



PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Public Notice

Public Utilities Commission (PUC)



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Notice:

The Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) hereby serves Notice this day, January 26, 2009, to all Interested Persons, including the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) and the general public, that the Commission has decided to delay the implementation of the AMENDMENT TO THE 2008 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION that was issued January 7, 2009, while the Commission undertakes a process of public consultation with regards to the amendments made to the 2008 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION.

To this end, the Commission is inviting all Interested Persons to make comments and representations with respect to the AMENDMENT TO THE 2008 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION as previously issued, or with respect to any further amendments.

Definition of Interested Person:

An “Interested Person” as stated above means a person who may be materially affected by any Decision, Order, Regulations or Byelaws made or issued by the Commission.

Comments:

The deadline for comments to be received from Interested Persons is Wednesday, February 4, 2009.

Comments may be made:

- a) in writing and delivered to the PUC at: Public Utilities Commission
41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City
P. O. Box 300
- b) by email to the PUC at: info@puc.bz

Intended date to issue decision to either confirm or further amend the AMENDMENT TO THE 2008 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION:

The Commission intends to issue its decision to either confirm or further amend the AMENDMENT TO THE 2008 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION as previously issued on Friday, February 6, 2009.

Purpose for delay and consultation:

The purpose for the delay is to extend an opportunity to all Interested Persons to contribute to and perhaps improve upon the amendments made to the 2008 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCEEDING FINAL DECISION by the Commission.

Additionally, BEL filed an application with the Supreme Court for an injunction against and stay of the amendments until an appeal of the amendments filed by BEL with the Supreme Court is heard and determined. Rather than risk having the injunction and stay upheld and result in an undue delay in passing through the benefits of the lower cost of power (due to lower oil prices) to consumers, the Commission decided to make an undertaking to the Supreme Court to delay the implementation of the amendments for a potentially shorter period until a process of consultation is completed.

Assurance of pass through of benefits of reduced cost of power:

The Commission is required to set the Reference Price of Power (RPP – cost of power component of the Mean Electricity Rate) for the period January 1 to June 30, 2009, and by law the cost of power is a direct pass-through cost item. Despite any delays in the implementation of the amendments, the RPP is effective for that said period.

Therefore, the Commission hereby assures that consumers will enjoy any appropriate benefit that may accrue as a result of the reduction in the cost of power, as determined by the Commission, with effect January 1, 2009.