

A Joint Industrial Byproducts Reutilization Initiative

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of the initiative is to develop a synergistic collaboration among the local institutions for beneficial reuse and utilization of industrial byproducts in the areas of civil, environmental, and agricultural engineering. At present, the Civil Engineering and Surveying Department of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, the Puerto Rico Conglomerate of Construction, and AES Puerto Rico have joined the partnership. Other potential partners will be invited soon, including the Bacardi Corporation, India Corporation, and other private manufacturing and construction companies, PR Industrial Development Companies, PR Environmental Protection Agency, PR Aqueduct & Sewer Authority, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center, and PR Solid Waste Management Authority, PR Highway and Transportation Authority. The partnership is proposed for a period of five years, and will be renovated by the partners based on the results obtained during the initial period. The general goals of the initiative are to (1) encourage collaboration and investment among academia, organizations, business and nonprofit institutes which all will be benefited with outputs and outcomes, (2) explore potential utilization methods of importance, and (3) advance the engineering and scientific research infrastructure which will promote local economy growth. To achieve the objectives, the partnership will (a) support research to identify industrial by-products and their potential reuse; (b) develop and adapt technologies for reutilization of byproducts; (c) organize workshops and conferences to bring the best engineers, scientists and practitioners to Puerto Rico; and (d) disseminate results to the local industry and the scientific sector.

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