



PUBLIC NOTICE

Revision to the Lead Infrastructure State Implementation Plan for the Arecibo Non-Attainment Area

On October 15, 2008, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) substantially strengthened the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Lead. The new standard of 0.15 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) measured as a three-month rolling average, is at least 10 times more stringent than the previous standard of $1.5\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. As part of the implementation of the new air monitoring requirements, in January 2010 a new source oriented Federal Reference Method (FRM) monitor was established at Arecibo, near The Battery Recycling Company, Inc. (TBRCI). The data captured by the monitor exceeded the new lead NAAQS. On November 22, 2011 (76 FR 72097) the USEPA notified the designation for the 2008 Lead NAAQS. The Designation Areas for Puerto Rico are as follows: Non-attainment for a 4 miles radius around The Battery Recycling Co. (TBRCI), in the municipality of Arecibo. These designations were effective on December 31, 2011.

For areas designated as Non-attainment, states or territories must develop a State Implementation Plan (SIP) that meets the requirements of Section 172(c) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). To meet these requirements, the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (PREQB) submitted to EPA a SIP on January 30, 2015. Emission Inventory and Emission Modeling of the submitted SIP included facilities of the Arecibo Area that reported emissions. Such facilities were: Safetech Corporation, ANJ Airport, PREPA-Cambalache and TBRCI. TBRCI was identified as the major contributor to the lead emissions in the Arecibo Non-attainment area. The lead emissions in the Arecibo Area began to decrease significantly after June 2014 due to the fact that TBRCI ceased in operation.

On August 2015, PREQB started a new revision of the Arecibo Lead SIP to update the Emission Inventory of the Arecibo Area and the Emission Modeling. The SIP revision was prepared following the guidelines and recommendations of the EPA. The proposed revised Arecibo Lead SIP addresses the change in TBRCI's operating status, has been approved by EPA and is ready for public comment and participation. A public hearing regarding the revised Arecibo Lead SIP will be held July 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Colegio de Ingenieros y Agrimensores de Puerto Rico, Manuel T. Guillán Avenue, PR-12-PR10 Connector, Arecibo, PR.

The hearing will be extended as long as there are deponents present. If there are no deponents present within (1) one hour after the commencement of the hearing, it will be declared empty and the hearing will be adjourned. Any person interested in participating in the public hearing may request a turn by email: vistaspublicas@jca.pr.gov or by phone (787) 767-8181, extension 3944. Comments may be presented within thirty (30) days following the publication of this notice to the aforementioned electronic address or by mail to the following address:

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD
PO BOX 11488
SAN JUAN PUERTO RICO 00910

ATTENTION: PUBLIC HEARINGS OFFICE

The draft for the proposed revised Arecibo Lead SIP is available in PREQB's webpage: <http://www.jca.pr.gov>. Such documents are also available for public review at the Public Hearings Office of PREQB located at the 5th floor of the Cruz A. Matos Environmental Agencies Building, 1375 Ponce de León Ave., Urb. San José Industrial Park, San Juan, PR, and at the Regional Offices of PREQB:

Humacao Regional Office

Boulevard del Rio Avenue, Ramal 3
Desvío Sur
Humacao, Puerto Rico 00791

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44 San Patricio Ave.
Marginal State Road 2, Km 80.6
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Mayagüez Regional Office

State Road 2 Km 159,
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Guayama Regional Office

State Road 3 Km. 134.3
Bo. Algarrobo
Guayama, Puerto Rico 00784



Weldon F. Ortiz Franco
President

This notice is published pursuant to Act No. 416-2004, as amended, known as the "Environmental Public Policy Act", section 172 of the CAA and 40 CFR §51.102. This notices has been approved by Certification No. CEE-SA-16-7441 of February 6, 2016.