August 19, 2011

BEL Advises of Power System Performance Related to the Approaching Tropical Storm Harvey

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) advises that, in the event there is loss of power supply due to damages caused by the approaching Tropical Storm Harvey, the Company will dispatch work crews to the field as soon as it is safe to do so.

If weather conditions are such that it would make it unsafe for work crews, works will be delayed until conditions improve. If there are damages to the power system, customers are advised to be prepared for related power outages.

Customers are also asked to take note of the following safety tips:

- Remember to obtain batteries for your radio so that you can listen to storm advisories.

- If you are leaving your premises and suspect that there will be flooding, turn off the main switch before you leave.

- Do not touch appliances, cords, electrical tools or plugs with wet hands or while standing on a wet surface. Do not put electrical tools, appliances or cords in water.

- If the power goes off, do not attempt to reinstate the power supply. Turn off all power at your switch box and unplug all electrical appliances.

- Turn off the main breaker if the water level rises above or near the outlets and ensure that the entire premise is disconnected from any electrical source. Do not walk into any area or water that is perceived to be connected to any electrical source.

- Do not go to any of the power stations or sub-stations.

- If you encounter an electrical-injured victim, do not touch the person until they have been freed from the source of electricity. You can use a non-conductor, such as dry rope or wood to push or pull the victim away from the power source.

Customers are asked to report damages to the power system by calling BEL at 0-800-BEL-CARE or 0-800-235-2273. Remember, however, that BEL work crews will only be dispatched to the field when it is safe to do so.

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