



TO: NEWS EDITORS

JUNE 9, 2011

NWC WORKING TO PUT SYSTEMS BACK IN OPERATION

.....Impact Assessment being Carried Out

As at Thursday, June 9, 2011, the National Water Commission (NWC) is reporting that a number of its 460 water supply systems are still being affected by various issues resulting from the inclement weather conditions islandwide, disrupting the supply of water to some of its valued customers. Still, a large number are already being returned to full operation, but some customers will continue to experience either no piped water service, low water pressure conditions or intermittent supply.

These disruptions are affecting some systems in virtually every parish and are due mainly to:

- Extremely high turbidity levels especially at some river and spring sources
- Blocked and damaged intake structures
- Flooding at some facilities
- Broken mains and siltation
- Electrical, power supply and/or mechanical damage
- Blocked or flooded roads or accessways

While the National Water Commission continues to work assiduously at correcting all the problems within its control, it is at the same time carrying out an assessment of the impact of damage on its systems. The company continues to remind its customers that restoration of normal service is dependent on the nature and cause of the damage suffered on the particular system, the location of the system and the prevailing weather conditions. In some cases, repairs cannot be effected until after the rains have ceased, flood waters have receded and normal access is possible.

(more)

In addition, several of the 68 sewerage systems operated by the NWC have also been impacted by flooding and sewage overflows resulting mainly from storm water intrusion and illegal and inappropriate disposal into the NWC system.

The National Water Commission assures the public that while any system that can be operated is being put back into operation immediately, highest priority in the restoration effort is being placed on bringing back into operation the largest and most critical water supply facilities that serve large population centres and important public institutions.

- 0 -

Contact: Corporate Public Relations Department
929-1128