



June 12, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
 Secretary
 US Department of Energy
 100 Independence Avenue, S.W.
 Washington D.C. 20585

Via E-mail – Re: FEMA + USACE Promise to deliver 700 MW Generators

Dear Secretary Granholm:

Since the landfalls of hurricanes Irma and María in September 2017 and Fiona in September 2022, the more than 3 million US Citizens that live in Puerto Rico have struggled with constant blackouts and voltage fluctuations due to an obsolete energy system in dire need of repair and renovation. The scenario is detrimental to daily living and social activities as well as to commercial operations at every scale, from small businesses to commercial, health and industrial, not only because of the instability of the power service but the need to rely on alternative and more polluting sources to operate. Further, the lack of power threatens fragile lives on the island.

The recent record-breaking temperatures on the island, in the midst of hurricane season, and daily outages are a combination of long-term damaging effects that affect the people, including their lives and economy. In recent days, the generation system has not been able to produce sufficient capacity, and the required operating reserve has been around -200MW in peak demand hours.

On November 2022, FEMA made a historical and groundbreaking announcement, setting a mission for the US Army Corps of Engineers to install on the Island several mega generators to supplement the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority with at least 700 MW of additional power. This would've allowed the Island's power plants to be systematically taken offline while performing much-needed major repairs.

Only half of that promise has been fulfilled; the generators installed by the US Corps of Engineers only amount to 350 MW. This hardly covers the current system deficiency and only 20% of the required system reserve.

Although appreciated, the 350 MW will barely allow the Puerto Rico power system to sustain itself, prolonging and postponing the much-needed repairs and modernizations it requires. The unit with the biggest installed capacity of Puerto Rico's generation fleet has a generation capacity of 450 MW. Thus, 350 MW is insufficient to substitute a base load unit and to perform a major outage.

The US Citizens that live in Puerto Rico need FEMA to step forward and fulfill its promise. The reconstruction of Puerto Rico's energy system must:

- Increase reliability and resiliency.
- Improve the capacity to provide electricity service.
- Reduce energy costs.
- Meet renewable energy metrics.
- Additional generation in preparedness for the Hurricane Season.

The signees of this petition join the request made by the Government of Puerto Rico for FEMA to do right by its Citizens and:

- Complete the installation of 200 MW in the San Juan Power Plant site
- Synchronize these units to the generation system
- Install additional capacity to at least reach the promised 700 MW.

We look forward to prompt action and support regarding this pressing matter.

Cordially,



Jorge Ramirez
President
Made in Puerto Rico Association



José González
President
Puerto Rico Retailers Association (ACDET)



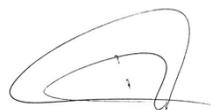
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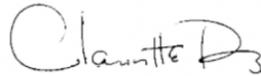
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