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### **Nationwide Power Outage Caused by System Failure at Xulha Substation in Mexico**

At about 8:03 p.m. yesterday, a fault occurred on Comisión Federal de Electricidad's (CFE) 230kV transmission line which services the Xulha Substation in Mexico. As a result, CFE's system protection automatically de-energized the 115kV transmission line which is used to service Belize, causing a countrywide power outage here in Belize.

BEL was able to restore power to all service areas by sourcing power from the Chalillo and Mollejon Hydroelectric Facilities, BEL's diesel generators and Westlake Gas Turbine Unit. By 8:27 p.m. power was restored to several feeders in Belize City and Ladyville, and by 8:57 p.m. power had been restored to all other service areas. CFE's supply was restored with limited capacity at 8:48 p.m.

Two other extended power outages occurred over the weekend. On Saturday, May 6, Belize City Feeder 6 was without power supply for approximately 4 hours due to a traffic accident in which a vehicle hit and damaged a pole. The second outage occurred this morning in Placencia. At 12:49 a.m., a fire was reported in the village and as a precautionary measure BEL, cut off power supply to the affected area and restored it at 2:37 a.m.

BEL regrets any inconvenience caused by these outages. For more information on scheduled outages, customers may call toll free at 0-800-BEL-CARE or 0-800-235-2273.

**End**