

Munro Wind Farm to be Commissioned Today by Prime Minister Bruce Golding

Today, at 11:00 am, another piece of the pie falls into place with the renewable energy programme being pursued by Jamaica Public Service Co. Ltd. This, as the Munro Wind Farm in St. Elizabeth, JPS' first wind power plant, will be commissioned today by Prime Minister, the Honourable Bruce Golding.



Also on hand for the commissioning will be Minister of Mining and Energy, Mr. James Robertson as well as several top officials from the light and power company.

The Project, which cost approximately \$800 Million, was completed in September 2010 – on schedule and within budget. The development involved the erection of 4 wind turbines, of 750-kilowatt (kW) each. This facility will provide 3 megawatts of energy to the national grid. The facility which stood unscathed after Tropical Storm Nicole, is built to withstand hurricanes up to a Category 5 designation.

A number of local contractors, equipment providers, and transportation companies were involved in the project. In fact, during construction, the project provided employment for over 100 persons.

The Munro Wind Farm forms part of JPS' commitment to reduce Jamaica's dependence on imported oil for electricity

This facility will provide 3 megawatts of energy to the national grid.

generation, through the use of more renewable energy sources. It will help to reduce the amount of fuel Jamaica imports annually. This will result in foreign exchange savings for the country.

The project, which is costing the utility approximately J\$800M, will add 3 megawatts of power to the national grid.

Main contractor for the project is South Korean Wind turbine manufacturer – UNISON – which has been engaged by JPS to carry out detailed engineering, procurement of equipment, and construction of the wind farm. Additionally, a number of local sub-contractors, and roughly 100

persons from the local labour pool have been employed in road widening activities, civil and electrical works and construction activities.

Vice President of Generation Expansion at JPS, Mr. Valentine Fagan, notes that "this is the first JPS owned wind plant, and it forms part of the Company's commitment to provide the public with a secure and economic energy supply using a mix of renewable energy resources, such as wind and hydro power. This will be coupled with base load energy solutions, such as new LNG fuelled combined cycle plants, when LNG becomes available."

The construction of the wind power plant comes as part of the electric utility's fuel diversification effort, which will see a reduction in the Company's dependence on imported fuel.

Several Seaview Gardens Residents in arrears despite over US\$1M write-off

In March of this year, the Jamaica Public Service Co. Ltd. wrote off over one million US Dollars in unpaid electricity bills, from the Seaview Gardens community. This, in an effort to facilitate the community clearing arrears that were accrued over several years.

Many residents exercised the option to accept the partial write-off and continue as regular customers of JPS.

Once a customer agrees to a payment plan, he or she is obliged to pay for each month's current consumption, as well as a part-payment on the old accrued balance. Despite being advised of this requirement, several of the Seaview Gardens residents have not paid been paying their current bills nor their outstanding accrued balances and have, as a

consequence, fallen further into arrears.

