



Tuesday, November 22, 2011

European Union and Government of Belize Provide \$5.5 Million Grant for Electrification of Communities in Belize

Several communities throughout the country will benefit from electricity supply within the next two years, with the implementation of a tripartite venture between the European Union (EU), the Government of Belize (GOB) and Belize Electricity Limited (BEL).

A ceremony was held this morning at BEL's Corporate Headquarters for the signing of a contract for a BZ\$5.5 million grant to extend the national electricity grid and provide safe and reliable electricity to these communities.

The project is being financed 75% through the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of Countries (ACP) – EU Energy Facility II Grant Funds and 25% counterpart contribution from GOB.

Signatories to the contract were EU Country Representative in Belize, Cosimo Lamberti Fossati, and BEL's Chief Executive Officer, Jeffrey Locke. Also present at the signing was CEO in the Ministry of Economic Development, Yvonne Hyde, who represented the Government of Belize.

Under the agreement, the EU will ensure that the project is implemented in accordance with EU guidelines, based on fairness and transparency.



BEL's Chief Executive Officer, Jeffrey Locke (l)
EU Country Representative in Belize, Cosimo Lamberti Fossati (r)

Communities that will benefit from the project include: Steadfast, Belize City's Belama Phase 4, Belmopan's Salvapan and Maya Mopan, Dangriga's Wagirale and Rivas Estate, Independence's New Site and Noralez Extension, Benque Viejo Town, the villages of Cotton Tree, Valley of Peace, Ontario, Hattieville, Rockstone Pond, Soccutz, San Lazaro, Guinea Grass, Paraiso, San Narciso, Patchakan, Carmelita, Libertad, Hope Creek, Sarawee, Hopkins, San Roman Village, Seine Bight and Bella Vista.

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