

## **Resident Commissioner of PR in Washington Pushes for Thorough Investigation About Military Contamination on Vieques**

The topic of contamination in Vieques caused by 60 years of US Navy bombing practices should be reinvestigated profoundly and dealt with once and for all, recommended Tuesday, Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico, Pedro Pierluisi.

The government official made the petition to the director of the Federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Control (ATSDR), Dr. Howard Frumkin during a recent meeting.

"I urged him not to limit the agency's work to a mere reconsideration of the conclusions from previous studies from the beginning of this decade, but to reinvestigate thoroughly this issue to once and for all resolve this problem and not leave any doubts in the minds of Viequenses about the effects of the bombings on their health", stated the Resident Commissioner in a comunicado.

"In the same way I made clear I will continue to insist that public hearings be held in Puerto Rico to give an opportunity to the community leaders and the scientific community in general to speak on the issue", he added.

ATSDR held a public meeting on Vieques in August and will conduct others on 5 and 6 November in Atlanta.

According to Pierluisi, Frumkin committed to hear the claims and opinions of the scientific community about the impact US Navy exercises could have had on the health of Viequenses.

On the other hand, Pierluisi informed that he requested the Subcommittee on Investigations of the US House of Representatives hold public hearings in Puerto Rico "in order to get ATSDR to make more definitive conclusions about the effects of military maneuvers on the health of Vieques residents".

(Translation by CPRDV)

Original Story Appear in Spanish [Here in Elnuevodia](#)