

LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

MEMBER OF CONGRESS
4TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1304

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FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:

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IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP, REFUGEES,
BORDER SECURITY, AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

April 6, 2011

Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 ARN
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I am writing this letter to request the full disclosure of all documents, under the Freedom of Information Act, relating to a proposed natural gas pipeline in Puerto Rico currently awaiting approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) is requesting a Section 404 permit (No. SAJ- 2010-02881 (IP-EWG)) under the Clean Water Act to construct a trans-Island natural gas pipeline, known as "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto," which would span over 92 miles and cross hundreds of sensitive ecosystems. Serious concerns have been raised regarding the environmental impact of this project by both the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (F & W) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The project was held in abeyance on December 22, 2010 by the USACE, but is now undergoing further evaluation and a final decision is expected soon.

For this reason, I am requesting a full disclosure of all documents and communications related to this project including but not limited to meetings, conversations, phone calls, and emails between the Environmental Protection Agency, or any of its dependencies, employees, contractors or consultants, and representatives from the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, Gulf Interstate Engineering, the Government of Puerto Rico, or any other organization, government agency or person, including but not limited to government contractors and consultants in the previous 18 months regarding any aspect of the "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto" project. I am also requesting this information for lobbyists with whom your agency has been in contact and the subsequent information that has been exchanged.

For example, in a letter to the Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers, dated April 1, 2011, the EPA wrote that information was provided to it by PREPA and its consultants to address the agency's concerns regarding the "Vía Verde" project and I am requesting the names of PREPA's consultants involved in this matter. Finally, I am requesting copies of all documents, all raw data and reports, all letters and emails related to the "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto" created by or submitted to the EPA, or any of its dependencies, employees, contractors or consultants.

I ask that you consider this request on an expedited basis. If you have any further questions please contact Angel Padilla in my office at 202-225-8203. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



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April 6, 2011

Rowan W. Gould, Acting Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 330
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Director Gould:

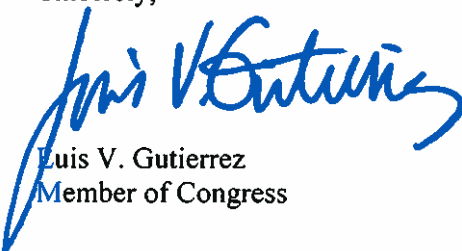
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For this reason, I am requesting a full disclosure of all documents and communication related to this project including but not limited to meetings, conversations, phone calls, and emails between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or any of its dependencies, employees, contractors or consultants, and representatives from the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, Gulf Interstate Engineering, the Government of Puerto Rico, or any other organization, government agency or person, including but not limited to government contractors, lobbyists and consultants in the previous 18 months regarding any aspect of the "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto" project.

Finally, I am requesting copies of all documents, all the raw data and reports, all letters and emails related to the "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto" created by or submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or any of its dependencies, employees, contractors or consultants.

I ask that you consider this request on an expedited basis. If you have any further questions please contact Angel Padilla in my office at 202-225-8203. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

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April 6, 2011

Jon Wellinghoff, Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 11H
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman Wellinghoff:

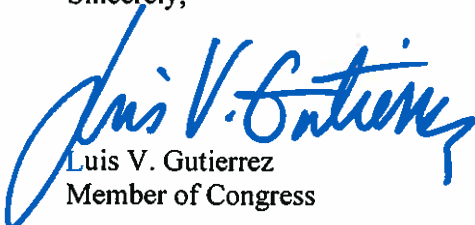
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For this reason, I am requesting a full disclosure of all documents and communication related to this project including but not limited to meetings, conversations, phone calls, and emails between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or any of its dependencies, employees, contractors or consultants, and representatives from the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, Gulf Interstate Engineering, the Government of Puerto Rico, or any other organization, government agency or person, including but not limited to government contractors, lobbyists and consultants in the previous 18 months regarding any aspect of the "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto" project.

Finally, I am requesting copies of all documents, all raw data and reports, all letters and emails related to the "Vía Verde" or "Gasoducto" created by or submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or any of its dependencies, employees, contractors or consultants.

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April 6, 2011

Lieutenant General Robert L. Van Antwerp
U.S. Army Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the US Army Corps Engineers (USACE).
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CECS-C)
Government Accountability Office Building
441 G Street, NW, Attn: CECS-C
Washington, DC 20314

Dear Lieutenant General Van Antwerp:

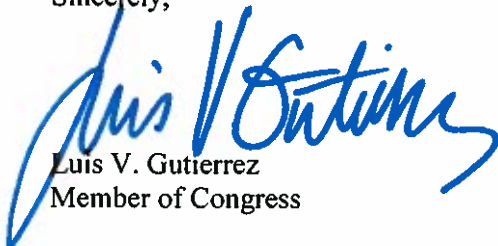
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