

Court upholds environmental study for Puerto Barú project in Chiriquí

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Summary

The Supreme Court's Third Chamber ruled that the environmental impact study approving the \$260 million Puerto Barú port project, 20 km from David, is not illegal, rejecting a challenge by environmental groups.

Details (summary of the article)

La Prensa reports that the Third Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court has ruled that the environmental impact study (EIA) for the Puerto Barú project, located about 20 kilometres from David in Chiriquí, is not illegal. The challenge was filed in September 2024 by CIAM, CEASPA, Adopta El Bosque Panamá, Panacetacea, Proyecto Primates and other groups against Miambiente Resolution 0003-2024 of January 2024. The ruling, dated 26 October and written by magistrate María Cristina Chen Stanziola, follows a recommendation from the Attorney General for the Administration that the plaintiffs had not proven irregularities. The environmental organisations argued the study had serious deficiencies, lacked scientific rigour and left out key biodiversity information. A second lawsuit against the same resolution, brought by lawyers from the firm Cornejo Robles y Asociados, is still pending before the same chamber. Puerto Barú is promoted by Ocean Pacific Investments and requires an investment of \$260 million; the company has sued several of the environmental groups opposing it.

Original (es)

Corte da luz verde a EIA que aprobó proyecto para el desarrollo de Puerto Barú

El fallo de la Sala Tercera de la Corte da luz verde al Estudio de Impacto Ambiental de Puerto Barú, que se desarrolla en la provincia de Chiriquí.