



TO: NEWS EDITOR

**MILK RIVER RESIDENTS NOW BENEFITING FROM
WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Residents of Milk River and surrounding areas in Clarendon are now enjoying improved water supply services from the NWC following the completion of the Milk River Water Supply improvement project in October 2006. The project, which has benefited some 2,500 persons and a hotel, involved the rehabilitation of water supply facilities and storage facilities, replacement of defective pipeline network as well as 28.2 km of transmission and distribution mains.

According to NWC Project Manager, Mr. Anthony O'Connor, at the start of the project in December 2005, Non-Revenue-Water (NRW) in the area was 89%, due to continuous bursts of the cast iron main pipes as well as illegal connections within the network. Now, the NRW has been reduced to below 10%, following the replacement of 80% of all existing main pipes.

Financed by the European Union Development Fund as a part of the Rural Water Supply Project –Phase 2, the works were carried out by the contractor M & M Jamaica Limited with supervision provided by the NWC. Completed on time and at a cost of J\$81.5M, the Milk River water supply system is now directly supplied from two pumps at Pridees Well and Rest Well.

(More)

The project also involved a comprehensive new customer verification survey, which has resulted in the updating of the NWC customer database for the area.

At a community meeting held recently in Milk River, the NWC and the Ministry of Health joined forces to update residents on the progress of the project, sensitize them on the treatment and distribution of potable water supply, conservation tips and the prevention of water borne diseases. NWC Area Manager, Mr. Guy McCallum urged residents to make it a priority and apply for service, as the project is now ready to serve them. He also encouraged residents to pay their bills on time in order for the NWC to provide them with good service and continue to maintain the system

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