

#### United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 2

Caribbean Environmental Protection Division City View Plaza II, Suite 7000 Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 00968-8069

#### **FACT SHEET**

## DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PUERTO RICO PUBLIC BUILDINGS AUTHORITY Second Unit (S.U.) MAMAYES WARD SCHOOL PERMIT No. PR0023132

This Fact Sheet sets forth the principal facts and technical rationale that serve as the legal basis for the requirements of the accompanying draft permit. The draft permit has been prepared in accordance with Clean Water Act (CWA) section 402 and its implementing regulations at Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR), Parts 122 through 124, and the final Water Quality Certificate (WQC) issued by the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB) pursuant to CWA section 401 requirements.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 124.53, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico must either grant a certification pursuant to CWA section 401 or waive this certification before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may issue a final permit. On December 19, 2012, EQB provided in the WQC that the allowed discharge will not cause violations to the applicable water quality standards at the receiving water body if the limitations and monitoring requirements in the WQC are met. In accordance with CWA section 401, EPA has incorporated the conditions of the final WQC into the draft permit. The WQC conditions are discussed in this Fact Sheet and are no less stringent than allowed by federal requirements. Additional requirements might apply to comply with other sections of the CWA. Review and appeals of limitations and conditions attributable to the WQC were made through the applicable procedures of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and not through EPA procedures. No appeals were received by EQB on the WQC.

#### PART I. BACKGROUND

#### A. Permittee and Facility Description

The Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (referred to throughout as the Permittee) has applied for renewal of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The Permittee is discharging pursuant to NPDES Permit No. PR0023132. The Permittee submitted Application Form 1 dated March 3, 2011 and Form 2C dated March 3, 2011, and applied for an NPDES permit to discharge treated wastewater from the S.U. Mamayes Ward School, called the facility. The facility is classified as a minor discharger by EPA in accordance with the EPA rating criteria.

The Permittee owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant at a secondary school. Attachment A of this Fact Sheet provides a map of the area around the facility and a flow schematic of the facility.

The treatment system consists of the following: screening, activated sludge treatment, sedimentation, aerobic digestion, slow sand filtration, and disinfection (chlorination).

#### **Summary of Permittee and Facility Information**

Permittee	Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority		
Facility contact, title, phone	Ismael Zayas, <title>, (787) 721-5615&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Permittee (mailing) address&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th colspan=3&gt;PO Box 41029 Minillas Station Santurce, PR 00940&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Facility (location) address&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;State Road No. 41 KM 11.1 Jayuya, PR 00664&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Type of facility&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th colspan=3&gt;Wastewater Treatment Plant located at a Secondary School, SIC code 4952&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Pretreatment program&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;N/A&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Facility monthly average flow&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;0.0045 million gallons per day&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Facility design flow&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;0.01 million gallons per day&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Facility classification&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;Minor&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;/tbody&gt;&lt;/table&gt;</title>		

#### **B.** Discharge Points and Receiving Water Information

Wastewater is discharged from Outfall 001 to an unnamed creek tributary to the Rio Naranjito, a water of the United States.

The draft permit authorizes the discharge from the following discharge point(s):

Outfall	Effluent description	Outfall latitude	Outfall longitude	Receiving water name and classification	
001	Secondary treated sanitary wastewater	18°, 15', 45" N	66°, 34', 45" W	Unnamed creek tributary to Rio Naranjito (SD)	

As indicated in the Puerto Rico Water Quality Standards (PRWQS) Regulations, the designated uses for Class SD receiving waters include:

- 1. Raw source of public water supply;
- 2. Propagation and preservation of desirable species, including threatened or endangered species; and
- 3. Primary and secondary contact recreation (Primary contact recreation is precluded in any stream or segment that does not comply with Rule 1302.2 (d)(2)(l) until such stream or segment meets the goal of the referred section).

CWA section 303(d) requires the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to develop a list of impaired waters, establish priority rankings for waters on the list, and develop TMDLs for those waters. The receiving water has not been determined to have water quality impairments for one or more of the designated uses as determined by section 303(d) of the CWA.

#### C. Mixing Zone/Dilution Allowance

A mixing zone or dilution allowance has not been authorized for the discharger.

