

USDA



Rural Development

Committed to the future of rural communities.

Puerto Rico—Rural Business & Cooperative Service

Alternative Energy

USDA REAP Funds Help Rural Paint Manufacturer Retain 260 Jobs

Outline of Need:

Master Paint & Chemical Corp is rural paint manufacturer that employs 260 people. It was paying around \$15,000 a month for electricity. They could not continue paying the bill.

How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development provided a grant of \$210,176 which allowed the small business to acquire and install a 772 panels (286,000 kw) "Grid-Tie" photovoltaic system. Grantee also benefit from PR Green Energy Fund incentive of \$380,785. The total project cost was \$843,562.

This small rural paint manufacturer was unable to obtain at reasonable rates and terms from private sources, nor able to finance this project from its own resources. They could not afford paying that high electricity bill.



From left to right: Luis Garcia, Rural Development, Miguel Vergara, General Manager of Master Paints, Ricardo Cardona, Principal Owner Master Paints and Miguel Romero, Chief of Staff to PR Governor Hon. Luis Fortuño.

Fast Facts

Program: Rural Energy for America Program Grant

Investment: \$210,176 grant.

Partners: Masters Paint & Chemical Corp

Congressional District: At Large

Demographics:

- Guayanilla
- Population: 21,581 (2010 Census)

Impact:

- 260 jobs retained

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The End Result:;

Rural Development funds were used to acquire and install a "Grid-Tie" photovoltaic system that replaced 100 percent of energy consumption from fossil fuel source.

The project will benefit help retain 260 jobs and help the community to have a healthier environment.

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