VERBATIM NOTES

OF

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REPORT OF PROPOSED 6.3MW HYDRO PROJECT

AT THE MAGGOTTY HIGH SCHOOL,

ST. ELIZABETH

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

COMMENCING AT APPROXIMATELY 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT WERE:

Mr. Damian Obiglio	-	CEO, JPS
Mr Valentine Fagan	-	Vice President Generation Expansion, JPS
Mr. Clava Mantock	-	General Manager Business Support & Administration
Mrs. Ianthe Smith	-	Environmental & Engineering Managers Limited

RESIDENTS

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PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REPORT OF PROPOSED 6.3MW HYDRO PROJECT

MAGGOTTY HIGH, ST. ELIZABETH

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

5:30 P.M.

MR BENT: Ladies and gentlemen, this meeting is about to begin, a special meeting. We are going to ask you all to come and be seated those who are on the outside. We have seats on the inside so we are asking those on the outside standing to come in so that we can begin this special meeting.

As you know, JPS is a household name in Jamaica, and it has been the main supply of electricity throughout, it

has kept us in the light and the various sectors of the economy depend largely upon it for their survival.

Today, as we are here for this special meeting I am going to ask you - my friends, colleagues, community members, I am going to ask you to listen keenly and make sure you ask all the questions you want answered. Make sure you do that today.

Here we have a number of persons from JPS from the top brass and you will be able to share with them today.

At this time, I am somewhat on a little doctor's order so I can't do much talking so I am going to ask Mr. Shawn Graham, the cultural agent for this school and he will be moderating this function for us. Put your hands together and welcome Mr. Graham, please.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: Thank you, good evening everybody. Very good to see you here today. I know that we are all happy to be

alive and today we are going to be speaking about energy.

First and foremost, on behalf of the Principal and members of staff of the Maggotty High School, we want to welcome you to Maggotty High School, the best school in St. Elizabeth. I hope you feel welcome. Give yourself a clap for being here.

(Resounding applause)

I hope that as we interact we will ask the necessary questions and that we will learn and we will look out for the opportunities that we use to make our lives better and to make our country better.

At this time, we will stand and we will sing the National Anthem. Let us stand at this time.

(Anthem sung)

Thank you very much, you may be seated. At this time we want to invite Mr. Leon Chisolm, to move us in prayer.

MR CHISOLM: Let us bow our heads reverendly as we seek the Lord's presence.

(***Prayer led by Mr Chisolm***)

5:50 P.M.

MR GRAHAM: All right. Thank you Mr. Chisolm. We are special people here today and I said earlier, welcome to Maggotty High School and it is the public

meeting with the JPS. **Presentation on the Environmental Impact Assessment Report of Proposed 6.3MW Hydro Project at Maggotty High School**. You know the meeting. We are going to do a little song; just kind of do a little song for me as welcome - I want everybody for to feel special this evening and we are just going to do a little song; it's a song that we all know and we are going to do it as we welcome each other here today. It's a song called: "Smile a While" everybody knows it?

AUDIENCE: Yes.

MR GRAHAM: All right, we are just going to do that song one time and we can breathe the fresh air as we get relaxed into the meeting and as we just flow into things. All right, after two we begin - 1, 2.

("Smile a while" sung)

Yes man, it is good to smile. Give you yourself a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

Good. We want to welcome, special welcome to some persons here today, we want to pay special regards to; Sergeant Williams of Police. Let's give him a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

We want to thank him for coming. Also thank you for coming, thank you very much. She is here? Sorry about that, and I don't want her to arrest me so I have to correct myself quickly. All right, thank you for coming, ma'am.

Also members of the Media, JIS is here and also the Gleaner is represented. Let's give them a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

I understand that Mr. Rowe, PNP Caretaker is also here, let's give him a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

We want to welcome also Mr. Valentine Fagan, Vice-president of Generation Expansion at JPS, let's give him a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

We also have Mr. Clava Mantock, he is the General Manager of Business Support and Administration. Let's give him warm welcome.

(APPLAUSE)

We also have Mrs Ianthe Smith, Environmental & Engineering Managers Limited, let's give her a Clap.

(APPLAUSE)

And we want to welcome the big man himself, the President and CEO, Mr. Damian Obiglio, let's give him a

clap and welcome him to Maggotty High School who is also here.

(APPLAUSE)

And we will be hearing from them and we will expect that the meeting will flow and we will cooperate that we will be out of here as soon as possible but ensure that we all dealt with questions that we have answered because especially in this time I know we love to hear the word "clean" energy, clean energy but if that doesn't say something to you, I know of the word "cheap" energy. Come on man, we want to hear about cheap energy and anything in that regard we are in support of.

(APPLAUSE)

And so today, we are asking everybody to just to relax as we go into the programme and as

from JPS we will express our concerns about the environment in that respect.

At this time, we want to invite Mr. Valentine Fagan, Vice President,

Generation Expansion, to come and give opening and welcome remarks. Allow him to feel welcome.

(APPLAUSE)

MR FAGAN: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Rawle Bent and Mr. Moderator, Mr. Graham. First let me thank Mr Graham for that rousing to this proceeding. I am sure he has set the stage for the type of meeting that we would like to have here today.

Distinguished members of the government; members of government agencies, NEPA, the Police Force, Residents of Maggotty, Balaclava, surrounding communities and of course, my fellow JPS colleagues.

I am indeed honoured to extend to you all, a warm welcome on behalf of the Jamaica Public Service Company Limited. This meeting is a requisite of the National Environment Planning Agency in order for the company to obtain the permitting to start the development and construction of this project.

My colleagues and I are particularly pleased to be in this wonderful parish; beautiful parish this afternoon and we are grateful that so many of you have accepted our invitation to participate in this most important program.

We are especially delighted to share our plans with you this afternoon and all we ask this afternoon, this evening is that you participate without restraint; we need your participation.

It should be noted that Jamaica imports over 95% of its fuel and this is oil which is very expensive and for most part pricing is very unstable and it is out of control of the Jamaica Public Service Company and the country as a whole as we have to buy at the international price that is set by the market.

This new Maggotty Hydro Project is one of a number of projects that JPS has air-marked as part of the Fuel diversification Project. The development of this project actually started in 2008, when JPS won the right to develop and construct this plant from the Office of Utilities Regulation. So since 2008 we have been planning developments and we are now at the stage that we seek environmental permission to proceed further.

As you listen to the presentation this afternoon you will note that JPS has been very careful, very

meticulous in terms of avoiding any possible negative impacts on this environment.

After all, we are producing clean energy and this cannot be at expense of the environment so we are being very carefully not to make any plans that would have adverse effects on the environment.

As we go on this evening we will hear presentations from our General Manager, Business Support Mr. Clava Mantock, he will be presenting on an engineering overview; you will also hear environmental plans and mitigation efforts from our learned

Environmental Consultant, Mrs. Ianthe Smith. We will also look forward to hearing from our President, Mr. Damian Obiglio, as I am sure he will have some interesting, thought-provoking ideas to discuss with the gathering here today.

Once I again I thank you for accommodating our team in your beautiful and we look forward to an interesting and thought-provoking and full participation from you this evening. I thank you.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Fagan. Let's give him a clap again.

(APPLAUSE)

Maggotty is a special place, do you agree?

AUDIENCE: Yes.

MR. GRAHAM: All right, all the persons from Maggotty, do you agree?

AUDIENCE: Yes.

MR GRAHAM: Did you know that Maggotty is just one of the 60 places where is there is hydro electricity that is in Jamaica and that is something to be proud of. Give yourself a clap, man.

(APPLAUSE)

We must recognise the special and unique things about ourselves.

I would also want to acknowledge representatives from NEPA, that is National Environment and Planning Agency. Let's give them a clap, all the representatives of NEPA that are here.

