

JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN
PUERTO RICO, AT LARGE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2338 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 225-2615 FAX: (202) 225-2154

SAN JUAN OFFICE:
157 AVENIDA DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN
ANTIGUO EDIFICIO DE MEDICINA TROPICAL
SEGUNDO PISO
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00901
(787) 723-6333 FAX: (787) 729-7738



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-5400

May 3, 2024

COMMITTEES:
TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION

NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEES
VICE CHAIR FOR INDIAN AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
WATER, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Yabucoa Harbor, Puerto Rico project in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Virgin Islands Puerto Rico (VIPR) Task Force, located at Fundación Angel Ramos Annex Building, Suite 202, 383 Franklin D. Roosevelt Avenue, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918.

The funding would be used for an assumption of maintenance report for Yabucoa Harbor, Puerto Rico. In Section 8306 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, Congress authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assume responsibility for maintenance of this harbor in southeastern Puerto Rico—whose port supplies a sizable portion of the Island's fuel demands—if it is determined that such assumption is economically justified and environmentally acceptable and that the channel was constructed in accordance with applicable permits and appropriate engineering and design standards. The project is therefore a good use of taxpayer funds because it would allow the Corps to initiate and conduct the necessary validation report to meet this congressional directive and determine whether there should be a federal assumption of maintenance for Yabucoa Harbor.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 8306 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-263, Division H, Title LXXXI, Subtitle C, Section 8306).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Jennifer González-Colón
Member of Congress