



Any reply or subsequent reference to this communication should be addressed to the Contractor-General and the following reference quoted:-

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JAMAICA, W.I

MEDIA RELEASE

CONTRACTOR GENERAL RESPONDS TO CHAIRMEN OF PAC AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS RAISED ABOUT JAMAICA DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME (JDIP)

Kingston; May 6, 2011 –Contractor General, Greg Christie has formally responded to a letter, dated May 4, 2011, which was written to him by Dr. Omar Davies, Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament and Mr. Robert Pickersgill, Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee of Parliament, in which the intervention of the Office of the Contractor General (OCG) was sought to address certain questions and concerns which were outlined in the letter regarding the US\$400 Million Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP).

The full text of the Contractor General’s letter, dated today, May 6, is set out hereunder in the interest of public transparency.

“May 6, 2011

Dr. Omar Davies, MP
Chairman
Public Accounts Committee
Houses of Parliament
81 Duke Street
Kingston

Mr. Robert Pickersgill, MP
Chairman
Infrastructure Committee
Houses of Parliament
81 Duke Street
Kingston

Dear Sirs:

Re: Questions and Concerns Raised Concerning the US\$400 Million Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP) Project



I am privileged to write in acknowledgement of your letter in the captioned regard of the 4th instant which was received by me yesterday, May 5.

The Office of the Contractor General (OCG) has noted the several concerns and questions which you have raised in your letter regarding the referenced Project and in respect of which you have sought the timely intervention and assistance of the OCG.

I would wish to assure you that the OCG has been using its best efforts, since September 2010, to comprehensively monitor the implementation of the said Project.

Towards that end, the OCG has solicited, in writing, the cooperation of the highest levels of the Government of Jamaica, the Ministry of Transport and Works and the National Works Agency, to ensure probity, transparency, competition, accountability and value for money in all aspects of the administration and implementation of the Project and, in particular, in the award of contracts to sub-contractors and their performance and execution of same.

However, the OCG has encountered certain obstacles in the pursuit of its endeavours. These have given rise to a number of very serious concerns and questions which the OCG, itself, now has regarding the administration and implementation of the Project.

The OCG has, in the recent past, been in communication with the Chief Executive Officer of the National Works Agency, to whom certain formal OCG Statutory Requisitions have been issued. However, a number of these Requisitions, inclusive of the names of the subcontractors who have been engaged on the various elements of the Project, have remained inexplicably outstanding as at today's date.

The OCG expects that it will, in short order, be issuing a public statement in respect of the matter.

The Hon. Prime Minister, the Hon. Minister of Transport and Works, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Transport of Works, and the Cabinet Secretary, have been formally served with notice of the primary proposals, concerns and Requisitions of the OCG in this matter, inclusive of the OCG's first formal proposals and recommendations which were made to the Government herein, by me, by way of letter which was dated September 15, 2010.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my highest considerations.

Very respectfully yours,

Greg Christie (Signed)

Greg Christie
Contractor General"

-END-

Contact: The Communications Department, Office of the Contractor General of Jamaica
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