(APPLAUSE)

At this time, we will hear remarks from Mr. Damian Obiglio, President and CEO of the JPS.

(APPLAUSE)

MR OBIGLIO: Mr. Chairman, Mr Rawle Bent, Mr Graham, distinguished government officers and representatives for the agencies, but more important than all, the residents of Maggotty,

Balaclava and other surrounding communities.

My fellow JPS colleagues, we are here to introduce to you the first hydro power plant to be constructed in Jamaica in 30 years.

(APPLAUSE)

We are coming here and we are asking your permission to build another hydro power plant in your backyard.

Maggotty has the Moderator outlined is privileged to have the biggest hydropower plant in Jamaica and this is going to be maybe the largest. Again, it is going to surpass by a little bit the existing than we have last year.

Why do we need in Jamaica hydro power? And I think Mr. Moderator made an appeal for cheap energy. Jamaica has been blessed with a lot of things but one thing that we don't have is fuels in Jamaica. We don't have oil and generation made need - the world is coming from either oil, natural gas or coal, none of these fuels exist in Jamaica. So the only way that we can generate electricity in Jamaica is rain water or rain. But unfortunately, to generate electricity with water is four times more expensive than to generate electricity with oil. You may say

well, what is this guy saying? I know that the cost of electricity is cheaper than the water we produce, water is cheaper than to produce by oil yes but the investment, the amount of money it cost for the construction of a new hydro power plant is four times more than to buy a another to generate electricity with oil but in the long term it produces the cleanest and cleanest electricity.

So in 2007, and later in 2008, we saw what is the problem of not having fuel. And in this case we are having our own fuel that is the water. But we know it is very

expensive to go by water than electricity as already said, it's four times more expensive than to go either oil electricity. But as we have proved and it has shown for more than forty years in Maggotty we come to use electricity in a clean environmentally responsible way and contribute to the country as a whole with the use of cost of electricity.

Nowadays Jamaica produce electricity - only 3% of electricity that we produce in Jamaica, 3-4 is coming from wind and water.

What we are planning to do with this hydro plant and another hydro plant

that we probably develop in one or two years in Hanover, is to move from the 3% at least to a 6 %. But again, as I said this is quite expensive and it takes a longer time than the construction period that a normal oil consuming generation unit.

So here we are with a good experience of one that has been named Maggotty in Jamaica as a whole, we are reducing the price of electricity because without Maggotty the price of electricity would be higher now and without this new Maggotty that we are trying to build, the price of electricity will

continue to be high. So that's what we are trying to do.

Yes, there are several good consequences for your community and we are going to talk about them. For the next two years there are going be a significant amount of jobs created during the construction of this.

(APPLAUSE)

We have always policy in JPS and we try to employ as much as we can people in community where we have worked. We did this in Munroe and we are doing the same in other parts of Jamaica where we are working. So there is going to be more economic

movement here. But I am not going to lie to you, once you see the hydrant is constructed it doesn't require the same amount of people that you required to construct it. But still there is movement; there is nice gardens that are to be kept; there is painting to be done and there will be work once a while in the community.

So this is a new activity for the community and it's a significant impact in the next two years because there is a lot of money that's going to be invested but at the same time in the future it is going to create some jobs, permanent jobs.

You may wonder how much it costs this project. This is the most expensive project that JPS have had done in generation in the last ten years probably. The total cost of this power plant is US$26. It is not an easy significant amount of money. I can tell that you every year JPS invests US$50 millions in lands; new lines; new power plants; new devices for the power plants et cetera. Well, $26 million is going to be - what JPS invest in the entire island per year it is going to be invested in Maggotty. So it is a significant and important investment for the country. And the

country is looking at you because it needs your help to reduce the cost of electricity.

I think another important is here Mr. Graham was talking about what it is going to cost for the project but please, we are here to also answer your question. Please don't be shy and we will answer the question when we do not know we will tell you we don't and we will come back with the answers later.

Thank you very much for being out here and enjoy the meeting.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: Thank you very much, sir. Let's hear it again for Mr. Obiglio, President and CEO of JPS.

(APPLAUSE)

At this time, we are going to invite Mr. Clava Mantock, General Manager of Business Support, JPS. Let's clap him as he come to make his presentation.

(APPLAUSE)

Come on Maggotty let's do better than that, he is coming to give his presentation.

(APPLAUSE)

MR MANTOCK: Good everyone.

AUDIENCE: Good evening.

MR MANTOCK: Mr. Chairman, President, CEO;

Ladies and gentlemen. My job this afternoon is to make a presentation of what the project will involve. But before I do that I will just give you an overview of the renewable energy and hydro-production project that will be presented after. So I will look at the:

> ***Importance of Hydro Projects***
> ***Jamaica Hydro Potential***
> ***Maggottty existing plant***

And we will look at;

> ***The Maggotty Hydro Processes;***

And we will look at the processes that went through to develop of this project. And I will give show a;

> Project Schedule and then I will;

> Conclude.

Okay, the importance of hydro is very environmentally friendly generation. There is no emission or there is little or none.

It is one of the main sources of renewable Energy. And the others being wind and solar.

It provides savings in foreign exchange. Because it reduces the expenditure on imported fuel.

Currently, the hydro unit that we have now presently saves the country about US$27 million in fuels and

oil.

It is one of the mainstay in our disaster preparedness program because it can provide black start capability. In the event that we have an hurricane and there is no damage to the dam and the plant itself these plants can be started up quickly and provide power within the community and also to provide power to start up the other turbine.

It contributes to JPS overall system efficiency, improvement.

Okay, looking at some of the potential hydro source that we have in Jamaica, this was a study by Dr.

Raymond Wright and it is showing that we have potentially another 98.5MW. But the biggest one would be the Back Rio Grande which is about 50.5 but to develop that would be very expensive. We have looked at the Great River and recently we completed a feasibility study of the Great River and there is potential for 8.0 megawatts there and that might be the next project we will do after completing the Maggotty Project.

And these are more rivers, they will show you the small amount of hydros. The Martha Brae River, in 2007 we did a feasibility study on this and

there is potential there for 5.4MW but we know we will have probably difficulty because the Martha Brae is used for rafting so we will to consider that carefully.

Okay, a little bit of the existing plant, it has been in operation for over fifty years. The feasibility study on this was done in 1951 and we had stream flow data.

The unit was constructed during the period 1955-1958 and at that time it costs 650,000 pounds and the expected output at that time was (47 GWh) which would be 48,000 bill Watts and at that time it was

equivalent to 30% of electricity sold by JPS.

At present all the hydro plants that we have on our system is equivalent to only about 4% of JPS sales.

This is just showing you where it is. This is the Black River and Maggotty is located right about here. This is where you have the existing plant and where we plan to build the new plant.

That is just a picture of the existing plant. This plant was rehabilitated the in 2001 and the new plant will be constructed right

alongside this; right in this area alongside that plant.

Okay, this is just showing you what the President just said, that we presently use approximately 94% from fuel oil ADO and HFO. It is automatically fuel oil in heavy fuel oil. You have about 3% from hydro; 3% from wind and you don't have any coal or any LNG at the moment. So if you look at this right at 'K" the biggest slice would be the fuel so if we need to reduce the cost of electricity we need to reduce these two slices of cake and increase this one or probably in future will be

increasing this and reducing that significantly.

Again, these are the plants that we have. The Upper White River which was constructed in 1943.

The Lower White River, 1952.

The Roaring River, 1948.
Rio Bueno A, 1955 then we had a small plant in 1988.

This was done by the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica through the German Government along with this one (indicating) and it was handed over to JPS after.

The Maggotty Plant now came in production in 1959 and as you see,

that is the largest capacity plant we have; 6.0 MW; 6 million Watts. I think you understand Watts more than Kilo Watts.

So in total capacity for hydro is 22.36 and total production at the average over the last five years was 157,253 Mega Watts.

