

BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION

Wilson City Power Plant, Abaco

Press Release

December 30, 2009

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation (BEC) takes exception to the erroneous and inaccurate statements contained in a Paid Ad issued by Responsible Development for Abaco (RDA) that was published in a number of newspapers. The corporation reiterates the fact that the Wilson City Site in Abaco was chosen after careful and extensive review. Further, all of the Bahamas borders on ecologically important locations.

The following amongst other things should also be noted:

- The corporation and the government are concerned about the health and welfare of all residents and visitors to the Bahamas in general and Abaco in particular, and for the health and welfare (sustainability) of the environment.
- The Wilson City Power Station will not cause any undue health risks to employees or residents of Abaco. The emissions from the plant are in accordance with international standards and would not cause the problems as alluded to in the Ad.
- The statement suggesting that there is no transparency or that the people of Abaco were not involved is erroneous and irresponsible as is the claim that the process was done in secret.
- Interested persons have been invited and we reaffirm the invitation for Renewable Energy Technology.
- Stakeholders have been invited to partner with BEC as it relates to environmental issues.
- The Power Station at Wilson City is being built to the highest standard for fossil fuel burning plant.
- Government is determined to investigate all sources of fuel and the Wilson City Plant is capable of burning Automotive Diesel Oil (ADO) as well as Bunker C. This has been explained ad nauseam to those opposed to the Wilson City Power Station.
- The Wilson City Plant is not “yards from the shore” as stated but a couple of miles inland.
- It is our confirmed view that Norman’s Castle, Snake Cay, Sandy Point, Dundas Town, Treasure Cay, Sandy Point, Wilson City and anywhere else in Abaco would face the same environmental challenges.
- The corporation confirms that the construction of the Wilson City Power Station was properly planned and is in the best interest of residents of and visitors to Abaco. Contrary to statements made, it will enhance the opportunities for development and growth.

It should also be noted that The Prime Minister, The Minister of the Environment, The Minister of State in the Ministry of the Environment, Chairman, General Manager together with Friends of the

Environment, the Press and other Members of the Abaco Community visited the Wilson City Site on December 12 2009 at which time the government exhaustively outlined its position and again addressed (again) the concerns raised by some residents of Abaco who are opposed to the Wilson City Power Station.