



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Department of Natural and Environmental Resources

FEB 08 2021

Mr. Walter Mugdan, Acting Regional Administrator

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2
290 Broadway, 27 Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

Dear Mr. Mugdan:

RE: PLACEMENT OF OCHOA FERTILIZER CO SITE ON THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

The Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) has completed the review of the available information regarding the Ochoa Fertilizer Co. Site, formerly known as Caribe Nitrogen, located in the PR-333 KM 1.9 in the Municipality of Guánica. Several contaminants have been detected at levels significantly above background concentrations during the soil, groundwater and sediment sampling at the inactive fertilizer production facility. Detections includes site-attributable hazardous substances that exceeded EPA Risk Assessment Regional Screening Levels (RSL) for industrial soil and the applicable EPA Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for groundwater.

The DNER, on behalf of the Governor of Puerto Rico, is supporting the placement of the Ochoa Fertilizer Co. Site on the National Priorities List (NPL) by the United States Protection Agency (USEPA). Placing this site on the National Priorities List is a critical step toward protecting the health of the surrounding populations and natural resources from the risk posed by this site.

If you have any question, please feel free to contact Eng. Melvin Menéndez-Figueroa, Manager of the Environmental Emergency Response and Superfund Program, by e-mail at melvinmenendez@jca.pr.gov.

Cordially,

Rafael A. Machargo Maldonado, Esq.
Secretary

MMF
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c: Anahita A. Williamson, EPA Region 2
Teresita Rodriguez, EPA

