



HON. MIGUEL ROMERO  
SECRETARY

September 17, 2010

Mr. Robert D. Kulick  
Regional Administrator, Region II  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
Department of Labor  
201 Varick Street  
New York, NY 10014

Dear Mr. Kulick:

This is in response to the FY 2009 Baseline Special Evaluation Report (Enhanced Federal Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report – EFAME, October 1, 2008 September 30, 2009) for the Puerto Rico Occupational Safety and Health State Plan, adjoined to the Puerto Rico Department of Labor and Human Resources.

It is important to establish that since the Puerto Rico Occupational Safety and Health Administration (PR OSHA) began operations in 1978 (then known as OSHO) the office has complied with all responsibilities and obligations of the program towards the protection of Puerto Rico's workforce. Nevertheless, PR OSHA has the commitment to continuously improve ourselves. This was demonstrated in this evaluation, as soon a draft of the findings was provided, PR OSHA began corrected actions.

Regarding the evaluation, PR OSHA will review and follow the valid recommendations of the Report - EFAME to address the findings. These are in the specific areas of: Fatality Investigations – Next of Kin Letters; Union and Employee Involvement; abatement of hazards; discrimination; case settlement; recognition and exemption programs; debt collections and the appropriate use of the General Duty Clause. Also, all pertinent personnel shall be provided with refresher training on the policies and procedures established in the new FOM.

For the on site consultation activities, PR OSHA will follow the requirements established in the Consultation Policies and Procedures Manual; increase the number of employees interviewed during consultation visits; ensure timely hazard abatement by improvements in management



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oversight including periodic review of appropriate management reports and ensure that only eligible employers participate in the SHARP program.

Since January 2010, the Evaluation Division is conducting casefile reviewed based on SAM and SIR reports to improve the performance of each Area Office.

The Department of Labor and Human Resources as well as Puerto Rico OSHA reaffirms our commitment with the safety and health of all workers on the Island.

Cordially,  
/signed/

Miguel Romero  
Secretary