

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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May 10, 2018

Mr. Charles R. Alexander, Jr.
Director
Contingency Operations and Homeland Security Headquarters
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20314

Dear Mr. Alexander:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on April 11, 2018, to testify at the hearing entitled "Update on the Restoration of Puerto Rico's Electric Infrastructure."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Thursday, May 24, 2018. Your responses should be mailed to Ali Fulling, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Ali.Fulling@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Gregg Harper
Chairman

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.

1. After May 18, how many USACE contractors will be working in Puerto Rico?
2. As part of the emergency power grid repairs mission assignment, the USACE has installed several large-scale generators, including mobile power generators, at Palo Seco and Yabacoa to provide additional power generation while the transmission system is still being restored. Is that correct? What arrangements, if any, have been made to transfer the ownership, use, or maintenance of these generators to PREPA so that these generators can continue to be used once the USACE mission assignment concludes?
3. The most recent numbers indicate that the grid is more than 96% restored, but that approximately 56,000 individuals remain without power. Is this the case?
4. What lessons has USACE learned so far from working in Puerto Rico's difficult geographic conditions, and how are these lessons informing efforts to restore power for those who remain without it? How might these lessons be applicable in the instance that the USACE is tasked with hurricane response in similar geographic conditions?
5. What is the current target date for having power fully restored to the Caguas region? Does the USACE believe it will be able to fully restore power before it draws down its presence in Puerto Rico? If no, why not?
6. What additional restoration measures is USACE taking following the island-wide blackout the week of April 15?
7. In light of ongoing blackouts, is USACE in conversations with FEMA to extend the mission assignment until the grid is more stable?
8. How is USACE preparing for preparing for upcoming storms? For example, is the Agency leading trainings and exercises, or will emergency generators be left on the island in the event that Puerto Rico experiences similar power outages?