#### D. Compliance Orders/Consent Decrees

The Permittee does not have any compliance orders or consent decrees that affect this permit action.

#### E. Summary of Basis for Effluent Limitations and Permit Conditions - General

The effluent limitations and permit conditions in the permit have been developed to ensure compliance with the following, as applicable:

- 1. Clean Water Act section 401 Certification (Certificate dated December 19, 2012)
- 2. NPDES Regulations (40 CFR Part 122)
- 3. PRWQS (March 2010)

#### PART II. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

CWA section 301(b) and 40 CFR 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards. In addition, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality criterion, including a narrative criterion. The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating water quality-based effluent limits (WQBELs) is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water, and achieve applicable water quality criteria. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion for the pollutant, WQBELs must be established using (1) EPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

The effluent limitations and permit conditions in the permit have been developed to ensure compliance with all federal and state regulations, including PRWQS. The basis for each limitation or condition is discussed below.

#### A. Effluent Limitations

The permit establishes both Technology-based Effluent Limitations (TBELs) and WQBELs for several pollutants and the basis for these limitations are discussed below.

- 1. **Flow:** An effluent limitation for flow has been established in the permit according to the WQC dated December 19, 2012, Rules 1301 and 1306 of the Puerto Rico Water Quality Standards Regulation, as amended, and the Environmental Public Policy Act of September 22, 2004, Act No. 416, as amended. Monitoring conditions are applied pursuant to 40 CFR 122.21(j)(4)(ii) and the WQC.
- 2. **5-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD**<sub>5</sub>): The effluent concentration and percent removal limitations are established on a case-by-case basis and based on best professional judgment (BPJ) applying technology-based secondary treatment standards for publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) specified in 40 CFR 133.102(a) for the average monthly limitation. The maximum daily effluent limitation is retained from the previous permit. The wastewater treatment plant treats waste from the Mamayes Ward School, wastes that are similar to that treated by POTWs. Further, the wastewater treatment plant's system operates similar to a POTW; therefore, effluent limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub> and removal efficiency for BOD<sub>5</sub> that are equal to those established in 40 CFR 133 for POTWs are appropriate for the Mamayes Ward School wastewater treatment plant. In addition, limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub> expressed in mass are established and are calculated from concentration-based limitations according to the following formula: mass (kg/day) = Flow (MGD) x concentration (mg/L) x 3.78 (kg/L)/(mg)(mgd). The permit also requires influent monitoring and reporting in accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(i) to meet the requirement of the percent removal limitation (see section C.1.—Monitoring Requirements— of this Fact Sheet).
- 3. Total Suspended Solids (TSS): The effluent concentration and percent removal limitations are based on technology-based secondary treatment standards for POTWs specified in 40 CFR 133.102(b). As discussed for the basis for effluent limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub>, the permit establishes on a case-by-case basis concentration and percent removal limitations for TSS based on BPJ and the application of secondary treatment standards for POTWs specified in 40 CFR 133.102(a). Further, as discussed for the basis of mass limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub>, limitations for TSS expressed in mass are established and are calculated from concentration-based limitations according to the following formula: mass (kg/day) = Flow (MGD) x concentration (mg/L) x 3.78 (kg/L)/(mg)(mgd). The permit also requires influent monitoring and reporting in accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(i) to meet the requirement of the percent removal limitation (see section C.1.—Monitoring Requirements— of this Fact Sheet).
- 4. **pH:** The effluent limitation for pH is based on technology-based secondary treatment standards for POTWs specified in 40 CFR 133.102(c). Further, the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D)(2)(c) of PRWQS is equal to the limitations based on the secondary treatment standards.
- 5. **Fecal Coliform and Total Coliform:** The discharge consists of domestic sewage that is a source of pathogens. To ensure that the recreational use of the water body is met, effluent limitations for fecal and total coliform are established in the permit and are based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D)(2)(b) of PRWQS, and the WQC. Consistent with the expression of

the water quality criteria for fecal and total coliform, EPA establishes a monitoring frequency of 5 grab samples per month to calculate a geometric mean and to monitor and report the single sample result of each of the 5 samples to comply with the effluent limitation of no more than 20 percent of the single samples must be above the single-sample maximum of 400 colonies per 100 mL.

