



BELIZE ELECTRICITY LIMITED

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BEL Restores Power to the Toledo District

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) completed repairs and replacement of damaged equipment on the distribution system in the Toledo District, following an unplanned power outage experienced by most customers in that district yesterday.

At 11:34 a.m. yesterday, power supply was lost to all of Punta Gorda Town and surrounding areas including Jacintoville, Laguna Village, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Midway, Barranco Village, Elridgeville, Thomas Village, Cattle Landing and Hopeville.

BEL crews from Dangriga and Independence were dispatched to join the Punta Gorda crews and identified the cause of this unplanned outage as multiple damaged insulators along 14 miles of distribution lines which run from the substation located near the Dump area to Punta Gorda Town. Work crews had to climb approximately 75 utility poles to identify and repair the damaged equipment. This time-consuming exercise was the main cause of the delay in restoring power.

By 11:11 p.m. power supply was restored to all affected areas.

A severe lightning season this year has overstressed the insulating equipment on the distribution line which has resulted in multiple insulator failures, causing several other power outages in the Toledo District over the past three weeks.

Within the next month, BEL will be completing construction of an additional power line to improve service reliability in the Punta Gorda area.

The Company apologizes for the inconvenience caused and asks customers in the Toledo District for their continued patience, as BEL works to complete improvements to the system in the area. For more information call BEL at 0-800-235-2273 or (0-800-BEL-CARE).

END