

MARIO DIAZ-BALART

26TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

STATE FOREIGN OPERATIONS,  
AND RELATED PROGRAMS  
CHAIRMAN

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN  
DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEFENSE

DEPUTY WHIP

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CONFERENCE  
CHAIRMAN

374 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4211  
FAX: (202) 225-8576

DISTRICT OFFICES:

8669 N.W. 36TH STREET  
SUITE 100  
DORAL, FL 33166  
(305) 470-8555  
FAX: (305) 470-8575

4715 GOLDEN GATE PARKWAY  
SUITE ONE  
NAPLES, FL 34116  
(239) 348-1620  
FAX: (239) 348-3569

## Congress of the United States

### House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0926

February 13, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

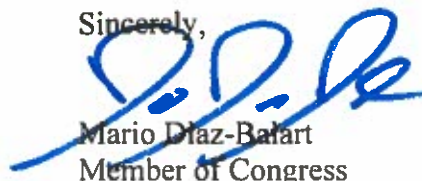
I write to express significant concerns regarding the health and wellbeing of my constituents following a massive fire erupting at a renewable energy facility in the city of Doral, Florida, located in my district. On February 12, 2023, at approximately 2:15 pm the brave men and women of the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department responded to a fire of approximately the size of 2 football fields<sup>1</sup> at the heart of the city. This fire, located at NW 70<sup>th</sup> Street and NW 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue, has quickly spread, involving 4 buildings and which, according to Miami-Dade Fire Chief Ray Judallah is expected to be "a long-term fire, a multi operational period looking at several days"<sup>2</sup> before it can be contained.

The city of Doral, Florida is a vibrant community with approximately 76,000 people, 40 schools, several houses of worship, parks, and more. As parents take their children to schools, as residents commute to and from their workplaces, it is critical that the air each resident breathes is clean, safe, and hazard-free. As the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) works to send a crew down to my district to conduct several air quality and environmental reviews, I respectfully request the following:

- Prompt and timely notification to all local officials on air, water, and soil quality levels.
- Sharing of critical information, in real time, of any precautions that are advisable for residents, to include specifically any guidance on whether individuals in the area should take precautions, such as the use of hazmat materials for their safety.
- Timely status updates from the EPA to local officials on the reviews being conducted in and around the area.
- Transparent and immediate publishing of any reviews and advisories regarding this incident on the EPA's website, which will be shared with all local officials so that residents and others affected may easily access this critical information.

I appreciate your consideration of my request, within all applicable rules and regulations, and look forward to your timely response on this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/crews-battle-massive-fire-at-energy-facility-in-miami-dade/2971949/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/miami/news/huge-three-alarm-blaze-at-doral-recyclable-energy-plant-under-investigation/>