- 6. **Chloride:** The previous effluent limitation for chloride is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D)(2)(k) of PRWQS. Chloride was not found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion of 250 mg/L. Therefore, the effluent limitation for chloride from the previous permit is discontinued, consistent with the 2012 WQC, and a monitor-only requirement is established in the permit. Based on the "Region 2 Antibacksliding Policy", the monitor-only requirement for chloride is established based on the 2012 EQB WQC. The permittee will be discharging the pollutant at the same level; therefore, the discharge would not contribute to further degradation of the receiving water and existing uses would be maintained. The permittee is required to monitor the discharge for chloride once per quarter and report the maximum daily value.
- 7. Chlorine, Total Residual (TRC): TRC has been identified as a contaminant of concern since the facility uses chlorination to disinfect the effluent to meet water quality criteria for pathogens. PRWQS do not have a numeric water quality criterion for TRC. Instead, Rule 1303(I) of PRWQS establishes a narrative water quality criterion that prohibits the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts. To protect aquatic life from the impact of TRC, EPA has translated the narrative water quality criterion using EPA's National Recommended Water Quality Criteria for TRC and has carried forward the effluent limitation from the previous permit for chlorine.
- 8. **Color:** The effluent limitation for color is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D)(2)(d) of PRWQS and is carried forward from the previous permit.
- 9. **Toxic Metals, Organic Compounds, Sulfide and Cyanide:** In accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(d), a WQBEL must be established if the discharge of a pollutant demonstrates that it is or might be discharged at a level that will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above any state water quality standard. The need for WQBELs is based on the procedures specified in section 5 of EPA's TSD and by comparing effluent data and water quality criteria established in PRWQS Rule 1303 and the National Toxics Rule at 40 CFR 131.36(d)(4). On the basis of review of effluent and other data, EPA has determined the following:

**Copper** was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion. No dilution allowances exist for copper; therefore EPA has applied criteria at the end-of-pipe. Review of effluent data demonstrates concentrations were above the water quality criterion of 11.95 μg/L. Thus, there is reasonable potential for copper to cause an excursion of PRWQS and an effluent limitation is established in the permit. The effluent limitation for copper in the existing permit is 6 μg/L and the limit as required by the 2012 WQC is 7 μg/L. The existing effluent quality exceeds both effluent limitations; values reported during the permit term range from non-detect to 91.4 μg/L. Based on the "Region 2 Antibacksliding Policy", the effluent limitation for copper is established based on the 2012 EQB WQC. The existing end-of-pipe effluent limitation is presumed to be based on a WLA and one which did not allow the Permittee to contribute to a water quality exceedance. It is presumed that the less stringent effluent limitation established in the 2012 WQC constitutes a determination that the limit is sufficient to assure that the water quality standard will be attained. In accordance with the "Region 2 Antibacksliding Policy", the existing permit limitation could be relaxed.

**Sulfide** was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion. No dilution allowances exist for sulfide; therefore EPA has applied criteria at the end-of-pipe. Review of effluent data demonstrates concentrations were above the water quality criterion of 2  $\mu$ g/L. Thus, there is reasonable potential for sulfide to cause an excursion of PRWQS and an effluent limitation is established in the permit. The effluent limitation for sulfide is carried forward from the previous permit. The analytical note for sulfide is required by the WQC and according to Rules 1301 and 1306 of PRWQS, as amended.

10. **Dissolved Oxygen (DO):** The effluent limitation is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D) of PRWQS, and the WQC.