This shows you the location of the existing plant.

Okay, for the new planting: Scope of work that we plan to do for the new plant.

We have already completed the surveying and soil-testing of the existing pipeline route.

For this project we are going to replace the existing pipeline, removing the wood-stained pipeline which is over 50 years old and as you pass along you will see the condition that it is in. And we are replacing that with a larger diameter pipe but this pipe will be Glass Reinforced Fibreglass pipeline.

We will be doing modification at the existing dam.

We will be doing some construction at the dam.

We will be dismantling the existing pipeline and then replacing them.

Then tentatively we might construct a larger surge tank but this will depend on further engineering based on the type of turbines that will be installed.

And we will construct a new power house to install two 3.15MW hydro units also associated electrical and mechanical control.

It is 6.3MW total but using two smaller units for the reasons that

I will show you in the later slides. Because at sometime of the year we would not be able to generate the full 6MW because that's when you have the low rainfall period and the river is low and at that time the smaller plant, we will be able to maximise and operate the plant more efficiently. When you operate the plants at their rated capacity they operate more efficiently.

And the plant will be equipped with automatic control to regulate the level of the dam.

So the statistics on this plant it will have a capacity of 6.3 MW.

We are very conservative in our calculations that we will general 26.5 GWh power per year which would work out to about a 48 % capacity but this conservative and I know that the President will not like it but we are being conservative. We know that it will be better but we are doing this.

In terms of that plant it will save the country from importing approximately 48 thousand barrels of fuel oil and at the time present cost of say one hundred dollars per barrel that will be about 4.8 million per year.

And we expect to complete this project by July 2013.

These are just some of the pictures of the existing we will be - This is a tunnel, I don't if you know where this tunnel is located. It's located just below where we have this bridge, there is a big rock in that section. So this thing about a three hundred feet tunnel that will be reused, it is in very in good condition. The last time when we checked it just as when it was built 50 years ago and we will be replacing this section of the pipeline as well which is a steel section, this runs across the river.

Well, we will no longer have any scenes like that.

Okay, and these are the pipes, this is the type of pipes that we will be using to replace the existing pipelines. They are manufactured by a company by the name Flow-tight or OTEC/OPEC out of Columbia.

And this is an illustration of the pipelines in Columbia that utilised this type of pipe. It's a glass reinforced fibreglass pipe.

These are some of the engineering drawings, this is just a profile of the pipeline, the route that it will take. This is here is the intake.

We have the tunnel and we have the search tank and here is the plant. This is another side layout again.

This is the existing plant and a new plant will be here. The one pipeline will serve both plants so when we reach down below the surge plant we scheme off one to the existing plant and one to the new plant and it will be divided into two to serve the two smaller units.

This is just a sketch of the powerhouse so this will be that newly constructed powerhouse with the turbine room and the control

centre and area for carrying out maintenance.

These were the steps that we had to go through to undergo this project. We had the request for proposal from OUR in 2008. We did a feasibility study on the project then we did a rapid environmental study then we submitted the proposal to OUR, we developed the engineering design; we did various site visits with Consultants, the Consultant being NWH from USA, then we came again and we do topographical survey of the intake of the pipeline route and the powerhouse and we did geo-technical study of the site along the route to

determine the type of soil that we have and we went back again and did the engineering design, estimate of the cost and then it was evaluated and approved by the OUR.

We are at this stage, so again we develop our project strata, we develop tender documents. This project will be done through what we called a EPC Contract being engineering procurement and construction.

We are at this stage where we have invited companies to tender on doing the project. We invited over 30 companies locally and

internationally and those who showed interest they have visited the site and they are now in the process of preparing their bids to us so we do know what the final price will be at this moment. These bids, are expected to receive them back on the 29th of April. After we receive the bids we will then evaluate and do negotiations with the contractors then we will submit to our Board for approval and award and signing of contract.

Right now we are at this stage, we have done the environmental impact assessment and that was submitted to NEPA and as a requirement by NEPA

that is why we are having this town meeting to hear your concerns if you have any concerns about the construction of this plant. So after the approval is granted we will complete the detail engineering design; we will review by JPS, we will start the procurement of the equipment as soon as we sign the contract because electrical-mechanical equipment, these are going to take time to manufacturer in order to deliver to us.

So based on my estimate we will start mobilisation on site within the first quarter of 2012 at which time we expect to start the

construction. So the construction will run from 2012 to 2013 then we will do the commissioning.

It is a lot of numbers, this is rainfall data of the area that we collected and this is what we use to determine the potential capacity of the plant. As you can see here when you have heavy rain there is a lot of water going over the dam and I will show you that this is the flow pattern over the; annual flow pattern; the monthly flow pattern. So you see in these periods where we have heavy flows.

Simple calculations of determining the output. It's the height between where you have the dam and where the plant is that is called the head and you use the speed of gravity and the chlorine and that will give you the capacity. This is just a simple - there are other things that will go into it in terms of efficiency and the frictional loss along the pipeline but this is just a simple calculation.

Okay, I will just illustrate. For instance in 2008, these flows were the outputs that you could potentially get. You can see in some months if we had planned we

could be running about 16MW up to 34MW in sometimes. So all we are using during this time is about 6MW. So all that energy is going to waste. So based on those calculations we determined that we can construct a plant of 6.3MW. And we make allowance for leaving flow because we cannot make the river dry between the dam and tailrace. So we make allowances to ensure that we have overflows. So even with what we use we will still have a large quantity of water still going in the river down to the tailrace.

And that's just showing the milestone that we have.

And in concluding we say the:

First Major Hydro Project in the last 30 years

Reducing the dependency on Fuel oil

Critical for the sustain use of natural resources

Employment during construction for local artisan

Increase Business opportunities for local businesses

Thank you.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: Thank you very much, Mr. Mantock and I know that here is that there are questions but we have a

section for **Questions and Answers** so when we get to that point we will deal with that.

Let us quickly ask two little questions let me see how bright is or how much you were listening. In what year was the feasibility study done for the hydro electrical plant in Maggotty? Anybody; any bright student in the class? When was the feasibility study done?

AUDIENCE: 1951.

MR. GRAHAM: Very good. Let's give Mr. Chisholm a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

One other question. What is the was proposed completion date?

AUDIENCE: July 30 1943.

MR. GRAHAM: Very good and very importantly, this can save the country US$4.8 million if we use the current one per barrel and that is very important. And we want to thank JPS for the US$26 million that is being invested. We want to thank them for that.

At this time, we want to invite Mrs Ianthe Smith, Environment and Engineering Managers Limited. She is here to do presentation of the environmental impact assessment finding. Let's give her a clap as she comes.

(APPLAUSE)

MRS. SMITH: Good afternoon everybody.

AUDIENCE: Good afternoon.

MRS SMITH: I am going to be giving you an over view of the environmental impact assessment that was done for the Maggotty Hydro- power plant Project.

You may find that we repeat that few things but I am sure that the emphasis will be good so that you will remember exactly what we are planning to do.

So we are adding 6.3MW to the existing 6MW hydro-power plant at Maggotty. This is consistent with JPS's goals of increasing its use of renewable energy. It's also in keeping with the Government's policy of promoting the use of renewable

energy sources thereby reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.

In conducting this environmental impact assessment we had to take into consideration the national policies; the regulatory framework on a whole and the applicable national policies would usually be the National Watershed Management Policy and the National Energy Policy.

Because it is an existing area there are not too many things that will be affected as it relates to watershed but certainly for the National Energy Policy, we had to - this

project is consistent with the National Energy Policy.

Now you will see a whole long list of legislation there that's applicable to the project.

