epa.gov

Phone: (212) 637- 3247

Mail Address: 290 Broadway, Floor 16 New York, NY 10007

For any questions or clarifications regarding the public notice and/or the proposed action, please contact Eng. Yolianne Maclay of the EPA's Caribbean Environmental Protection Division (CEPD) by email at maclay.yolianne@epa.gov or by phone at (787) 977-5849.

https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epa.gov%2Fgov%2Fcwa-02-2025-3451-tres-palmas-sunset-view-construction-project&data=05%7C02%7CRegion2_RegionalHearingClerk%40epa.gov%7C72f9b8da401d4b64058808de1fa248327%7C88b378b36748486 7acf976eacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C638982979036657279%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZzb3dlcyJFbXBlcUIsZGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4wMSIsIlFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIlUIjoyIfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zTDX%2FMlc2aQ6hlvcBIKcpr8KyBDFtzBMp2EzfVVlaQRg%3D&reserved=0