

## **Media Release**

### **OUR Clarifies JPS' Statement on Fine**

**(KINGSTON, Jamaica: May 17, 2013):** The Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR) wishes to state that it has not imposed a fine on any utility company and that it has no such authority under the provisions of the Office of Utilities Regulation Act (OUR Act) or the Amended and Restated All-Island Electric Licence, 2011.

The OUR Act, however, provides that licensees can be brought before the courts and be made liable, if convicted, to a fine not exceeding two million dollars. No such action has been brought by the Office in respect of the utilities it regulates. Under the OUR Act, the OUR is also empowered to issue a Memorandum to a licensee to provide information or returns in relation to its operations. Additionally, the Amended and Restated All-Island Electric Licence, 2011 empowers the Office to set efficiency targets.

Recent statements made by the President of the Jamaica Public Service Company Ltd.(JPS), Kelly Tomblin, incorrectly made reference to a \$30 million fine that she said was imposed on that company by the OUR.

The OUR has as one of its objectives, to establish and maintain transparent, consistent and objective rules for the regulation of utility service providers and as such continues to work with the JPS to assist it in reducing losses, while at the same time ensure that customers' interests are taken into account.

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Contact:

**Elizabeth Bennett Marsh**

 Public Education Specialist  
Office of Utilities Regulation  
36 Trafalgar Road  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor PCJ Resource Center  
Kingston 10  
Phone: 968-6053-4 / Fax: 929-3635  
Mobile: 322-7539

email: [ebennett@our.org.jm](mailto:ebennett@our.org.jm)  
website: [www.our.org.jm](http://www.our.org.jm)