- 11. **Fluoride:** Fluoride was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion of 4,000 μg/L for Class SD waters. The effluent limitation of 700 μg/L from the previous permit is carried forward to this permit.
- 12. **Nitrate + Nitrite (as N):** Nitrate + Nitrite was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion of 10,000 μg/L. The effluent limitation of 10,000 μg/L is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters and is carried forward from the previous permit.
- 13. **Surfactants as MBAS:** Surfactants as MBAS was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion of 100 μg/L. The effluent limitation of 100 μg/L is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters and is carried forward from the previous permit.
- 14. **Temperature:** The effluent limitation for temperature is based on the water quality criterion for all waters as specified in Rule 1303.1(D) of PRWQS, and the WQC.
- 15. **Ammonia (Total):** Ammonia has been detected in quantities above the water quality criterion of 1 mg/L mg/L for Class SD waters. The effluent limitation is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D) of PRWQS, and the WQC.
- 16. **Total Dissolved Solids:** Total Dissolved Solids was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion of 500 mg/L. The effluent limitation of 500 mg/L is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters and is carried forward from the previous permit.
- 17. **Total Phosphorus:** Total Phosphorus was found to be discharged in quantifiable amounts in the effluent at concentrations that are above the water quality criterion of 1.0 mg/L. The effluent limitation of 1.0 mg/L is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters and is carried forward from the previous permit.
- 18. **Turbidity:** The effluent limitation for turbidity is based on the water quality criterion for Class SD waters as specified in Rule 1303.2(D)(2)(e) of PRWQS and is carried forward from the previous permit.
- 19. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET): CWA section 101(a) establishes a national policy of restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters. Specifically, CWA section 101(a)(3) and PRWQS Rule 1303(l) prohibit the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts. Federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(d) also require that where the permitting authority determines, through the analysis of site-specific WET data, that a discharge causes, shows a reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above a water quality standard, including a narrative water quality criterion, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits for WET.
  - EPA generally requires whole effluent toxicity testing in NPDES permits to collect data necessary to determine whether a discharge has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of Puerto Rico's water quality standards for toxicity, pursuant to water quality based permitting requirements at 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1) and the "Region 2 Whole Effluent Toxicity Implementation Strategy". EPA and delegated states are required to evaluate each National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the potential to exceed state numeric or narrative water quality standards, including those for toxics, and to establish effluent limitations for those facilities with the "reasonable potential" to exceed those standards. Due to the low flow authorized under this permit for this facility, EPA has decided not to activate Special Condition 14 of the 2012 WQC at this time. However, EPA may include this requirement in future permit renewals or through reopening this permit. EPA would take such action if, for example, discharge data in the future demonstrated potential for toxicity, the permitted flow were to increase, or if there were known toxicity excursions within the receiving water.
- 20. Narrative effluent limitations: Effluent limitations for oil and grease, other pathogenic organisms, solids and other matter, suspended, colloidal, or settleable solids, taste and odor producing substances, and no toxic substances in toxic concentrations are based on the water quality criteria as specified in Rules 1303.1 and 1303.2(D) and 1306 of PRWQS, as required by the 2012 WQC, and as carried forward from the previous permit.

#### **B.** Effluent Limitations Summary Table

#### **Outfall Number 001**

		Effluent limitations						
Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Highest Reported Value (1)	Existing limits	Interim limits	Final limits	Basis	
Effluent flow	mgd	Maximum Daily	0.013	Monitor only		0.01	WQBEL	
Influent BOD	mg/L	Average monthly Average weekly		Monitor only Monitor only		Monitor only Monitor only	TBEL	
	mg/L	Average monthly Maximum Daily	94.8 94.8	30.0 30.0		30.0 30.0	TBEL	
Effluent BOD	kg/day	Average monthly Maximum Daily				1.1 1.1	TBEL	
	minimum % removal	Average monthly	25.9 (3)	85.0		85.0	TBEL	
Influent TSS	mg/L	Average monthly Average weekly		Monitor only Monitor only		Monitor only Monitor only	TBEL	
	mg/L	Average monthly Average weekly	124.0 124.0	30.0 45.0		30.0 45.0	TBEL	
Effluent TSS	kg/day	Average monthly Average weekly				1.1 1.7	TBEL	
	minimum % removal	Average monthly	4.6 (2)	85.0		85.0	TBEL	
рН	Standard units	Minimum Maximum	4.2 9.0	6.0 9.0	 	6.0 9.0	TBEL, WQBEL	
Fecal Coliforms	Colonies/10 0 ml	Average Monthly Maximum Daily	10,880.0 10,880.0	200.0 400.0		200.0 400.0	WQBEL	
Chloride	mg/L	Maximum Daily	52.0	250.0		Monitor only	WQBEL	
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	Maximum Daily	0.5	0.5		0.5	WQBEL	
Color	Pt-Co units	Maximum Daily	20.0	15.0		15.0	WQBEL	
Copper, Total Recoverable	μg/L	Maximum Daily	91.4	6.0		7.0	WQBEL	
Copper, Total Recoverable	kg/day	Maximum Daily				0.00026	WQBEL	
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Instantaneous Minimum	5.0	≥ 5.0		≥ 5.0	WQBEL	
Fluoride	μg/L	Maximum Daily	50,000.0	700.0		700.0	WQBEL	
ridoride	kg/day	Maximum Daily				0.026	WQBEL	
Nitrate plus Nitrite (as N)	μg/L	Maximum Daily	46,500.0	10,000.0		10,000.0	WQBEL	
	kg/day	Maximum Daily				0.38	WQBEL	
Sulfide (S) (undissociated	μg/L	Maximum Daily	100.0	2.0		2.0	WQBEL	
H2S)	kg/day	Maximum Daily				0.000076	WQBEL	
Surfactants as MBAS	μg/L	Maximum Daily	1,530.0	100.0		100.0	WQBEL	

