

September 23, 2004

## **SPECIAL HURRICANE IVAN RECOVERY UPDATE**

### **NWC INSTALLS NEW GENERATOR FOR PORTLAND COTTAGE AREA**

The National Water Commission yesterday commenced operation from its Kemps Hill Water Supply System with the use of a brand new standby generator costing \$4 million to serve Portland Cottage and adjoining areas in Clarendon severely affected by Hurricane Ivan.

According to NWC President, Mr. E. G. Hunter, the decision was taken by the Commission's board and management that the situation in that section of the island warranted special attention as there are major challenges to be faced with restoring electricity - and consequently water supply - to that area, presenting a serious health risk. The new standby generator was therefore bought and installed by the NWC.

At the same time, the National Water Commission - with the help of JPSCo power - was yesterday able to deliver piped water supply into sections of Mandeville served by the Porus Water Supply System for the first time since the hurricane. Work continues to deliver water from the Pepper Wells via the Greater Mandeville Water Supply System. Minister of Water and Housing, Donald Buchanan confirmed this as he spoke to journalists at a function at the Norman Manley International Airport earlier today.

According to the Minister, Mandeville was the only capital town and largest population centre to which piped water supply had not been previously restored. He further assured the country that the National Water Commission continued to work tirelessly to restore piped water supply to all areas in record time.

The NWC continues to advise customers that they may receive low water pressure, intermittent supply and pockets of no service even after a water supply system is restored into operation. Persons are therefore encouraged to continue to store and conserve on their use of water.

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