



TO: NEWS EDITORS

November 10, 2011

NWC, MINISTER OUTLINE NEW WATER PROJECTS

Another in a series of meeting to provide information about projects for which contracts were signed recently and hosted by the NWC and the Minister of Housing, Environment, Water and Local Government Hon. Dr. Horace Chang was held in the community of Mona on Wednesday, November 9, 2011.

The National Water Commission in collaboration with the Ministry, as part of their efforts to provide greater awareness about upgrading and improvement plans that will impact particular communities, presented to the residents of the middle-income St. Andrew community, the programme of works to be undertaken. These works will include the rehabilitation of the Mona and Hope Water Treatment Plants and the construction of the Mona Road (extension) Sanitary Collector Sewers.

The Mona Water Treatment Plant which was commissioned in 1986 will benefit from a complete overhaul of the existing facility with an aim to improve treated water quality and to restore the plant to its original designed capacity of 16 imperial million gallons per day (imgd), and will involve the following:

- a) Repair of the rapid gravity filters, and the replacement of filter media
- b) Installation of automation and regulation controls and equipment, meters and valves
- c) Rehabilitation of chemical dosing equipment and including new chlorination facilities
- d) Repair to existing building, walkways and miscellaneous structures
- e) Replacement of backwash pumps

The Hope Water Treatment Plant will be rehabilitated to improve the reliability and water quality while being restored to its original design capacity of 6.5 imgd upon completion of the works. Some of the specific works include:-

(more)

- i. Rehabilitation and upgrading of the existing “Slow Sand Filter” at Hope Water Treatment Plant, the river intake and the raw water supply system, which will involve:
 - a) Rehabilitation of intake structure on the Hope River
 - b) Rehabilitation of raw water channel, aqueduct, gravel/silt traps
 - c) Chemical dosing equipment and building
 - d) Repairs and modifications to the settlement tank
 - e) Repairs and improvements to slow sand filters including re-sanding
 - f) Building rehabilitation
- ii) Rehabilitation of a raw water transfer pumping station located at Mona which supplies the Hope Water Treatment Plant.

Dr. Chang also used the opportunity to announce the appointment of the new team of senior managers as part of the transformation exercise being carried out at the National Water Commission (NWC), whose skill sets in various disciplines he is optimistic will bring about greater efficiency and change. According to the Minister, “With these highly professional and competent recruits, very soon, the National Water Commission will be the number one utility provider in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

The residents of Mona also benefitted from the National Water Commission’s presentation of its comprehensive plan to improve water supply to several areas across the length and breadth of the island. This, before a number of them took to the microphone to get their concerns addressed.

The meeting, which was well-represented by the community, was also attended by MP, Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, as well as the Chairman and President of the NWC, Mr. David Chung and Mr. Albert Gordon.

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Contact: Corporate Public Relations Department

Tel: 929-1128