> ***The OUR, Office of Utilities Regulation Act of 1995, they are in charge of the essentially granting you the various licences for power to be generated and so sold.***

> ***The Natural Resources Conservation Act of 1991.***

> ***The Natural Resources (Prescribed areas) Prohibition of Categories of Enterprise, Construction and Development)***

Order, 1996. Essentially that is saying that certain types of projects will require a permit from NEPA.

> And then we have the *Regulations, associated regulations, and those are the application forms that need to be submitted.*

> *And then air quality. That would really be as it relates to construction phase.*

> *National Solid Waste Management Act, disposal of waste under the Town and Country Planning Act. You need to get permission to do any construction.*

> ***Water Resources Act, it is for non-consumptive use of the river. The Water Resources Authority has to giver approval for the river to be used.***
>
> ***The Watershed Protection Act.***
>
> ***The Forestry Act.***
>
> ***Wildlife Protection Act and the;***
>
> ***Jamaica National Heritage Trust Act.***

It could very well mean in the event the excavation is done if it is an area that has any historic artifacts we need to notify the Jamaica National Heritage Trust if any such artifacts were found.

Required approval: You will see there quite a few in terms of NEPA and that's why we are here in a bid to fulfill the requirement and as I said before, the approval for the abstraction from Water Resources Authority. But I stress that it is a non-consumptive use so it's taken out but it's put right back into the river and that is one of the reasons why it is an environmentally friendly option for the generation of electricity.

The Proposed Project: Well, I think you have heard a little about this already. But it is 2300 metres of wood-stave and steel penstock and we

referred to the pipeline that carries the water to the plant, the hydro-power plant as the penstock. So it's a mix with mostly wood-stave pipe but there is a small section that is steel.

The plant operates at 60% of its rated output, January to April and spills water regularly in the wet season. And I think Mr. Clava Mantock explained the calculations as to why it was recognised that additional water could be used to generate electricity.

And the penstock replacement with Glass Reinforced Pipes. And this project will facilitate capturing

additional available flow in wet season.
Okay, that's an overall location map.

That one is zoomed in some more and you will see that this is where we have the intake works and further south that's the hydro power plant.

The proposed project is what we call a "run up river facility" and small run up river projects are free from many of the environmental problems that are associated with large scale hydro-power projects. Now some people may have an idea, in some countries such as China you have some very large facility but this

one is a very small one and they are environmentally friendly. They use the natural river flow and they cause relatively little change in the stream channel and flow.

So you have seen this picture already, a little overflow at the wear. That's another view of the power plant, existing power plant.

Okay, the proposed project will encompass modification to the intake works to increase the flow to the penstock.

> ***The existing penstock will be removed.***

> ***Wood-stave and steel straps stored.***

> ***1500m of new of new Glass Reinforced pipeline will be installed.***

The new pipeline will have the same footprint as the one removed. Meaning that, where the old one is the new one will be going in the same line, same plant.

And there are four sites that have been identified as staging areas where the pipelines and other construction material can be stored for easy access throughout the project.

These are essentially some flat areas that are accessible by the

main road that will facilitate the storage of the material.

Demolition, the is one of the things that is still under consideration.

> ***Demolition of existing and installation of new surge tank.***
> ***Construction of a tailrace. Tailrace is the end of the hydropower plant where the water is returned to the river.***
> ***The construction of the powerhouse is 6.3MW equipment.***
> ***No transmission line will be installed for this project. And;***
> ***Civil design and structural features for the additional is for a 100-year service life.***

So you can see that it is expected to last for very, very long.

> ***The electrical and mechanical system is designed for 50 years service life.***

Project Schedule: Planning and environmental approval all being well, April 2011.

> ***Award of bid for contractors round about July 2011. And as indicated before the construction is estimated to last for two years.***

That's your existing penstock in Maggotty.

That's the steel section of the penstock that go across the river.

And this is a very leaky wood-stave pipe and as Clava Mantock indicated that they will be a thing of the past.

As apart of doing the environmental impact assessment we had to do what we call a;

> ***Flora and Fauna Survey. This is essentially looking at the types of animals in area; the types of plants.***

And we found that much of the vegetation around the existing penstock shows signs of disturbance. In some instances we saw animals raising nearby and the area is pretty much in use.

> ***Tree removal using the digging of trenches, that is the option.***

> ***To install the new pipeline will result in limited loss of vegetation.***

One of the reasons why the limited loss of vegetation is because the new pipeline will be on the same footprint as the old pipeline or the existing pipeline, okay. So that is one of the ways to reduce the disturbance of the habitat.

> ***There will be some displacement to a small scale of birds and anoles. Anoles are snales, and some butterflies but the numbers will be and they can reestablish themselves in the nearby areas.***

> *The vegetation loss at the Power Plant site will be of negligible impact as trees are currently infested by termites and JPS would plant new trees to ensure that you know, it is in keeping with ecology of the area.*

> *The excavation of trenches. Again, that's the way that the construction is done. It could result in siltation of the nearby Black River, reducing flows but we can put mitigation measures in place to prevent any adverse impact.*

All right, let's go through the various impacts that are associated

with the project and essentially we do a determination as to whether they are significant or not.

> ***There are specific mitigation measures that are put in place for those that are significant and even for those that are not significant there are some standards mechanisms and mitigation measures that are put in place to make sure that there is no adverse impact on the environment.***

So I think we all understand that once we have construction there is the likelihood of;

> ***Fugitive dust emissions and;***

> ***Vehicular emissions, the heavy equipment that are in the area to facilitate construction. And of course, along with dust and emissions you could have;***

> ***Air pollution*** and;

> ***Respiratory problems.***

However, based on the method of construction that is to be employed, this is considered not a significant impact and there are not many vehicles and one of the things that we will make sure is the vehicles are well maintained. Contractors will need to make sure that the vehicles are well maintained.

> ***Noise during construction: That is a possibility especially if the penstock is being removed and it can cause habitat disturbance.***

> ***Hearing impairment for workers (temporary and permanent).***

Then there again will be mitigation measures and I am going to go through those in details. So that one is not considered signature.

Now there is a potential for a lot of solid waste. You can well imagine that if you remove that wood-stave penstock that there is a lot of wood and there is steel strap that keeps the structure of the wood-stave

penstock in place and those will are also be removed. And you can have pollution of the land and water but we have proposed mitigation measures again.

> ***Land clearing and excavation: No, we are using the same footprint that will definitely minimise the disruption of ecology and loss of loss of habitat.***

> ***Use of fuel: We have do use fuel for the project for the vehicles but the vehicles are well maintained and should not be significant.***

> *Sewage: We can again manage that so there is no impact on the environment.*

We are still in the construction phase.

> *Removable of Vegetation: Again I said is the same footprint.*

> *Soil Erosion: There is the possibility that there could be soil erosion if there is an excavation, there is rain this could cause a signature impact, we need to put mitigation measures in place.*

> *Construction work: There is health and safety issues that could cause death or injury,*

mitigation measures will need to be in place for that.

> *Increased Traffic Movement: When the heavy equipment is being brought to the cite for placement at the staging area there will be increased traffic movement and there will be need to be some flag men in place to facilitate the safe passage of vehicles. So there is the potential for that to be significant.*

> *Use of Water: No, water would not be used and it would be depleted during the construction phase or very little water will be used, sorry.*

> ***Fuel and oil spills: There is the potential because vehicles have to be fuelled so if the fuelling process is not handled properly there is the potential for spills and that can be mitigated as well.***

Now, **Operation phase**: This is really what makes the hydro-power plant such an environmentally friendly option because the potential impacts there are really not signature.

> ***Diversion of water: The aquatic ecosystem that is in place at Maggotty as we speak runs off the river, that system is going to be remained, it is not going***

to change, it is just that there will be some modification of the intake to take in some water.

> *Noise: There is no noise associated with the operation of a hydro-power plant.*

> *Sewage: You know, very little. NEPA personnel are around and they already have facility at the hydro-power plant so any movement between the power plant and the intake workers can definitely return to the power plant right away.*

And then there is;

> *Land Use: There is alteration of development and land use in the*

area. It will be used for the exact same purpose.

