



## Cámara de Representantes de Puerto Rico

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January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Angela Dunn  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Jacksonville District  
701 San Marco Blvd  
Jacksonville, Florida  
32207-8175  
[PuertoRicoCoastalStudy@usace.army.mil](mailto:PuertoRicoCoastalStudy@usace.army.mil)

Dear Ms. Dunn:

On November 2020, the U.S. Corp of Engineers published the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment. It is a document consisting of 231 pages, in English full of technical concepts and analysis.

We came to know of this Report and the final date to submit comments by means of an article published on December 28, 2020 by the *Centro de Periodismo Investigativo*. [Rincón podría perder su playa debido a un proyecto federal que busca proteger la infraestructura de la zona - Centro de Periodismo Investigativo](#)

According to your webpage, a webinar was given on December 10, 2020. There was no publicity of this webinar that came to our attention.

As we all know, we are in the midst of a pandemic that has turned our lives around and has limited our access to information because of the decrease of group activities where people usually share information and concerns.

The proposed projects have the possibility of deeply impacting our lives and the environment.

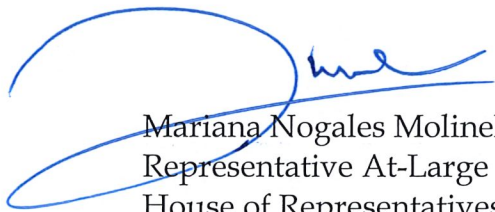
Three very well-known scientists have raised their concerns and have warned of the adverse consequences the two proposals may carry. Miguel Canals Silander, director of the Center of Applied Oceanic Sciences and Engineering of the University of Puerto Rico in Mayaguez (RUM), Aurelio Mercado, professor of Oceanography at the RUM and Maritza Barreto, director of the Institute for the Investigation and Coastal Planification of Puerto Rico, warned that this critical project needs to be publicized, analyzed and commented by the public for a sufficient time frame.

Residents of municipalities where coastal erosion is evident have also raised concerns. We totally agree with these concerns.

I write to you on behalf of a community of experts and people with the utmost interest in submitting comments for these major projects. Additionally, I myself am interested in submitting comments.

We understand that the set deadline that expires tomorrow on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January, will deprive us and the public from submitting comments and evaluating the proposal carefully that is why, we respectfully ask for a 30 day extension that will provide us sufficient time to turn in our comments for your consideration. If you have any questions, I am gladly available to provide any information you require.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Mariana Nogaes Molinelli', written over a horizontal line.

Mariana Nogaes Molinelli, Esq.  
Representative At-Large  
House of Representatives  
of Puerto Rico