		Effluent limitations					
Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Highest Reported Value (1)	Existing limits	Interim limits	Final limits	Basis
	kg/day	Maximum Daily		-	-	0.0038	WQBEL
Total Coliforms	Colonies/10 0 ml	Average Monthly	10,000.0	10,000.0		10,000.0	WQBEL
Ammonia Total	mg/L	Maximum Daily	31.0			1.0	WQBEL
Ammonia, Total	kg/day	Maximum Daily				0.038	WQBEL
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Maximum Daily	690.0	500.0		500.0	WQBEL
Total Phaapharus (D)	mg/L	Maximum Daily	50.7	1.0		1.0	WQBEL
Total Phosphorus (P)	kg/day	Maximum Daily				0.038	WQBEL
Turbidity	NTU	Maximum Daily	13.6	50.0		50.0	WQBEL

#### Notes, Footnotes and Abbreviations

Note: Dashes (--) indicate there are no effluent data, no limitations, or no monitoring requirements for this parameter.

- (1) Wastewater data from DMRs dated October 2006 to February 2013 and March 3, 2011 application.
- (2) This value represents the lowest reported value of the minimum percent removal of TSS (February 2008). The Permittee failed to meet the minimum percent removal requirements during nine other months during the period for which self-monitoring report data were reviewed.
- (3) This value represents the lowest reported value of the minimum percent removal of BOD (May 2009). The Permittee failed to meet the minimum percent removal requirements during nine other months during the period for which self-monitoring report data were reviewed.

#### C. Monitoring Requirements

NPDES regulations at 40 CFR 122.48 require that all permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. The Part III of the Permit establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and state requirements. In addition, the 2012 WQC specifies the location of the discharge after the flow-measuring device and requirements for a licensed chemist and microbiologist according to Rules 1301 and 1306 of PRWQS, as amended. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements for this facility.

#### 1. Influent Monitoring Requirements

This facility is not subject to influent monitoring requirements; however, to calculate percent removal values, influent monitoring is required for BOD<sub>5</sub> and TSS. Influent monitoring must be conducted before any treatment, other than de-gritting, and before any addition of any internal waste stream.

#### 2. Effluent Monitoring Requirements

Effluent monitoring frequency and sample type have been established in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 122.44(i), recommendations in EPA's TSD, and the 2012 WQC. All of the monitoring frequencies are carried forward from the previous permit. Consistent with 40 CFR Part 136 monitoring data for toxic metals must be expressed as total recoverable metal.