> Maintenance: Unlikely to have oil and like spills, no solid waste or even solid waste. No problem with sewage, the maintenance work that will be associated with the new pipeline would be minimal and not significant to cause death or jury.

Mitigation Measures:

> For fugitive dust emissions and Vehicular emissions the haulage vehicles that will transporting aggregate, soil and cement, they would need to be covered.

> *And stockpiles of aggregate would be kept wet; kept moist so that there would be no fugitive dust emissions by virtue of the wind.*

> *There will be need for proper stockpiles and storage and disposal of solid waste so any waste from packaging and so on will be collected and taken to the municipal disposal site.*

> *Land areas are cleared and would be wet.*

> *Workers will be provided with the necessary personal protective equipment.*

And as I said before;

> *The contractors as a part of their responsibility in their contract will need to operate well maintained vehicles and equipment.*

> *Noise: Those persons who will be working very near to the pipeline maybe pulling apart the wood-stave penstock, they would be provided with the appropriate hearing protection* and you know, it will be very important that *they abide by the health and safety requirements*.

> *Solid Waste: Garbage will need to be contained and it would be transported to the Myersville disposal cite. And the project*

area will be landscaped properly with top soil excavate.

> The wood that is dismantled and the steal straps would be stored in a security area that is to be constructed by JPS and they will use the wood-stave to maintain another wood-stave pipeline that they have in St. Mary. Yes, that's the White River.

> *Land clearing and Excavation: We would bring to the attention of Jamaica National Heritage Trust and NEPA immediately if there were any artefacts and only those areas that need to be cleared would be cleared.*

> *Sewage: They would only use a reputable company to provide portable toilets for workers on site.*

> *Fossil fuel to manage soil erosion: There will be only clear top soil from the areas to be used.*

We can place berms - you know, we can put building blocks around the stockpiles of aggregate to prevent them from being washed away.

> *And they will avoid steep cuts as a part of the construction methodology.*

> ***And utilised sediment traps to minimise sediment runoff to the river.***

Construction Work:

> ***Workers will be trained to ensure that they follow the safety rules of the site.***
> ***They will be provided with safety equipment*** and;
> ***There will be signs to remind workers about the precaution and the measures that they are to abide by.***

Again , for increased **traffic movement**:

> ***Signs will be easily erected along main transportation routes***

and in sensitive areas such schools.

> *Transportation of heavy equipment and pipelines would need to take place during off-peak hours say in the early meaning between 2:00 and 4:00 a.m. to avoid any traffic congestion and police outriders would be used.*

> *And trucks transporting construction material would be advised to comply with the speed limits.*

So again, contractual responsibility for the truckers, they would need to make sure they do not exceed the speed limit.

Fuel and Oil Spills:

> ***Fuel will need to be stored with what we call secondary spill containment infrastructure.*** So that would be what we call;

> ***A berm around the fuel drums or if they have a storage tank to make sure that if there were any spills from that fuel tank it will contained with an secondary containment.***

> ***Proper dispensing equipment will be used rather than just tipping a drum or a hand cup will be used to make sure that you don't have spills and there would be***

procedures to clean up spills if they were to occur.

No mitigation measures needed for the operations. Again, the beauty of the hydro-power plant.

Maintenance: Many of them are the same as for the construction phrase in terms of mitigation measures for oil spills and solid waste; sewage and maintenance work.

Advantages of small hydro-power plants include:

> ***Environmental protection through CO 2, this is carbon dioxide emission. Carbon dioxide is regarded as greenhouse gas, one of the things that we want to reduce***

and so it is an environmentally friendly way of generating electricity.

> *It's a proven and a reliable technology. You can see that we have had plants in existence from as far back as 1943 so it has many years of you know, it has proven itself over many years.*

> *Reduces the dependency on imported fuels It improves the diversity of energy supply*

> *It helps grid stability*

> *It reduces land requirements and;*

> *It promotes local and regional development*

> *There is good opportunity for technology export*

> *It also assists in the maintenance of river basins; that would be really for the larger ones.*
> *Technology suitable for rural electrification in developing countries* and;
> *It has a high Energy payback ratio.*

Project Specific Benefits:

> *Employment opportunities, you heard about that already*
> *Increased commercial activity within the area over the construction period for sure.*

Operational Phase:

> *Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions*

> ***Reduction in fuel cost and;***

> ***Promotion of the use of alternative energy.***

Mitigation Plans have been developed for all the potential adverse impacts and environmental monitoring programme has been developed for the construction and operating phase of the project taking place. And that's it.

Thank you very much.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: Thank you Mrs. Smith. At this time we are going to allow 30 minutes for **Questions and Answers** Session so all those persons with pertinent questions we are going to invite you

to come at this time. We are going to be asking that we keep the questions concise to the point and if there is a specific person that you would want to direct the questions to you could do so. So at this time, the floor is now open for questions and you can use the mike to pose your questions. We are asking that you introduce yourselves and probably your position, capacity as you ask questions.

Question and Answers Session

MR ROWE: Thank you very much. Good afternoon, I have a few questions I would like to ask and make a few comments. My name it is Richard Rowe, I am the PNP Caretaker for

this constituency. I must congratulate JPS on presentation that they have made. However, I am concerned about the absence of any plans to do with upstream. Currently, there are a number of buildings on the riverbank, that's one. And as we speak, a large number of them are basically in the river. I would like to know what is the plan to deal with that? Two , in October of last year the entire town was covered in excess of 3ft of water. I am not sure if Mrs. Smith had visited the town at the time, but we were not able to do any business for more than two weeks and nobody came to us and we haven't

heard anything up to now. The entire river as we understand it, all the trees that were on the banks are now in the river and this is pushing the water back into the town. I need to know and the community needs to know what is the intention of JPS and the government agency that regulates all of that, what they intend to do about that? We have a few ideas, we believe that there needs to be some river training upstream all the way into the roundabout. We believe there needs to be dredging of the river or de-silting, whichever term you prefer to use. These are some of the concerns that we have. We

recognised that when the plant is completed that it will not employ a lot of persons. So we welcome the construction phase when we will have some amount of work but for 50 years since the existing plant is here there has not been any significant contribution to the community from JPS, we are very concerned about that too.

(APPLAUSE)

And as a result, another suggestion that we have is that perhaps, there needs to be in place an established maintenance system for the river because we believe that because the river has not been maintained the debris and all of that is causing

the water to back up in the town. So in the project plan we were expecting to hear today that the river of course, will be de-silted and JPS would be saying to us today how the community is going to benefit for the next fifty years or hundred years as the case might be. Those are my questions. Thank you.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: So the questions were about upstream; flooding and also contribution to the Community of Maggotty.

MR OBIGLIO: Well, there are several different aspects here, I am not the technical person to answer this. Most of the problem you are saying about the

plans of the river I understand you are talking about upstream seeping down. So the construction of a new dam is not going to affect the upstream. So I don't think it is the problem that you are naming - this new project is not going to change anything that exists upstream to the project, okay. That is the first question. So there are several agencies to intervene on all the problems that you are saying. From the Water Resources Authority to the Forestry Department and all of those. So the only thing that I can seem to answer is, about the de-silting for the existing dam, okay. The de-silting of the existing dam

is going to occur because we have to work with the existing dam so that is going to be a natural de-silting for the existing dam. But if you ask me technically how much it is going to be de-silted I have to pass it to the Engineer.

