

Regulating Utilities for the Benefit of All

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **OUR stays Electricity Wheeling**

**(KINGSTON, Jamaica; August 23, 2013):** The Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR) has agreed to stay the implementation of Electricity Wheeling to allow the Jamaica Public Service Company Limited (JPS) to make an application to the Electricity Appeal Tribunal.

JPS requested that the OUR halts the decisions in its Wheeling Framework Determination (The Determination) dated July 9, 2013, pending the hearing of its grounds of appeal. In return for the OUR's agreement, JPS agreed to pursue before the Tribunal, the hearing of the application for the stay of the OUR's Determination within sixty (60) days of August 20, 2013. This means that the OUR will not begin to process applications for wheeling this month, as was scheduled.

At the time JPS filed its application for judicial review of the Determination in the Supreme Court on August 13, 2013, the members of the Tribunal had not yet been appointed, and so JPS could not have made its application before that body. However, when the matter came up for hearing in the Supreme Court on August 20, 2013, it was disclosed to the Court that the members of the Tribunal were appointed. Hence the OUR and JPS consented to the matter being placed before the Tribunal. Consequently, a consent order was issued by the Supreme Court.

Prior to the filing of its application for judicial review in the Supreme Court, JPS on August 8, 2013 filed a substantive appeal with the Tribunal. The parties are now in the process of setting mutually agreed dates for submissions to be made before the Tribunal.

-30-

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: <u>ebennett@our.org.jm</u> website: <u>www.our.org.jm</u>