

Committee on Natural Resources
Oversight Hearing
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Tuesday, April 9th, 2019
10:00 AM

Oversight Hearing on
“The Status of the Rebuilding and Privatization of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA)”

Questions from Rep. Hice for Jose Ortiz, CEO, Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority

1. According to your testimony, you are currently working with the Central Office of Recovery, Reconstruction and Resiliency (COR3) to design an electrical infrastructure build out designed to withstand a category 4 storm (like ‘Maria’) with margin to ensure high survivability in a category 5 storm.

Nevertheless, those remarks only hold true for future disaster preparedness. Can you please describe your hurricane preparedness for 2019 and beyond prior to implementation of a “hardened Transmission & Distribution (T&D) grid?”

2. While I appreciate your testimony – and I do believe it is helpful to our work here – it does paint a very rosy picture that everything is simply going according to plan. Moreover, I think the struggles in governance and turnover at both the Board’s leadership and member levels paints a different picture.

Much of your strategic planning sounds good, but I’d like you to highlight for us what milestones have yet to be achieved toward the privatization of generation and concession of Transmission & Distribution (T&D)?

- a. Furthermore, what do you consider to be the major obstacles to privatization at this time?