You made a valued point about the contribution of JPS to the area. It is true any type of power plant we construct, not only this one, anywhere in the world. What is important very few employment in the area because the nature of the kind of plant doesn't require a lot of man power. Probably, a hundred years ago or there was a lot of

manual work to do in a hydro- power plant but since the electro-mechanic device and industrial revolution the kind of power plants don't need too much manpower. But they need people to clean; they need people to cut the glass; they need people to be employed temporarily once a year to maintenance of the power plant. So one way to answer your question is, if the Maggotty plant wasn't here I am sure that some people, maybe few people would have any kind of job at all. That is one way to answer.

I take note of your claim to have a much more participation after this project, you don't want this to happen for 50 years and after 50

years you have the same type of claim saying JPS came here and after the construction nothing happened to us. So I am taking notes about that.

So I am only answering one of your questions or two of your questions: The de-silting that is going to be looking into the constructional phase if there is a need to de-silt the existing job you have an answer that, you will have answer to that. But regarding the question what happens after basically, we can use our best efforts to involve the other agencies to see if there is a solution for that and if there is

something that we can contribute we will make our best effort. But regarding the de-silting I turn over to Mr Mantock.

MR. MANTOCK: Okay, the de-silting of the existing dam, the location where the dam is, that will be part of the project, it is part of the scope for the contractors to de-silt the area of the existing dam but not the upstream; not the upstream.

The Manager for the hydro has just informed me that when you significant flooding it's an operation where we open the (inaudible) and the flash-board to

increase the flow of water from the dam.

MR GRAHAM: All right, thank you. Next person.

MR HENDRICKS: Yes, Howard Hendricks, 1st Vice Chairman of the Black River Upper and Lower Morass Monitoring authorities and Customer Communication for National Work Agency, Central Region. So it's two hats.

First, traffic movement. Now, I see where up you had the Environmentalist stated that you will get in police to monitor traffic, that don't work. The first thing you will have to do, you will have to write a letter between now

and April to the St. Elizabeth Traffic Authority care of, National Work Agency, High Street, Black River, St. Elizabeth. And you have to stipulate in that correspondence one: How you are going to co-exist with signage or the putting up of signage along the Rice Piece Hill come right up to maybe Apple Valley and that area there.

Two, whether you will be assisting with the helping of training traffic warden to direct traffic there.

Three, okay, how do you plan to monitor the overloading of our laden trucks with aggregates.

Four, how you are going to get this information across to contractors. Because I can tell you, the people of Maggotty in this area can tell you that they have to deal with Appleton trucks - because there are certain amount of years they are going to compete with your trucks versus the Appleton trucks on that hill and you might have some form of chaos there. And we wouldn't want to know that we have to put in our waste station here or to penalise your contractors. So from early days make sure you look about the possibility of overloading trucks and residue dropping on those roads. So you have to start from now get

into discussions with traffic management and how do you plan to utilise that.

Secondly , I love the idea where you are building two plants or having the existing plant and building a new plant and let's me tell you why and come back to what Mr. Rowe was saying. The upstream river which is a problem and is a serious problem. During the month, the last September, this parish or the Mayor the Parish Council or somebody was supposed to declare the Maggotty area a disaster area which didn't take place but it should happen because between the roundabout if

you are going to the Waterfall the river was more than eight feet, excess water from Trelawny within - because we know that in fact further down the river we know in the New Holland area and further down going along the flood plain going out to the sea and we know that after three days with the water coming from Trelawny you are going to have problem. I think you had about three weeks of water settling between the roundabout here to the outskirts of Apple Valley Park going across to the Shakespeare Plaza coming right around and this was because of one: I hope that with the new plant more turbine will exists and you will

maximise the use of this excess amount of water and hope that you monitor the flow of water so much and so well that is there little and no water back up between where the Fall is, pass the Police Station come up more to the bend right into where they use a detour to come to Maggotty High. That is of extremely importance and you have to work out some partnership somehow. I noticed when you were going through the different agencies I saw nothing to do with National Works Agency. I see nothing there, right? And part of our mandate we also monitor whether a river course is diverted or not and I see no mention of us

there. So you basically have to get that into place.

This project is ecologically safe or deem safe, I don't see much soil residue where you are and I hope that you will do other hydro-electric project across the island of Jamaica.

But one last thing, it is a pity - and I don't when we as citizens are going to take over our parish, but it is a pity that within this grid I think the residents of this area, it should impact on their bills some way, some how.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: Some suggestions, I don't if there is any comment from the table.

MR. FAGAN: Thank you, sir. Those were very insightful comments and those advices will be heeded. But I will tell you that during our last project in St. Elizabeth the Munroe Wind Farm, we did precisely what you were suggesting and we intend to do the same. In fact, we work very closely with the National Works Agency; with the Traffic Police; with the Schools in the area and all our plans at that time, was to monitor the heavy equipment and the heavy equipment they were all at nights. We started the haulage from 10:00 in the night up to 4:00 in the

morning. But most importantly, what we normally would have done or would do is a reconstance of the various roads that we need to move heavy equipment. In the case of Munroe we spent, that is JPS spent...

MR. HENDRICKS: Sorry to butt in. There is to heavy traffic that is supposed to travel from Appleton going through Balaclava going through Mile Gully, that is totally illegal. They have to come through Tombstone and come up this way. Anything else that's done is totally illegal; cane trucks and all.

MR FAGAN: Yes. And this is why I am saying to you that we typically would work closely with NWA. In fact, before we

do movements we do 'reconstance and what they recommend based on the load-bearing capability of various bridges and roadways. In the case of Munroe we spent considerable sums to widen several sections of the road and I am sure you are well aware of that. Several corners we lengthened, moved boundaries and build retaining walls and fairly, this would be our approach to do it because we would not want to be disturbing traffic flows, we wouldn't want to affect the school children and the general pedestrian. So we normally would have done 'reconstance' in conjunction with the Police and the NWA, and

importantly, the Parish Council because they have to get involved at early days too.

Your other question about the water spillage, this I hink will, this project will mitigate some of risks that you have seen in terms of spillage but I will hand over to Mr. Mantock to expand on that.

MR MANTOCK: Okay, as I showed you in the presentation during the heavy rainfall months you see where there is potential for up to 24-30MW of power, that is what is going to waste. So this new plant will utilise 60MW so we will be drawing off during the heavy rainfall more

water so we should mitigate on it against flooding.

MR GRAHAM: Okay, before you move, he mentioned something about the impact on the light bill for the community so I don't know who would want to take that one.

MR OBILIGO: First of all, I am not a Politician so I am not going to make any promises here. And the reality is, Jamaica has decided long ago that every Jamaican in every place of the country should have the same type rate, okay. So why? Because if it wasn't like that people would have live in mountains for example, they wouldn't have electricity because it is too expensive to burn electricity

to remote places in Jamaica, only the rich people who live in big city would have access electricity. So it was a decision of the Government of Jamaica way back to establish a common rate for everyone in Jamaica wherever they live.

The only thing I can say without doing any politics or demographic announcement is that; if we do more there is going to be a reduction but again, JPS cannot discriminate with any customer in anywhere of life. And that's the only thing I can say about that.

MR GRAHAM: All right, thank you very much. Next question, sir.

MR DUNKLEY: Yes, good night everyone.

AUDIENCE: Good night.

MR DUNKLEY: My name is Victor Dunkley from Trinil, I just live 2 1/2 miles out of Maggotty Town and this concern is about the river, the river just come in like a main road. If you build a road and you don't clean the drainage the drainage will block, fling back the water pon the road and mash up the road. So the river just come like that. JPS supposed to be getting most benefit out of he river. And right now, when I was a little boy coming to Glenn Stuart School over there I used to; just behind over there 'cross the road, lif' up water and drink out the

river, now, we cannot do it. So right now - the river used to maintain, I see that, I don't know if anyone inside here wey elder than me to see the river used to maintain. Who did responsible for the river, JPS or the parish council, who used to clean it? For many years now it don't clean.

MR GRAHAM: All right, so your question is, who is responsible for the cleaning of the river?