#### D. Compliance with Federal Anti-Backsliding Requirements and Puerto Rico's Anti-Degradation Policy

Federal regulations at 40 CFR 131.12 require that state water quality standards include an anti-degradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The discharge is consistent with the anti-degradation provision of 40 CFR 131.12, 72 Federal Register 238 (December 12, 2007, pages 70517-70526) and EQB's *Anti-Degradation Policy Implementation Procedure* in Attachment A of PRWQS. In addition, CWA sections 402(o)(2) and 303(d)(4) and federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(I) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. Further, the "Region 2 Antibacksliding Policy" provides guidance regarding relaxation of effluent limitations based on water quality for Puerto Rico NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit with some exceptions where limitations may be relaxed. All effluent limitations in the permit are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the existing permit except for copper and chloride, as discussed previously in Part II.A.7. and 9.

#### PART III. RATIONALE FOR STANDARD AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS

#### A. Standard Conditions

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.41, standard conditions that apply to all NPDES permits have been incorporated by reference in Part IV.A.1 of the permit and expressly in Attachment B of the permit. The Permittee must comply with all standard conditions and with those additional conditions that are applicable to specified categories of permits under 40 CFR 122.42 and specified in Part IV.A.2 of the Permit.

#### **B. Special Conditions**

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.42 and other regulations cited below, special conditions have been incorporated into the permit. This section addresses the justification for special studies, additional monitoring requirements, Best Management Practices, Compliance Schedules, and/or special provisions for POTWs as needed. The special conditions for this facility are as follows:

#### 1. Special Conditions from the Water Quality Certificate

In accordance with 40 CFR 124.55, EPA has established Special Conditions from the WQC in the permit that EQB determined were necessary to meet PRWQS. The Special Conditions established in this section are only those conditions from the WQC that have not been established in other parts of the permit. Specific citations are included below from the WQC.

- a. Environmental Public Policy Act of September 22, 2004, Act No. 416, as amended.
- b. WQC
- c. Rule 1306 of PRWQS
- d. Environmental Public Policy Act of September 22, 2004, Act No. 416, as amended.

#### 2. Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan

The Permittee is not required to develop a BMP Plan in the permit on the basis of 40 CFR 122.2 and 122.44(k).

#### 3. Other Special Conditions

EPA has established biosolids requirements in the permit based on 40 CFR 503.

### PART IV. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF OTHER FEDERAL LAWS OR EXECUTIVE ORDERS

#### A. Coastal Zone Management Act

Under 40 CFR 122.49(d), and in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, 16 *United States Code* (U.S.C.) 1451 *et seq.* section 307(c) of the act and its implementing regulations (15 CFR Part 930), EPA may not issue an NPDES permit that affects land or water use in the coastal zone until the Permittee certifies that the proposed activity complies with the Coastal Zone Management Program in Puerto Rico, and that the discharge is certified by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to be consistent with the Commonwealth's Coastal Zone Management Program. The Permittee has indicated the outfall is not in a coastal area managed by the Commonwealth's Coastal Zone Management Program and, although nearby, EPA has determined it will not affect the coastal area. Therefore, the requirements of 40 CFR 122.49(d) do not apply to this discharge.

#### **B.** Endangered Species Act

Under 40 CFR 122.49(c), EPA is required pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.* and its implementing regulations (50 CFR Part 402) to ensure, in consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that the discharge authorized by the permit is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or adversely affect its critical habitat. No federally listed endangered or threatened species, or critical habitat, are in the vicinity of the discharge. Therefore, EPA has determined that the discharge is not likely to affect species or habitat listed under the ESA.

#### C. Environmental Justice

EPA has performed an Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis for the discharge in accordance with Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Population and Low-Income Populations, and EPA's Plan EJ 2014. EJ is the right to a safe, healthy, productive and sustainable environment for all, where "environment" is considered in its totality to include the ecological, physical, social, political, aesthetic and economic environments. In the NPDES permitting program, the public participation process provides opportunities to address EJ concerns by providing appropriate avenues for public participation, seeking out and facilitating involvement of those potentially affected, and including public notices in more than one language where appropriate. EPA did not conduct an EJ screening as this permit is not a Regional priority permit action.