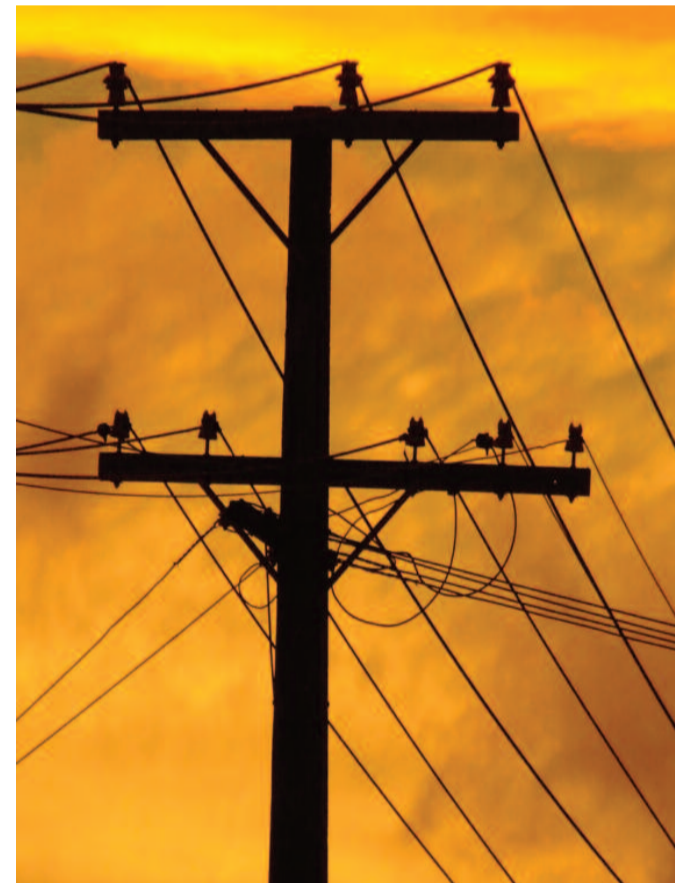
In addition to the initial write-off, Seaview residents were the beneficiaries of a range of discounts on their bills, as part of JPS' effort to facilitate their transition from non-paying users to paying customers.

The discounts, which started out as a full 100% write-off of the current bills, were gradually decreased over a period of several months. During this period, the customers would

have seen gradual increases in the amounts that they would need to pay, as JPS absorbed less and less of their bill amounts. As the discounts decreased over the months, the perception of the residents appears to be that the bills have been increasing. The last of these discounts was given in September.

JPS is now dealing with the Seaview Gardens residents on a case-by-case basis to clear up any misunderstanding and facilitate payment plans. Customers are again being encouraged to be mindful of their consumption,

and to desist from allowing other households to access power from them. This practice of subletting has proven to be a contributing factor in driving up the electricity consumption of some of the Seaview residents. Earlier this year, JPS deployed several community facilitators who are still working in Seaview, helping the residents to understand their bills and develop efficient energy usage habits. The Company has also opened up temporary offices in the community and met residents on several occasions to explain the process and facilitate their special needs.



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Kettering University Recognises Key Partners

Kettering University, best known for its outstanding engineering programs, presented awards to three corporate officials and two local entities for their outstanding involvement in helping Jamaican students to study abroad. Stephen Meghoo, General Manager of IBM Jamaica, Wayne McKenzie, General Manager of Jamaica Energy Partners and Omar Thomas, Community Relations Officer for Jamaica Public Service

Company were recognized for their energetic leadership in securing scholarships and co-op employment. The Jamaica Public Service Company, and the Grace and Staff Community Development Foundation received awards for providing scholarships and sponsoring 6th form students in Kettering University's Academically Interested Minds (AIM) pre-college engineering summer

program for academically talented students of color.

Since the inception of the Kettering-Jamaican initiative in the summer of 2003, twenty one Jamaican students have participated in the AIM program. Of this number, eight are currently studying engineering at Kettering and two are recent graduates. Both of the graduates –Nackia Chamberlin and Tevita Skeine- graduated with honors

and were awarded the "President's Medal" for academic excellence and outstanding campus involvement.

Five participants from the most recent programs have been offered scholarships and are being recruited by the University. While she opted not to study engineering, performing artiste Cameal Davis, also participated in the AIM program.



Community Relations Officer, Omar Thomas receives a plaque from Consultant to the President at Kettering University, Dr. Milton Robinson. Omar was honoured for his outstanding service for the past 7 years, to the Academically Interested Minorities (AIM) programme, sponsored by Kettering University in Michigan, USA. Through this programme, several Jamaican inncrity students have benefitted from partial and full scholarships to that University.



Special Awardees of the Kettering University pose for the camera: They are (l - r) Executive of Grace & Staff Community Development Foundation - Curtis Sweeney; JPS Director, External Affairs - Frank "Tony" Ray; JPS Community Relations Officer, Omar Thomas; General Manager, Jamaica Energy Partners - Wayne Mckenzie; and General Manager, IBM - Stephen Meghoo.