

Media Release

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OUR Hosts Consultation on Wheeling of Electricity

The Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR) will host its first consultation on the wheeling of electricity on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. The OUR's role is to encourage the involvement of stakeholders in this important development in the industry to enhance the effectiveness of the decision making process and minimize the implementation risks involved.

An electricity wheeling framework was drafted following an amendment to the licence granted to Jamaica Public Service Company Limited (JPS) in August 2011. The amendment provides for the movement of electricity across the national grid by self-generators on a basis that is cost reflective and consistent with tariffs and the price controls as approved by the OUR. The aim of this amendment is to promote greater competition in the electricity sector and provide more options with regards to source of electricity to the consumers of electricity.

One of the objectives of the Consultation is to share and exchange information on Wheeling in general and – more specifically – the methodologies. The decision concerning the methodology to be used in the construction of wheeling charges is critical to the development of the frameworks. The methodology chosen will have implications for cost recovery, effective price signalling, fairness and transparency.

The consultation will also examine the methodologies available for setting wheeling charges and will also generate recommendations on the approach that should be used.

The meeting on January 22 follows the publication of the OUR's consultation document on Electricity Wheeling, designed to stimulate public debate. This document is on the OUR website at www.our.org.jm and comments are expected by Friday, January 25, 2013.

All Interested parties are invited to the meeting which will be held at the Knutsford Court Hotel starting at 10am.

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