#### D. Climate Change

EPA has considered climate change when developing the conditions of the permit. This is in accordance with the draft *National Water Program 2012 Strategy: Response to Climate Change* that identifies ways to address climate change impacts by NPDES permitting authorities (77 Federal Register 63, April 2, 2012, 19661-19662). Climate change is expected to affect surface waters in several ways, affecting both human health and ecological endpoints. As outlined in the draft National Water Program 2012 Strategy, EPA is committed to protecting surface water, drinking water, and ground water quality, and diminishing the risks of climate change to human health and the environment, through a variety of adaptation and mitigation strategies. These strategies include encouraging communities and NPDES permitting authorities to incorporate climate change strategies into their water quality planning, encouraging green infrastructure and recommending that water quality authorities consider climate change impacts when developing water load and load allocations for new TMDLs, identifying and protecting designated uses at risk from climate change impacts. The 2010 *NPDES Permit Writers' Manual* also identifies climate change considerations for establishing low-flow conditions that account for possible climatic changes to stream flow. The conditions established in the permit are consistent with the draft National Water Program 2012 Strategy.

#### E. National Historic Preservation Act

Under 40 CFR 122.49(b), EPA is required to assess the impact of the discharge authorized by the permit on any properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and mitigate any adverse effects when necessary in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470 et seq. EPA's analysis indicates that no soil disturbing or construction-related activities are being authorized by approval of this permit; accordingly, adverse effects to resources on or eligible for inclusion in the NHRP are not anticipated as part of this permitted action.

#### F. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Under 40 CFR 122.49, EPA is required to ensure that the discharge authorized by the permit will not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as specified in section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* The unnamed creek tributary to the Rio Naranjito does not contain EFH.

#### PART V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The procedures for reaching a final decision on the draft permit are set forth in 40 CFR Part 124 and are described in the public notice for the draft permit, which is published in *El Vocero De Puerto Rico*. Included in the public notice are requirements for the submission of comments by a specified date, procedures for requesting a hearing and the nature of the hearing, and other procedures for participation in the final agency decision. EPA will consider and respond in writing to all significant comments received during the public comment period in reaching a final decision on the draft permit. Requests for information or questions regarding the draft permit should be directed to

Sergio Bosques

EPA Region 2, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division

Phone: 787-977-5838

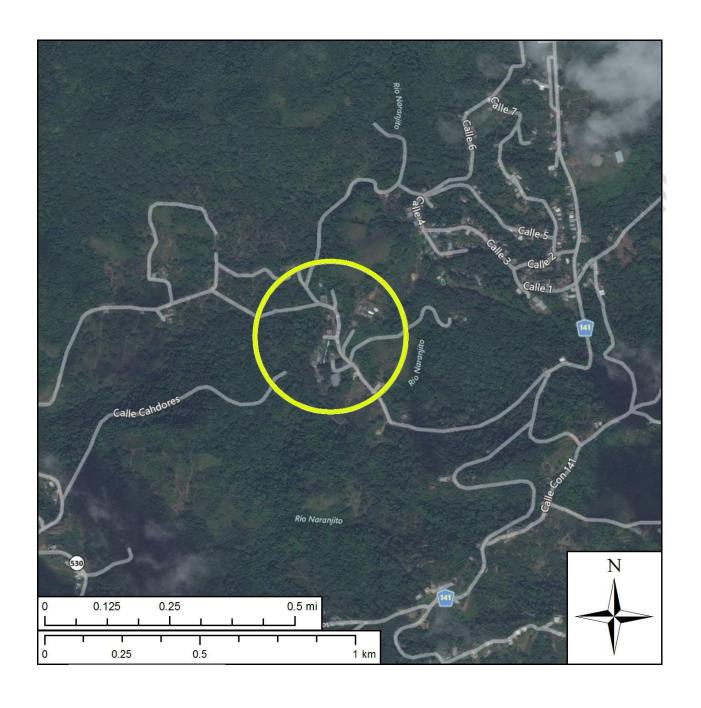
Email: bosques.sergio@epa.gov

A copy of the draft permit is also available on EPA's website at www.epa.gov/region02/water/permits.html.

#### ATTACHMENT A — FACILITY MAP AND FLOW SCHEMATIC

The facility map and flow schematic are attached as provided by the discharger in the application.





# MAMEYES SECOND UNIT SCHOOL LINE DRAWING



SCREENING

ACTIVATED SLUDGE

SEDIMENTATION ∸ લ હ 4

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