

May 20th , 2011

Mr. Bob Baron
Project Manager
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGR
Jacksonville District
PO Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8175

**Re: THE ADVERSE IMPACT OF THE 92 MILES GAS PIPELINE
PROPOSED FOR PUERTO RICO AND EVALUATION FROM
A GEOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW**

Dear Mr. Baron:

My best wishes to you and your staff; allow me to introduce myself.

My name is Mario Soriano Ressay, a geological engineer, graduated from the University of Utah School of Mines and with experience gathered in the field of applied geology in Puerto Rico and in the Caribbean Region during the past 35 years. I also had the opportunity to serve for several years as an environmental geologist (GS-11) for the USACE, Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg District- San Juan Area, during the late '60 and early '70.

I am addressing this letter and included article to you and your staff, out of my own initiative, confident that it will be reviewed with the best scientific and logical approach in the quest for a negative recommendation regarding the unnecessary and adverse trajectory for a gas pipeline proposed by the Electrical Energy Authority (AEE) of Puerto Rico. Time and efforts have been dedicated in revising and evaluating the EIS that hastily and timidly was presented to the public by the Puerto Rico Electrical Energy Authority.

Please do take into consideration the fact that Puerto Rico is one of the most densely populated areas in the world with over one-thousand (1,000) people per square mile. The Island also harbors and contains one of the most unique and complex geological and hydrogeological setting to be found in the western hemisphere. All of which is to be traverse by an unnecessary gas pipeline that will span not only sensitive geological

units but also very active seismic region and seven (7) flood-prone alluvial valleys that harbors the principal meandering rivers in the north-central region of Puerto Rico. Plates of such traverse are included.

Familiar with the topographical, geological and hydrogeological setting prevailing along the trajectory for the proposed pipeline several respectable colleagues and myself have concluded, that the proposed project does not make sense; it is irrational of adverse impact and unnecessary!.

Certainly it will not be the population the one that, eventually, will be the beneficiary of such absurdity; as claimed by proponents, after approximately one billion dollars has been "invested" in this ill-conceived project. Have in mind that it is not the use of natural gas what is widely oppose; it is the 92 mile long trench for the emplacement of a short-live and unjustified pipeline which is in question. Also, of concern, is the limited space available at the coastal zone of Peñuelas, where the proposed farms of tanks will be, eventually, located. This, and the intended route of the gas-main, both will be within close reach and discomfort of local communities.

Please allow yourself some of your, time on behalf of Puerto Rico, and review the included paper where my concerns, as a geologist, and those of many professionals are briefly expressed regarding this aggression.

Do help in preventing future anguish and the serious confrontations, that are at the verge of materializing, between a considerable segment of the population and the irrational and the lewd governmental administration that [hopefully, briefly] is in command. Please do not slam de door on us !

Allow me to thank you for your kind attention,

Respectfully,

Mario Soriano Ressay
Geological Engineer
Lic. 4131

PS/ Included please find the original test of the article that was presented personally in early February of this year, in Spanish, at the San Juan Area of the Corps of Engineers. Said article was lost or misplaced by the recipient. Nevertheless, an interested party within the Corps requested another copy early in April and the same was submitted. A brief English version of said article is presented for your consideration along with this letter.

Enclosure