



A FORTIS COMPANY

Belize Electricity Limited
2 ½ Miles Northern Highway
P.O. Box 327
Belize City, Belize
Corporate Tel.: 501-227-0954
Customer Care: 0-800-235-2273
Fax: 501-223-0891
Email: pr@bel.com.bz
Website: www.bel.com.bz

Release Date: **Monday, July 20, 2009**

Contact: Dawn Sampson-Nuñez – Manager, Corporate Communications

E-mail: dawn.sampson@bel.com.bz

Update on Power Supply Situation

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) advises that it currently has sufficient generation in place to meet the country's energy demand over the next few days.

Today, Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE) advised that following the inspection of the Merida III generating unit, they have determined that the unit needs to be taken out of service until the middle of August. In the meantime, CFE is able to supply Belize with approximately 15 per cent of its energy demand. However, the cost of power from CFE at this time is much higher than normal and BEL will only take power from CFE as a last option.

In addition to CFE, BEL is currently taking approximately 16 megawatts (MW) of power from Belize Aquaculture Limited and 32.5 MW from Belize Electric Company Limited. Hydro Maya remains off line, while repairs are being carried out to its generating equipment.

The nozzle and the tools for the repairs to the Gas Turbine have arrived and BEL plans to complete works on the Gas Turbine by July 24, 2009.

If any planned power outages are necessary, BEL will provide customers with advanced notice, where possible. For more information, contact BEL at 0800-BEL-CARE or 0-800-235-2273.

END