



April 7, 2011

Thieves Strike Again

The National Water Commission is reporting that the most recent in a slew of theft and vandalism it has been experiencing is the theft of essential operational equipment from the **Sligoville Relift Station in St. Catherine**. The facility was broken into on Sunday, March 27 and the electrical power cable from the pothead to the main Breaker, the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPS) meter, and the power cable for the retired standby pump stolen.

The selfish and ruthless act occurred at a time when the system, which was already out of operation due to mechanical challenges, was to be reinstated. Now that the mechanical problems have been repaired, the theft of the electrical equipment is preventing restoration of the water supply. This situation has now caused customers in **Top and Bottom Kensington, Sligoville, James Mountain, Cedar Valley, Stanbury Grove, Pleasant Hill, St. Mary's Village, Binn's Close and Top and Bottom Jackson** to be out of water for a longer period than was scheduled.

The company continues to plead with all law abiding citizens to be united in the fight against these acts of vandalism, which not only curtail the activities of the organization in its efforts to carry out its mandate, but also deny the entity of much needed revenue. Since the beginning of the year, the Commission has lost millions of dollars island-wide to the burgeoning business of scrap metal

theft. This latest incident will cost the Commission approximately \$3 million for repairs plus the significant sum for trucking water to customers.

The National Water Commission sincerely regrets any inconvenience caused to its customers in the affected communities and will continue to provide trucked water to these areas until the problem is resolved.

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