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Robert F. Mujica Jr.
Executive Director

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 13, 2024

Mr. Juan C. Blanco Urrutia
Executive Director
Office of Management and Budget

Dear Mr. Blanco Urrutia,

This letter is in response to your letter dated August 12, 2024 requesting, on behalf of the Governor of Puerto Rico, that the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico (the “Oversight Board”) authorize access to the Emergency Reserve for potential expenses related to the emergency response for Tropical Cyclone Five for a period of fifteen (15) days and subject to the previously established procedures, including authorization from the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) prior to disbursement of funds.

The Oversight Board hereby authorizes access to the Emergency Reserve for expenses related to the emergency response for Tropical Cyclone Five for a period of fifteen (15) days, commencing on the date of this letter, subject to a State of Emergency declaration, by the Governor of Puerto Rico, in accordance with Article 6.10 of Act 20-2017, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Public Safety Department Act,” in accordance with the above description of what constitutes an extraordinary event and subject to previously established procedures, including authorization from OMB prior to disbursement of funds. Once the access period to the Emergency Reserve has ended, the OMB must submit to the Oversight Board a detail of the expenditures incurred during the emergency.

We take notice that the National Weather Service issued a Tropical Storm Warning for the islands of Puerto Rico due to Potential Tropical Cyclone Five (Tropical Storm Ernesto). A tropical storm warning means tropical storm conditions are expected for the entire island of Puerto Rico, including Vieques and Culebra, within the next 36 hours.

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The Emergency Reserve is intended to expedite response activities and, upon request, provide Commonwealth agencies and affected local governmental entities with funds in the event of an emergency of such severity and magnitude that effective response exceeds the capacity of current budget resources and federal disaster assistance is not available or not yet available to respond to the emergency. Moreover, the Emergency Reserve is intended for extraordinary events, such as natural disasters, or as otherwise agreed with the Oversight Board and that are generally outside of human control and unpreventable.

The Oversight Board looks forward to continuing to work in collaboration with the Government to accomplish the requirements and goals of PROMESA for the benefit of the people of Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,



Robert F. Mujica, Jr.
Executive Director

CC: Hon. Pedro R. Pierluisi
Hon. Omar J. Marrero Díaz