



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
CARRIBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR
ROUTE 165 GUAYNABO, PUERTO RICO 00968

OCT 31 2019

VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

Mr. José C. Santiago-Claudio
Caribbean Operations Manager
Messer Gas Puerto Rico, Inc.
P. O. Box 363868
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3868

**Re: Notice of Termination of NPDES Permit
Messer Gas Puerto Rico, Inc. – Cataño's Industrial Gas Cylinder Filling Plant
NPDES Permit Number PR0001325
NOE Tracking Number PRNOEJ00K**

Dear Mr. Santiago-Claudio:

This is in response to your October 17, 2019 letter, in which Messer Gas Puerto Rico, Inc. (Messer) withdrew its individual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application for its industrial gas cylinder filling plant located in Cataño, Puerto Rico (Facility).

Section B.2 of the Messer's NPDES permit states that the authorization to discharge is to terminate on the expiration date, November 30, 2018. In order to receive authorization to discharge after the expiration date of the NPDES permit, Messer was required to apply for and obtain a new NPDES permit. On July 17, 2018, Messer submitted to EPA a renewal NPDES permit application for the Facility. The timely submittal of the renewal application allowed EPA to administratively continue Messer's NPDES permit under 40 C.F.R. § 122.6(a)(1) and (b).

On October 16, 2019, Messer filed a No Exposure Certification (NOE) form for the Facility. EPA granted conditional exclusion from NPDES stormwater permitting pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(g), on October 16, 2019. The NOE tracking number for the Facility is PRNOEJ00K.

Subsequently, Messer was granted conditional exclusion from NPDES stormwater permitting and withdrew its NPDES permit application for the Facility. Please be notified that EPA has terminated the NPDES permit number PR0001325. The termination of the NPDES permit became effective on October 16, 2019.

If you have questions concerning the above, please contact Mr. Sergio Bosques of the Clean Water Act Team, Multimedia Permits and Compliance Branch, at (787) 977-5838, or by email at bosques.sergio@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Carmen R. Guerrero-Pérez
Director

Caribbean Environmental Protection Division

cc: Minerva Ríos, Messer Gas Puerto Rico, Inc. (via email)
Ángel Meléndez, DNER's Water Quality Area (via email)
Annette Feliberty, DNER's Water Quality Area (via email)