

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
CITY VIEW PLAZA II, SUITE 7000
GUAYNABO, PUERTO RICO 00968-8069

Date: July 9, 2026

**NOTICE: MODIFICATION OF THE VEGA BAJA WASTEWATER TREATMENT
PLANT (WWTP), NPDES PERMIT**

Notice is hereby given that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing the modification of Vega Baja WWTP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit on sections related to Whole Effluent Toxicity. The permittee and owner of this facility is the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority.

On **March 19, 2026**, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 (EPA) issued a final NPDES permit to the **Vega Baja Wastewater Treatment Plant** located in Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. The EPA specified that the Permit was to become effective on **May 1, 2026**. This permit has been modified to clarify the Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) limitation in Table A-1 and the WET Special Condition on pages 3 and 10 of the final permit. All conditions of the final permit, including WET will apply to the same time period of the actual permit.

A copy of the administrative records is on file at the EPA Region 2 Caribbean Environmental Protection Division office in City View Plaza II, Suite 7000, #48 RD. 165 Km, 1.2 Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 00968-8069 and may be inspected and photocopied at a cost of \$0.15 per page at any time between 8:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. A copy of the draft permits and fact sheets may be obtained by writing to the above address or by emailing laguer.yasmin@epa.gov. The draft permit and fact sheet are also available on the EPA website at the following web address: <http://www.epa.gov/region02/water/permits.html>.

Interested person may submit written comments on the sections modified for the Vega Baja WWTP final permit to the Director, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division, email mentioned above. All comments must be submitted by no later than **30 days** from the date of this notice.

All people may provide comments during the public comment period. If EPA finds that comments timely submitted appear to raise substantial new questions, EPA may reopen the public comment period for that permit.

The applicant and any other person who submits timely written comments or requests notice of modified sections of the final permit decision shall receive notice of EPA's final decision. Within 30 days of service of such notice, any interested person who has submitted timely written comments may file a notice of appeal and petition for review to the Environmental Appeals

Board to review any condition of the permit decision. Any person who failed to file comments or failed to participate in the public hearing on the draft permit may petition for review only to the extent of the changes from the draft to the final permit decision. Any such request must meet the requirements of 40 CFR §124.19.

Carmen R. Guerrero-Pérez, Director
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency