

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

Date: October 7, 2026

NOTICE: PREPARATION OF DRAFT NPDES PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that the following party has applied to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq. (the Act), for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States.

The applicant: **COMMONWEALTH OIL REFINING COMPANT, INCORPORATED**, 600 State Road PR-127, Peñuelas, Puerto Rico 00624, has applied for a permit for the following facility:

NPDES Number	Outfall/Effluent Description	Flow (MGD)*	Receiving Water / Classification
PR0000345	001 / Treated wastewater from operations and Kuwait water	0.288	Tallaboa Bay / SB
PR0000345	003 / Water composed entirely of stormwater	When Flow Occurs	Tallaboa Bay / SB

* Million gallons per day (MGD)

This notice is being given to inform the public that EPA has prepared a draft NPDES permit for this facility. The draft permit contains effluent limitations, standards, prohibitions and other conditions necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act. If, after the conclusion of the proceeding summarized below, the Regional Administrator of Region 2 of EPA makes a final decision to issue the permit, the applicant will be required to comply with all the conditions in the permit.

The prepared draft permit is based on the administrative record. Among other documents, the administrative record required by 40 C.F.R. 124.9, consists of the application, draft NPDES permit, and statement of basis or fact sheet describing the basis for the conditions in the draft permit. All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record.

A copy of the administrative record 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 permit and fact sheet may be obtained by writing to the above address or by emailing bosques.sergio@epa.gov. The draft permit and fact sheet are also available on the EPA website at the following web address: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/puerto-rico-npdes-permits>.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit, to the Director, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division, through email to bosques.sergio@epa.gov. All comments must be submitted by no later than **November 6, 2026**.

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

Any interested party may request a public hearing regarding this permit. Requests for a public hearing under 40 C.F.R. §124.11 concerning the EPA's draft permit must be submitted in writing. The request should clearly outline the issues intended to be raised during the hearing. Please address your submission to the Director, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division, Office City View Plaza II, Suite 7000, #48 RD. 165 Km, 1.2, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 00968-8069. Submissions must be received no later than **November 6, 2026**. Additionally, it is advisable to send the written petition via email to bosques.sergio@epa.gov.

EPA's decision on the question of whether to hold a public hearing on the draft NPDES permit, the administration of any hearing and the rights and obligations of participants are governed by regulations at 40 C.F.R. §124.12. If EPA holds a public hearing, the public comment period in this notice shall automatically be extended to the close of the public hearing.

If EPA does not hold a public hearing or reopen the comment period, EPA shall consider the issuance of a final permit to the applicant as soon as possible after the date indicated above for the submission of comments. All timely comments, submitted by interested persons in response to this notice, and statements and other evidence properly submitted at any public hearing held by EPA shall be considered in making the final decision with respect to this permit application. All comments shall be answered as provided in 40 C.F.R. §124.17.

The applicant and any other person who submits timely written comments or requests notice of 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 C.F.R. §124.19.

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