



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUR and CACU host Mobay Media Tariff Workshop

(KINGSTON, Jamaica; 2019 September 11): The Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR), and its affiliate, Consumer Advisory Committee on Utilities (CACU), will host the next leg of its media workshop on assessing tariff applications submitted by utility companies, in Montego Bay, St. James on Friday, 2019 September 13.

Licencees in the sectors the OUR regulates periodically submit applications for rate reviews. The two largest utility providers, the National Water Commission (NWC) and the Jamaica Public Service Company Limited (JPS), submit their detailed tariff applications every five (5) years. The NWC submitted its latest tariff application in 2018, and JPS's is due this year.

"While discussions in the media and at town hall meetings tend to focus on the requested rate increase and how much should be allowed, these applications have more components, some of them very far-reaching. We want media practitioners to be aware of them, so they can have more options in how they report on these applications", said CACU Chairperson, Yasmin Chong.

The OUR recognizes the media as an important stakeholder, and feels it is important that their members develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the tariff application process, the factors taken into consideration during a review and how the OUR arrives at its decisions.

To this end, the OUR, in collaboration with the CACU, hosted a media workshop on the tariff review process in Kingston and St. Andrew in 2019 June. The next one is slated for 2019 September 13 at the Sea Gardens Resort, Kent Avenue, Montego Bay.

At this interactive workshop, attendees will learn about the tariff process, components of the revenue requirement, price cap versus revenue cap and other regulatory concepts. The OUR technical team will be on hand to guide participants through the exercises in order to provide a better understanding of the Tariff Review process.

Interested media practitioners, journalism students and commentators are invited to indicate their interest by sending an email to: publicaffairs@our.org.jm by 2019 September 12 as space is limited.