

Site Redevelopment Profile

Fibers Public Supply Wells

Road PR-3, Guayama, Puerto Rico

Property Overview

Size

540 acres

Area to be Reused

About 243 acres

Ownership

Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company

Current Site Uses

- Baxter Healthcare, a medical equipment and supplies manufacturing company
- Haleon, a medical equipment and supplies manufacturing company
- A groundwater treatment system and a network of monitoring wells

Use Restrictions

- The Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources requires a permit to install groundwater wells.

Surrounding Population

4,929

1 MILE

23,553

3 MILES

40,277

5 MILES

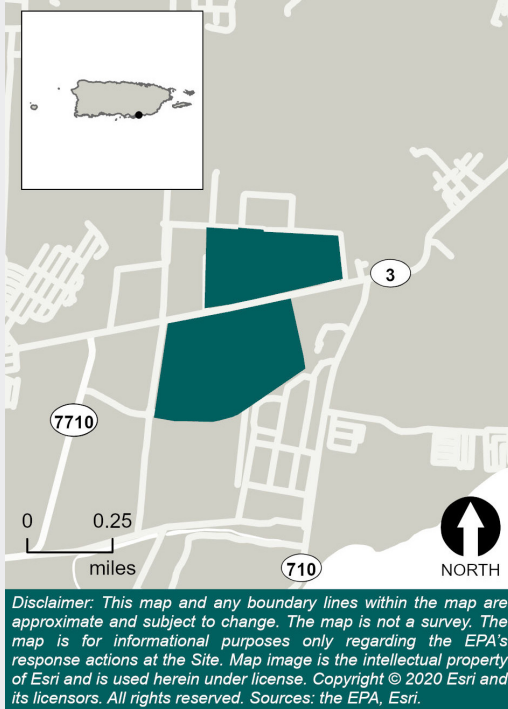


Figure 1. Location of the Fiber Public Supply Wells Superfund site in Guayama, Puerto Rico.

Site History and Redevelopment Timeline

1966 – 1980

- The Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority installed and operated five water supply wells in the area.
- Fibers International Company started making nylon fibers at the site. Chevron Chemical Company later leased the property and began making polypropylene fibers on-site. Wastewater went into settling lagoons before being treated on-site and discharged to the sea.

1982

- The U.S. Geological Survey found contamination in groundwater during a survey of public water supply wells. Pumping at these wells was stopped after the discovery of contamination.

1983

- On-site investigations found high levels of organic and inorganic contamination in site soil and groundwater.

1984

- The EPA added the site to the Superfund National Priorities List.

1984 – 1985

- A pharmaceutical plant opened on-site. Changes to site infrastructure included digging up parts of the settling lagoons and making the stormwater retention pond bigger.

1991

- The EPA selected a plan for the site to include pumping and treating contaminated groundwater, and excavating and disposing contaminated soil off-site.

2000

- Remedy construction finished.

2019

- Solar developers, Clean Flexible Energy, LLC, reached out to the EPA to express interest in developing a solar project at the site. EPA regional staff sent a comfort letter to the developers.

2024

- Clean Flexible Energy, LLC began working on designs and preparing documents for permits to install and operate an 80-megawatt solar generation and 110-megawatt storage facility at the site and on contiguous land.
- Solar project mobilization activities started in September 2024.

2025

- Solar project operations are expected to start by the end of 2025. Groundwater treatment is ongoing.

History and Cleanup

The site includes a vacant, undeveloped former sugar cane field and an area that hosted a synthetic fibers manufacturing plant. Its operations contaminated soil with asbestos-containing materials and groundwater with volatile organic compounds that impacted public water supply wells. The manufacturing plant and adjacent lots were later developed for pharmaceutical manufacturing.

In 1984, the EPA added the site to the Superfund National Priorities List. The cleanup for the site included pumping and treating contaminated groundwater, removing asbestos containing materials, and digging up contaminated soil for disposal off-site. The site's potentially responsible parties completed removing asbestos-containing materials and contaminated soils by 1994. In total, they removed 7,950 tons of asbestos-containing material, which went to an authorized landfill. Groundwater treatment is ongoing.

Redevelopment

Two pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities are active on the northern part of the site. Solar developer Clean Flexible Energy, LLC submitted a proposal for an 80-megawatt solar generation and 110-megawatt storage facility on the southern part of the site. The proposed project area covers about 306 acres; about 243 acres of this area is on-site. Project construction started in September 2024. The project is expected to be operational by the end of 2025. It will have an estimated useful life of 25 to 30 years.



