



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## BEL Full Tariff Review Proceeding Submission

**IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION** that on this day, January 22, 2016, Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) in accordance with the Electricity (Tariffs, Fees and Charges) Byelaws, 2005 as amended by S.I. 116 of 2009, enters into a Full Tariff Review Proceeding (FTRP) with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The FTRP is a review of the Regulated Values, Mean Electricity Rate, Tariffs, Rates, Charges and Fees to be determined by the PUC for the next four-year Full Tariff Period (FTP), July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020. At the conclusion of the FTRP, the PUC will issue a final decision setting out the Regulated Values and the applicable Tariffs for the FTP July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020 as determined by the PUC. The Regulated Values and Tariffs will be reviewed and amended as necessary in Annual Review Proceedings carried out each year of the FTP.

BEL is requesting an increase in tariffs in order to (1) ensure that the true cost of power is reflected in electricity rates, (2) stabilize electricity rates on the long term, and (3) allow BEL to improve service reliability and expand its service.

### Summary of the Issues

The purpose of the FTRP is to establish the Regulated Values, Tariffs and Fees that will determine the performance of the electricity sector for the long-term benefit of the customer, while ensuring the financial viability of BEL. The Company has submitted to the PUC a request for an amendment to tariffs that reflect an average Mean Electricity Rate (MER) of \$0.3900 during this period. The Submission is grounded in the Company's Mission of low cost, reliable and sustainable service delivery to the public and reflects a continuation of BEL's strategic plan over the medium term. The Submission includes reports that show the following:

- i. The actual and projected cost of power for the current and upcoming FTP;
- ii. The forecasted Operating Expense for 2016 and the financial impact of the FTP on BEL's ability to fulfil its Mission;
- iii. Investment Program that will strengthen and expand the grid so as to connect more homes, improve customer service and enable national development; and
- iv. Reconciliation of the 2012 to 2016 approved parameters with BEL actuals.

### Process for the Full Tariff Review Proceeding

The schedule for the Review Proceeding is outlined below:

Date	Item
January 22, 2016	Notice to the Public of the Review Proceeding. Filing of Tariff Application.
February 9, 2016	PUC to hold a Public Meeting as detailed below.
February 19, 2016	The latest date by which interested parties are to submit written comments.
February 22, 2016	The PUC will issue an initial written decision on Tariffs to be applied in the Full Tariff Period along with the reason for the decision.
March 7, 2016	The latest date by which BEL and interested parties representing users of at least 10% of annual energy supplied by BEL in the preceding year, may submit written comments on the decision. Where there is no objection, the PUC will issue a final decision.
April 6, 2016	The latest date by which an Independent Expert is to be appointed by the PUC if there are written objections.
May 6, 2016	The latest date by which the Independent Expert is to issue a written report, which will be made available to the public.
May 26, 2016	The latest date by which BEL or interested parties representing customers of at least 10% of the energy supplied by BEL during the preceding year may submit comments on the report.
June 10, 2016	The latest date by which the PUC shall afford BEL and such interested parties an opportunity to be heard, if the comments object to the conclusion of the report.
June 30, 2016	PUC to issue a final decision.

### PUC Public Hearing

The PUC will hold its meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at the Belize Biltmore Plaza Hotel in Belize City, commencing at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to hear comments on matters related to the proposed Regulated Values, Tariffs, and Fees. All interested parties are invited to attend.

### Public Access to Information

A summary of the proposed Regulated Values, Tariffs, and Fees will be available at all BEL offices countrywide and on the Company's website ([www.bel.com.bz](http://www.bel.com.bz)) as of January 27, 2016. Throughout the Review Proceedings the public will be able to access all public information as prescribed by S.I. 116 of 2009. An updated copy of the FTRP schedule is available at the office of the PUC located at 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City and BEL's Corporate Headquarters located at 2½ Miles Philip Goldson Highway, Belize City.