MR DUNKLEY: Yes, whether it be JPS or any other else?

MR. GRAHAM: Okay, all right then. Thank you.

MR DUNKKEY: So what I am saying is, every tree, from storm come right down, done every debris log in the river so

when the water came down it don't have anywhere to go so it burst back pon the street or the out - you understand what I mean?

MR. GRAHAM: So your question is who is responsible for it and who is responsible to clean it?

MR DUNKLEY: Yes. I don't know finish yet.

MR. GRAHAM: You have to remember the time, we have a time frame.

MR DUNKLEY: So what I am saying now, Appleton is one of the main streamer. People used to benefit from the river same place inna dis community out here. I don't know if anyone can know sey we used to go to the river go tek up water. But now it have a time when Appleton throw in the dunder in the

river so I don't know if the JPS has a strainer down there so fe separate the dunder from water when it reached it there that the water and the dunder don't mix up to go inside there. So that is the reason why we are asking all these questions. Who is responsible fe all those things?

MR GRAHAM: Okay, thank you very much.

MR DUNKLEY: So that is my little concern.

MR GRAHAM: Yes, thank you very much. You want to respond?

MRS. SMITH: Thank you for those comments. I think that more than one of you have been raising this concern about the maintenance of the river. It is usually more than one agencies that

will have some responsibility. I know that the parish council will have to be involved and also the Water Resources Authority but we would have to investigate that some more and since we recognise that this is a major issue of, and concerns with the residents of the area we can see if we can at least make contact with the relevant agencies and have the matter resolved and I am sure that JPS if any way they can give support they would try to do so.

MR. OBILIGO: The only thing I want to stress is that, this project does not change the water of the river. Basically, we just use the same water that you

receive and you see to produce electricity there is nothing. We don't train the water; we don't put anything in the water, it's the same water that comes through the river, goes through the pipes and go back to the river in the same condition that it came to JPS.

MR GRAHAM: All right, his main point was that we have to find out who is responsible and do some cleaning and so that the water can be clean and safe. Yes, sir.

MR BROOKS: Good evening. I am Jonathan Brooks, and I am the President of Maggotty and its Environs Development Committee Benevolence Society.

MR. GRAHAM: Say your organisations one more time and please speak slowly, she is taking notes and she has to hear everything you are saying. She would like to know where you are from. Your name and your organisation again, please.

MR BROOKS: I am Jonathan Brooks.

MR GRAHAM: Jonathan Brooks.

MR BROOKS: Jonathan Brooks, President of Maggotty and its Environs Development Committee Benevolence Society.

MR GRAHAM: Say the organisation one more time.

MR BROOKS: Maggotty and its environs Development Committee Benevolence Society. I hear you speak about de-silt or dredging and

you say it don't have any impact on the river bank. Well, I born and grow there and the most soil erosion on the river bank now is since they do a de-silt the last time down at the Falls there. A week after the de-silt a shop back out there; Mr. Lyn place if I may call his name, break right off into the river.

And next I hear you say you don't like after the plan, after the foundation and construction nothing else pertaining to the community but we would ask if even the roundabout if you people couldn't even adopt the roundabout and beautify it for us?

(APPLAUSE).

MR GRAHAM: All right.

MR OBIGLIO: I don't know if I can' even answer your comment, your issue because I am not aware, I have to inform myself how to beautify the roundabout. We are going to take over that suggestion and put in the...

MR GRAHAM: So you are saying you will take over the roundabout?

MR OBIGLIO: That's the comment.

MR GRAHAM: That's a very good question.

(APPLAUSE)

Yes, sir?

MR BAKER: Good afternoon. My name is George Baker, a JPS customer, good JPS customer.

(APPLAUSE)

And I am a citizen of Maggotty. I have two questions. My first question is to NEPA. I would like to know...

MR. GRAHAM: The question is for NEPA, is someone here from NEPA? But raise the question still.

MR BAKER: Reading this thing over there and listening I haven't heard no one say about the people that living close to this new hydro plant that is about to come. I would like to know how far somebody could build from it or how close and what is the side effects of this plant? Because this turbine, this is new turbine, it is not like the old thing, there must

be a side effect some way or the other and we would like to know.

MR. GRAHAM: What's the second question? Just ask both questions.

MR BAKER: Forget it, that is okay.

MR. GRAHAM: That's okay? All right.

MR BAKER: I will give somebody else a chance.

MRS SMITH: The hydro-power plants by virtue of their design and how they operate do not have an adverse impact on the environment. You have a hydro-power plant now and the new one that will go in will be even more efficient than the older one that had been there. So there will be no adverse impacts from the plant, the new plant, okay.

MR. GRAHAM: All right, no adverse effects.

MRS SMITH: If it is the design that you are questioning.

MR OBILIGO: The existing turbine that is there today, the same turbine we are going to put up beside, it's the same, it is only new but you have to see today, that was in 1959 but now we are going to buy a new one and put it beside. It's the only difference, there is no difference in technology. The only thing is that it is receiving water and generating. It is the same way like the existing one, there is no change in technology. The only thing of course, but in 2001, the existing turbine that was constructed in '59, you put all the electronics and

computers that you find in your home et cetera, and it works automatically today. The new one is going to be exactly like that. With the hydro-power plant there is nothing new, this is nothing.

Regarding what's the influence for people who live around there is no impact, it's the same water with the same machine and even if you live beside the turbine you wouldn't have any kind of influence in your body living there.

MR. GRAHAM: All right, thank you very much. Yes, sir.

MR POWELL: Good evening everybody. My name is George Powell, Councillor for the

area that development will be taking place. Now, I just have a few suggestions. First to Mr Obiglio, just don't consider the roundabout but the road leading in, you can open your heart and fix it up, not just the roundabout. Now, the other suggestion is. From Newton to Maggotty is very dark. During the construction I am asking that JPS install lights.

(APPLAUSE)

The other one is that many companies do it, I am hoping that JPS won't fall for it. Companies have a way of circumventing the political Directorate when you go into a divisional constituency to do a

project and it is a perilous at some point in time. I am advising JPS not to fall in that category.

The third and last: You know, that unemployment is high in Jamaica, and this project coming on stream, people from Morant Point to Negril Point is thinking that something is going to happen here, even your own staff members might be thinking of their cousin, father-in-law, uncle. Please sir, apart from the technical teaming that employ to the company I am asking that the work stay in Maggotty and its environs because they won't stand for anything. Thank you.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: All right. So that was some suggestions from the Councillor for the area.

MR OBILGIO: Okay, the first request about fixing the road leading to the roundabout. It is very difficult to make any comment without knowing exactly what to do. But in Munroe we fixed the road leading to the project and if you go there tomorrow you will see a road that is very nice. It is wide, it is even, it is top class. So why we did that? We also need the road to come to do the work. So there is a commitment that we will leave the roads better than they are today. That's what we can do because that's

part of the scope of the work that we do.

The second one with regards to the street lights, Councillor, you know how it works. If the council approves these street lights we will place the street lights.

MR BAKER: Give them to us and we will...

MR. GRAHAM: So you have to approve it and ask for the street lights and make it part of the route through the parish council to be approved and then JPS will come and put up the street lights. So you do your part and we do ours.

Well, the jobs, I said it is my introduction, we will do our best

that the jobs stay in the community that we work, that is what we are planning to do.

MR HUMMINGBIRD: Again, afternoon everyone. I am Councillor Earl Hummingbird of the A-Switch division of which we are hosting you here right now.

I am very disappointed time and again listening to you representatives not taking into consideration the seriousness of the flooding in this Maggotty area here. And I might suggest that perhaps, your Engineer corps in doing as comprehensive a study as they should have, that as it is, what is done is already done. I am going to ask you

kindly as a gesture to the people in the community, just to adopt an initial dredging of the river up to the roundabout. You can do it one time, that is all I am asking.