7,950 tons
of asbestos-containing
material was taken off-
site for proper disposal.



3.57B gallons
of water have been treated at
the site to date. Groundwater
treatment is ongoing.

Renewable Energy Development Underway

This project will be the largest solar installation at a Superfund site.

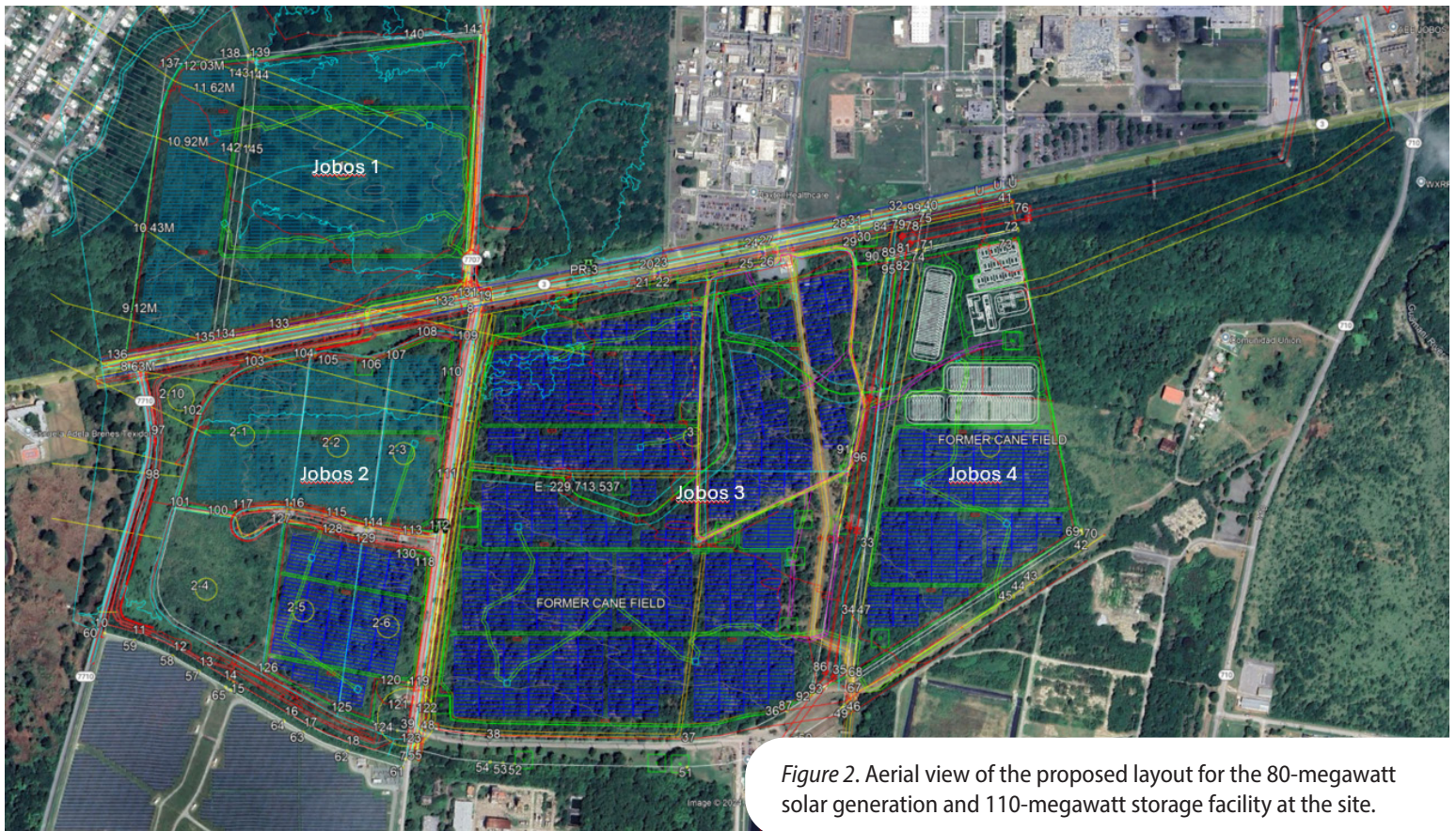


Figure 2. Aerial view of the proposed layout for the 80-megawatt solar generation and 110-megawatt storage facility at the site.



Figure 3. A map of the site.



Figure 4. Site location map.

Contacts

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For more information see: www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment

Site Webpage: www.epa.gov/superfund/fibers-public-wells