

Via Verde
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Saludos Sr. Rodríguez,

adjunto le envió el enlace al documento en Scribbr sobre el Cuerpo de Ingenieros dirigido al Sr. Soderberg:

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via verde exchange
Elias Rodriguez to: Bonnie Bellow
Cc: Mary Mears

04/26/2011 12:41 PM

Elias Rodriguez, M.P.A.
Press Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007
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212-637-3664

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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. Box 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

APR 13 2011

Regulatory Division

Mr. Carl-Axel P. Soderberg
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
Centro Europa Building, Suite 417
1492 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Stop 22
San Juan, PR 00907-4127

Dear Mr. Soderberg:

This letter acknowledges yours dated April 1, 2011, regarding the Via Verde Natural Gas Pipe Line proposal currently under review by Department of the Army permit application number SAJ-2010-02881. We were extremely surprised by the conclusions made by your agency considering that much information is still forthcoming on this project. We take exception to the contents of the letter, the analysis therein contained, and its conclusions.

It appears the EPA was provided with privileged information by the PREPA, as expressed repeatedly in your letter. It concerns me that the Corps was not involved in any of the exchanges of information and/or meetings that took place between the applicant and your agency, as the Corps has primary and ultimate authority over the Via Verde application. The applicant has not submitted all required information to properly address the alternative analysis, avoidance and minimization, compensatory mitigation, public interest, endangered species, historical properties, and impacts to federal projects. With that said, the Corps considers it to be premature to render a decision if the NEPA process could be concluded with a mitigated FONSI or an EIS, or even to imply that this project is permissible.

Thus I am requesting that privileged information in the hands of EPA be provided to the Corps. Please feel free to call me reference this subject at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. W. Kinard", is written over the typed name.

Donald W. Kinard
Chief, Regulatory Division

