



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
INDIAN AND INSULAR AFFAIRS  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
COUNTERTERRORISM AND INTELLIGENCE  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

May 22, 2026

The Honorable Luis R. González Delgado  
Executive President  
Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA)  
604 Ave. Barbosa  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00916

Dear Mr. González Delgado:

I write to express serious concerns about the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority's (PRASA) persistent failure to provide reliable water service to the people of Puerto Rico. Ongoing reports of service interruptions across the island raise serious questions about PRASA's water delivery operations, infrastructure performance, and management.<sup>1</sup>

As the authority responsible for providing water services to approximately 97% of the island's population,<sup>2</sup> PRASA has demonstrated a consistent inability to fulfill this basic obligation. Reports of prolonged outages have become routine. Last summer, Puerto Rico activated its National Guard after a 54-inch diameter pipe that serves the Sergio Cuevas filtration plant in Trujillo Alto ruptured, which left 183,000 customers without water at its peak. To expedite the acquisition of essential resources for repair and recovery, San Juan's local government declared a state of emergency in response to PRASA's prolonged interruptions to the drinking water supply. This incident also forced the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in Carolina to deploy approximately 30 water tanker trucks daily to maintain operations, as Aerostar Airport Holdings struggled to keep its four cisterns, with a combined capacity of 870,000 gallons, adequately supplied amid persistent pressure fluctuations.<sup>3</sup>

Just three months later, a major water main rupture cut service to more than 165,000 customers across 15 municipalities and forced more than 270 schools to modify their schedules. The San Juan local government was once again forced to declare a state of emergency, and officials across

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<sup>1</sup> "Senator Calls for PRASA Chief to Testify as Water Failures Persist Across PR." *San Juan Daily Star*, February 24, 2026. <https://www.sanjuandailystar.com/post/senator-calls-for-prasa-chief-to-testify-as-water-failures-persist-across-pr>.

<sup>2</sup> "Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA)," May 19, 2026. <https://www.aafaf.pr.gov/puerto-rico-issues/puerto-rico-aqueduct-and-sewer-authority-prasa>.

<sup>3</sup> Néstor Rosa-Marbrell, "Falta De Agua Potable Provoca Una Gran Crisis En Puerto Rico," *Noticias Prensa Latina - Actualizando minuto a minuto*, July 29, 2025, <https://www.prensa-latina.cu/2025/07/29/falta-de-agua-potable-provoca-una-gran-crisis-en-puerto-rico/>.

several municipalities deployed more than 100 water trucks to serve affected communities.<sup>4</sup> In Morovis, a town of 28,000 people, residents endured 42 consecutive days without water, one episode in a pattern of chronic outages spanning nine years, with PRASA attributing the failure to weather, blockages, mechanical issues, or power disruptions. The municipality has spent more than \$1 million on water tanks and trucks to fill the void, yet over that same period, PRASA made little effort to pursue long-term solutions or investigate the recurring problems at its own Morovis facility.<sup>5</sup>

In March of this year, a power outage at the Carraízo dam knocked three of the facility's main pumps offline, cutting water service entirely or reducing it to dangerously low pressure for thousands of residents across the metropolitan area.<sup>6</sup> These are not a series of isolated incidents. This is a pattern of institutional failures and it demands accountability. I have long stood with the people of Puerto Rico in demanding better, and have worked at every level to secure the federal resources our island's aging water infrastructure demands. Just this week, my office announced over \$38 million for projects to identify and replace lead pipes and to address emerging contaminants in drinking water systems across Puerto Rico. For these reasons, I request answers to the following:

1. What major service disruptions has PRASA recorded over the past 18 months, and for each, what were the duration, geographic impact, root causes, and affected populations?
2. Which regions are experiencing the most frequent or prolonged service interruptions?
3. What corrective actions has PRASA taken in response to these disruptions, and what strategies are in place to prevent recurrence?
4. What are PRASA's current service reliability metrics, including the frequency and duration of outages and pressure compliance rates?
5. What performance targets or benchmarks does PRASA use to evaluate these metrics?
6. How have these performance metrics trended over the past five years?
7. What are the current system-wide non-revenue water loss rates, and how have they trended over the same period?
8. What is the current status of capital improvement projects intended to enhance reliability, and what impact are they expected to produce?
9. What emergency preparedness and continuity-of-service plans does PRASA maintain for major weather events?
10. What is PRASA's multi-year strategy to improve system reliability, and what investment needs has it identified? What mechanisms does PRASA use to evaluate the effectiveness of those investments?

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<sup>4</sup> "Puerto Rico Schools Amend Schedule After Key Water Pipe Breaks" *AP News*, October 21, 2025, <https://apnews.com/article/puerto-rico-water-shortage-aaa-c18f9b03c2fe3e1146d166f3c5521d1c>.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas F. Harrison, "Running Water Can Be a Constitutional Right, Says First Circuit," *Courthouse News Service*, October 25, 2025, <https://www.courthousenews.com/running-water-can-be-a-constitutional-right-says-first-circuit/>.

<sup>6</sup> "Thousands Could Be Left Without Water or With Low Pressure After Power Outage Affects Carraízo," *El Nuevo Día*, March 27, 2026, <https://www.elnuevodia.com/english/news/story/thousands-could-be-left-without-water-or-with-low-pressure-after-power-outage-affects-carraizo/>.

I request that your office provide a prompt and thorough response to the questions outlined above no later than Friday, June 5, 2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Pablo J. Hernández". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "H".

Pablo José Hernández  
Member of Congress