



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY INDUSTRIES

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EEl: 7/8/2

26 August 2020

Mrs. Jacqui Sampson- Meiguel
Clerk of the House
Office of the Parliament
Parliamentary Complex
Cabildo Building
St. Vincent Street
Port of Spain
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Sampson- Meiguel,

Re: The Thirty-Second Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations in the Sixteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission for the financial years 2012 to 2015

Reference is made to your letter dated August 03, 2020 on the subject matter at caption.

Please find attached the Ministry's written response to the recommendations of the Committee.

Yours respectfully,

Ms. Sandra Fraser
Permanent Secretary (Ag)

Response to the Thirty-Second Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the F
on the implementation of the recommendations in the Sixteenth Report of the Public
Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad
Tobago Electricity Commission for the financial years 2012 to 2015

Recommendations:

- i. TTEC should report to Parliament on the current potential for the expansion of renewable energy production as a percentage of its overall electricity production by August 30, 2020;
- ii. The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries should describe the composition and functioning of the Inter-Agency Committee that evaluates Expressions of Interest for the Beetham Waste to Energy project by August 30, 2020.

MEEI Response:

Cabinet agreed to the appointment of the Inter-Agency Evaluation Committee and it comprises a representative from each of the following Agencies:

- The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries
 - The Ministry of Planning and Development
 - The Ministry of Public Utilities
 - The Ministry of Finance
 - The Office of the Commissioner of State Lands
 - The Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission
 - The Environmental Management Authority
 - The Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited
 - An International Consult(s) procured through the European Union's (EU) Technical Assistance Facility (TAF)
- iii. The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries should provide Parliament with the precise timeline for the completion of the solar / wind energy project and the cost of the project by August 30, 2020;

MEEI Response:

The Project comprises of the development of two (2) Solar PV Power Plants situated Brechin Castle and at Trincity, with a capacity at 92.2 MW and 20MW respectively, on

a Build, Own and Operate (BOO) Basis. The total capital expenditure for the project is one hundred and twenty-three million dollars US dollars (US\$123 Million).

The Timelines for the Project is as follows:

Action	Estimated Time Frame
Notify Highest Ranked Bidder	March 2020
Complete Negotiation of Project Agreements	September 2020
Signing of Implementation Agreement and Issue of Performance Bond	October 2020
Certificate of Environmental Clearance (CEC) Application	December 2020
Town and Country Planning Department (TCPD) Application	December 2020
CEC Award*	February 2021
TCPD Final Planning Permission	April 2021
Commence Construction	May 2021
Commercial Operation Date	March 2022

* Given No Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required

It is to be noted that due to COVID 19 Pandemic the timelines may be subjected to change.

- iv. The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries should submit a progress report to Parliament regarding its evaluation of bids for the WtE project and the expected relaunch date for this project by August 30, 2020;

MEEI Response:

In July 2016, the GoRTT approved the establishment of a Waste-to-Energy (WtE) Facility at the Beetham Landfill Estate in Port of Spain. The WtE Facility is intended to contribute to the modernisation of an Integrated Municipal Solid Waste System and the achievement of Sustainable Energy Targets in T&T.

The MEEI sought Expressions Of Interests from qualified Developers with in-depth experience in WtE on a Build Own and Operate (BOO) basis. Following the Evaluation

process, the MEEI invited twenty-eight (28) qualified Developers to participate at the RFP Stage on January 17, 2019. The deadline for the submission of Proposals was August 30, 2019.

The MEEI engaged the EU for the provision of Economic and Technical Consultants. However, the timeframe for procurement (two to three months) did not align with the stipulated deadline of August 30, 2019. Therefore, the MEEI was forced to withdraw from the TAF. The MEEI alternatively opted to seek a Consultancy via an Advertisement for Requesting Proposals, and an in-house Inter-Agency evaluation.

As noted, that the expertise of this Consultancy did not exist in the country hence, the MEEI decided to re-engage the EU Delegation for support. The EU Delegation is currently investigating the possibility of financing this Consultancy under another Grant facility. Plans are in place to proceed with the evaluation of the bids.