I would just like to point out, somebody was trying to figure out if the parish council is responsible for the dredging, categorically no. It is not the parish council's responsibility to undertake such a project.

Mount Semble is just up the road there and for years now they have been trying to get an extension of your service in this little district. I have made the

application myself, drove into Kingston, dropped off the letter on Washington Boulevard where you have your office there and I didn't even get a response from you. As a gesture to the people of Mount Semble I am going to ask that you consider seriously just to extend your service into their community. Thanks very much.

(APPLAUSE)

Regarding the dredging I don't think that the parish council should dredge the river, I have never suggested that. I was talking about the drainage, I think the drainage in the road, not the dredging of the river, okay. There is a

misunderstanding on my part, I apologise. I thought someone asked about the drainage in the road that ends in the river. But if there is dredging you all must understand JPS cannot dredge the entire the river upstream, we can take care of everything that happens in the intake and there is a project for de-silting, cleaning the river bank et cetera. I will take your suggestion, I would ask my Engineers to have a look and that and inform me, and make a report to me how it handles the flooding situations.

Regarding Mount Semble, unfortunately, I think there is a misinformation. The electrification

of a rural area that is not JPS' responsibility, it is the Rural Electrification Program. So JPS has no responsibility to electrify the Mount Semble area. So I would suggest, if you want to you can send your project to the Rural Electrification Program, but that's the first order that you have to go.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you very much.

MS McCABY: Good afternoon, everyone.

AUDIENCE: Good afternoon. I am Maureen McCaby, I come to represent a little district that is in Providence and there is a next little area that's called Biskini. I am asking for please for some attendance...

MR GRAHAM: Could you just say where you are from again?

MS MCCABY: I am from Providence.

MR GRAHAM: Providence?

MS MCCABY: Yes. You go up Balcarres and then onto to Providence.

MR GRAHAM: And Biskini?

MS MCCABY: Yes, that's little area, you have like ten houses and there is no light around there. Right now I am living in St. Mary and whenever I tell my grandchildren that they want to come down here they said they are not coming because they don't have any TV to watch and that is very bad. It is modern time now.

Well, for me to say I don't know the Councillor because I don't - I leave here like 28 years. So I am glad when I hear it announce on Irie FM that JPS is coming to Maggotty High School and I say I hope I will be here to say something about it and I will appreciate--I just begging and pleading. My mom went to the rural in Black River, and when they send somebody to her they tell her that the distance from like Province, the road by Biskini, that little area, one of the poles will cost like 70 thousand dollars so I don't know if you can help me or someone can assist me with that. And I need

some numbers that I can contact. Thank you.

MR OBIGLIO: Ma'am, this is a similar case. If you later on when this is finished I will take the data and - I will have my manager in charge of Black River Office will take the data. But again, we would have to go through REP that's in charge of doing that because if it is done through JPS I supposed you are out of boundaries and it is much more expense than if you go through REP. So REP is going to do it free for you and if it's through JPS somebody would have to pay for it. So the REP I would take that afterwards.

MS McCABY: You can just give ME the number, please. Thank you.

MR GRAHAM: All right, thank you very much. Final question.

MR ROWE: My name is Wilbert Rowe and I am from Williamsfield just up the road. Congratulations on your project to assist in the community and I note that you said the plant will be efficient and will save our country and will lower the cost of electricity for us the consumers. I am concerned though that a lot of electricity theft is cropping up in the country. What are the steps, further steps that you will take to add to this efficiency so that my electricity bill will be lower?

(APPLAUSE)

Too much thief a gwaan 'round the area, you understand? So we need you to say what you will do to stamp out those. Whether when you catch them you are going to give them a metre and stuff and wire them house because at least it will be cheaper than they thieving electricity. But your JPS men come investigate my legal, my legal connection and when I said "see wire throw up there" them say that is police work.

(APPLAUSE)

So I would like to know thank you.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you very much, sir.

MR OBIGLIO: Thank you very much for your question. For the first time since

August 2005, in the December 2010, we reduced the theft of electricity to 1.8%. Why we reduced 1.8? It was 13% and it went down to 11.7%. Why we have reduced it? Because we invested, last year we invested $250,000,000.00 in new metres to anti-theft.

There is approaching 109,000 people in Jamaica who are stealing electricity right now. JPS had to put in perspective about 569,000 customers. Last year the number of people stealing electricity was 120,000. So we incorporated and put a metre in to 20,000 people round figures, in 2010. We are planning

to put a another 2000 metres to those people who are stealing electricity from JPS and from all of us. And that is going to cost approximately the same amount of money that it cost to build this power plant.

We have a program we call "parade." In the next five years; every people who are stealing electricity from JPS; the technology that we are doing is not same as you see in your house, these people don't have a metre like yours. Why? Because they can tamper with that metre, they destroy their metres and they find a way to steal. So it is a new type

of metre that can be manipulated and can be connected and disconnected remotely, I don't have to go there to disconnect.

So the theft of electricity is a problem in Jamaica, and believe me, we are now doing a lot of things to reduce that.

I am apologising the inspection of your metre really disturbing you. But we are going to inspect all the metres, all the metres of the customers at least one a year. In the case of the large customers they are inspected twice a year. My metre already have been inspected.

So all the metres are to be inspected at least one a year.

So in the past while the people saw the opportunity to steal because they thought that JPS was not looking- and you know what happens if you sells apples in the streets and you don't look at the apple anymore, some of them will go by.

So the problem with theft of electricity is a big problem for the country but the first time we are seriously taking - we put the top Engineers, we are having 250 Engineers from JPS looking to reduce and find the people who are stealing electricity.

But thank you very much for your question. It is not so much related to these but it is very much related to these because we more than we can making people accountable and if people don't steal electricity does reduce the cost for everybody. And hence all this project, projects like this will reduce the cost of electricity. Thank you.

MR. GRAHAM: All right, thank you very much for your questions audience, give yourselves a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

And also thank you at the table for the responses and we will hold them accountable for all the

commitments. All right, let's give them a clap for all this.

(APPLAUSE)

At this time, we will invite Miss C. March to come and give the vote of Thanks.

MS MARCH: ladies and gentlemen, good evening. On behalf of the JPS team we would like this thank everybody for coming out this afternoon.

I would like to thank our Chairman, Mr. Graham that very rousing moderation, it reminds of a good old countryside pastor.

(APPLAUSE)

I wish to acknowledge again, the presence of our Councillors, we have

to approach the parish council and so it is important that they are here.

Most important, you the persons of audience took time out of your busy schedule to be with us this afternoon. We appreciate the questions that you asked and we hope you got the answers that you wanted but there is still avenue for you to question us further.

At this time, I would like to make a small presentation to Mr. Bent, the school has been most hospitable to us and they were very accommodating from the first time I approached

them. So Mr. Bent, I would like to ask you to come forward, please.

(APPLAUSE)

Mr. Bent, I personally want to thank you for being so receptive to me and the team at JPS would like to thank you for going all out for us this afternoon. The Assembly Hall is looking very beautiful and your team of economic personnel has provided some refreshments looking very beautiful at the back. So again, thank you.

MR BENT: Thank you, thank you very much.

(APPLAUSE)

MR GRAHAM: All right, just want to thank you all for coming. Just one comment.

MRS SMITH: There is one comment. As is usual practice, the community, the public has an opportunity to submit comments or concerns to NEPA within 30 days, there is a 30-day period in which they allow written comments to be submitted to them and we essentially we would have to wait until that period has elapsed before we can finalise our environmental impact assessment. So feel free if you need to send your comments to NEPA.

MR. GRAHAM: Thank you very much for your cooperation, you have been a very good audience. And we have refreshments at the back.

Have a good night. God Bless you.

ADJOURNMENT TAKEN AT 7:46 P.M.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED!