

# REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

The accompanying Financial Statements of the Regulated Industries Commission for the year ended December 31, 2015 have been audited. The Statements comprise a Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2015, a Statement of Comprehensive Income, a Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity, a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended December 31, 2015, and notes to the Financial Statements numbered 1 to 14.

2. The audit was conducted by a firm of accountants appointed by the Board of the Commission with the written consent of the Auditor General. Their Report dated February 19, 2019, which is attached, refers.

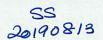
## **SUBMISSION OF REPORT**

3. This Report is being submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate and the Minister of Finance in accordance with the provisions of sections 116 and 119 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2019 PORT OF SPAIN



LORELLY PUJUDAS AUDITOR GENERAL



## **REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMMISSION**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

DECEMBER 31, 2015

MADAN RAMNARINE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**Financial Statements** 

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

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## REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

## Statement of Management's Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the following:

- Preparing and fairly presenting the accompanying financial statements of the Regulated Industries Commission ("RIG"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015, the statement of comprehensive income and accumulated deficit and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information;
- Ensuring that the RIC keeps proper accounting records;
- Selecting appropriate accounting policies and applying them in a consistent manner;
- Implementing, monitoring and evaluating the system of internal control that assures security of the RIC's assets, detection/prevention of fraud and achievement of the operational efficiencies of the Entity;
- Ensuring that the system of internal control operated effectively during the reporting period;
- Producing reliable financial reporting that comply with laws and regulations and;
- Using reasonable and prudent judgment in the determination of estimates.

In preparing these audited financial statements, management utilized the International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium Sized Entities, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad and Tobago.

Nothing has come to the attention of management to indicate that the RIC will not remain a going concern for the next twelve months from the reporting date, or up to the date the accompanying financial statements have been authorized for issue, if later. Management affirms that is has carried out its responsibilities as outlined above.

**Executive Director** 

Date 18/2/19

Chief Financial Officer

Date 12/02/2019

## Madan Ramnarine & Co.

#### Chartered Accountants

Suite 413, Upper Level, Centre Pointe Mall, Ramsaran Street, Chaquanas, Trinidad, W.I.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPÓRT TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Regulated Industries Commission ("the Commission") which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in shareholders' equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, except for the matter described in the Emphasis of Matter paragraph below, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at December 31, 2015, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-Sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs).

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

We were appointed auditors of the Commission on August 10, 2018, and thus could not verify the accuracy of the comparative information provided for the previous year. We have not received any correspondence indicating that these prior period figures contain any material misstatements.

#### **Basis of Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Commission in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management and those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with IFRS for SMEs and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the statements, management is responsible for assessing the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Commission or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Commission's financial reporting process.

#### Auditors' Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could be reasonably expected to influence the economic decisions of users on the basis of these financial statements.

## Madan Ramnarine & Co.

### Chartered Accountants

Suite 413, Upper Level, Centre Pointe Mall, Ramsaran Street, Chaguanas, Trinidad, W.I.

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As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Commission to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

MADAN RAMNARINE & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
CHAGUANAS, TRINIDAD.

February 19, 2019

## Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
ASSETS Non-current assets Plant and equipment	3	2,316,361	1,982,852
Current assets Cash in hand and at bank Accounts receivable and prepayments	4 5	20,895,915 758,932 21,654,847	18,222,287 723,894 18,946,181
Total assets		23,971,208	20,929,033
CAPITAL & LIABILITIES  Accumulated Funds  Accumulated Funds – Government Grants  Retained Earnings	7	223 22,843,614	254 20,418,501
Total shareholders' equity		22,843,837	20,418,755
Current liabilities Accounts payable and accruals	6	1,127,371	510,278
Total equity and liabilities		23,971,208	20,929,033

The attached notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

On February 19, 2019, the Board of Directors of the Regulated Industries Commission authorised these financial statements for issue.

Chairman

Executive Director

## Regulated Industries Commission Statement of Comprehensive Income For the year ended December 31, 2015

	Note		
	Note	2015	2014
		\$	\$
INCOME		16 475 704	7.047.700
Cess income		16,475,704	7,947,729
Other income	9	117,979	139,437
Total Income		16,593,683	8,087,166
EXPENSES			
Advertising and promotions		249,467	374,930
Allowances		194,330	158,299
Audit fees		60,000	66,000
Bank charges		2,557	2,533
Books and periodicals			1,375
Charitable contribution		9,778	6,795
Computer and maintenance		283,444	234,845
Staff welfare	10	8,315,373	8,586,262
Depreciation		443,130	547,979
Insurance		94,153	85,146
Loss on Disposal of Assets		12,173	104,595
Mail and postage		4,884	3,447
Catering		40,257	33,568
Motor vehicle maintenance		52,230	65,140
Office expenses		127,225	105,713
OCCUR expenses		115,346	91,307
Professional fees and legal fees		544,063	87,732
Remuneration to board members		390,277	507,514
Rent		2,320,850	2,331,000
Repairs and maintenance		23,074	16,137
Security and janitorial services		184,767	174,860
Subscriptions		23,743	121,768
Telephones		226,741	187,652
Training		450,739	268,784
Total Expenses		14,168,601	14,163,381
Total Comprehensive Profit / (Loss) for the year	e e	2,425,082	(6,076,215)

The attached notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Regulated Industries Commission Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity For the year ended December 31, 2015

	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Fund Government Grant Relating to P.U.C	Total
Year ended 31 December	\$	\$	\$
Balance at January 1, 2015	20,418,501	254	20,418,755
Balance at January 1, 2013	20,418,301	234	20,416,733
Total comprehensive (loss) for the year	2,425,082	, <del>-</del> -	2,425,082
Depreciation in P.U.C Assets	31	(31)	
Balance at December 31, 2015	22,843,614	223	22,843,837
Year ended 31 December			
Balance at January 1, 2014	26,453,094	474	26,453,568
Total comprehensive (Loss) for the year	(6,076,215)		(6,076,215)
Depreciation in P.U.C Assets	41	(41)	
Prior Period Adjustment	41,581	(179)	41,402
Balance at December 31, 2014	20,418,501	254	20,418,755

The attached notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Regulated Industries Commission Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Operating activities		
Total comprehensive profit / (loss) for the year	2,425,082	(6,076,215)
Adjustments for items not requiring an outlay of funds:	÷	
Depreciation	443,130	547,979
Depreciation – Prior Period Adjustment		5,291
Prior Period Adjustment		41,402
Loss on Sale of Asset	12,173	104,595
Interest on Investment	<u>117,979</u>	(139,257)
Operating profit before working capital changes	2,998,364	(5,516,205)
(Decrease)/Increase in accounts payable and accruals	617,093	(1,591,516)
(Increase)/Decrease in accounts receivables and prepayments	(42,969)	(53,676)
Net cash flows generated from/(absorbed by) operating activities	3,572,488	(7,161,397)
Investing activities		
Acquisition of Fixed Assets	(788,812)	(444,980)
Proceeds from Disposal of Fixed Assets		79,329
Interest on Investment	(110,048)	139,257
Net cash flows (absorbed by) investing activities	(898,860)	(226,394)
(Decrease) / Increase in cash and cash equivalents	2,673,628	(7,387,791)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	18,222,287	25,610,078
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	20,895,915	18,222,287
Represented By:		
Cash in Hand	3,000	3,000
Bank – Current Account	9,893,639	2,158,741
Bank – Money Market Fund Account	10,999,276	16,060,546
	20,895,915	18,222,287

The attached notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

### Regulated Industries Commission Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2015

1. Regulated Industries Commission was established in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago by the Act of Parliament, Chapter 54:73, and commenced operations on June 1, 2000. During the financial year 2015, the Commission was located at Furness Building, corner Wrightson Road and Independence Square and subsequently relocated to 37 Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain in June 2018.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated below.

#### a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-Sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) and under the historical cost convention.

#### b Functional and reporting currency

The financial statements are presented in Trinidad and Tobago dollars, which is the Commission's functional currency.

#### c Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with IFRS for SMEs requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected. Actual results could differ from the estimates.

#### d Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are stated at historical cost and are depreciated on the reducing balance basis, at rates estimated to write off the cost of each asset to their residual values over their estimated useful lives as follows:

 Motor Vehicles
 25%

 Computers
 25%

 Office Furniture
 12.5%

 Office Equipment
 12.5%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each statement of financial position date. Profits or losses on disposals of plant and equipment are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount and are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

Plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment losses whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of an asset's net selling price and value in use.

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### Regulated Industries Commission Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) December 31, 2015

#### d Plant and equipment (continued)

The commission has adopted the policy of expensing assets that fall below the cost of \$1,000.00, even though that asset may have a useful life in excess of one (1) accounting period.

#### e Leases

Leases where a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

#### f Revenue recognition

The commission is funded by CESS income which is obtained from utility service providers and is calculated based on a percentage of their income.

#### g Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### h Financial instruments

Financial instruments carried on the statement of financial position include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable and are stated at their approximate fair values determined in accordance with the policy statements disclosed.

#### i Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the statement of financial position at cost and comprise cash in hand, cash at bank, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and funds held in Money Market Funds. Bank overdrafts are included within borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position. For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent also include the bank overdrafts.

#### j Impairment

The carrying amount of the Commission's assets are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If such an indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. An impairment loss is recognized in profit and loss whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

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### Regulated Industries Commission Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) December 31, 2015

#### k Trade receivables

Trade receivables are carried at original invoice amount less provision made for impairment of these receivables. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Commission will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the assets' carrying amount and the recoverable amount. Provisions for impairment of receivables are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### 1 Annuities

The Commission makes payments on behalf of its employees to deferred annuity plans. The deferred annuity plans are non-contributory by employees. A deferred annuity plan allows one to pay premiums and then receive a lump sum or series of regular payments at a preset future date, usually upon maturity of the plan or at retirement. The regular payments constitute net periodic costs for the year in which they are due and as such are included in staff costs.

#### m Provisions

Provisions are recorded when the Commission has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, and it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made.

#### n Financial risk

For the purpose of these financial statements, financial assets include the money market fund, trustee pooled bond and certificate of deposit. All amounts are fixed with the application of simple interest on invested amounts. As at December 31, 2015 the recorded values of all financial assets approximate their fair values and these financial instruments can be redeemed at any point in time.

#### Tax exempt status

By virtue of the Regulated Industries Commission Act, Chapter 54:73, Section 31, the Commission is exempt from all stamp duties, customs duties, levies and other imposts on its income, profit or on assets which it acquires for its own use.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2015

### 2. Incorporation and business activities

The Regulated Industries Commission was established by the Regulated Industries Commission Act, Chapter 54:73. The purpose of the Commission is to regulate the activities of utility service providers according to legislation.

#### 3. Plant and equipment

	Motor Vehicle \$	Computer and Office Equipment \$	Office Furniture \$	Assets from PUC \$	Total \$
Year ended December 31, 2015	Ψ	<b>y</b>	Ψ	Ψ	<b>y</b>
Opening net book amount Additions Disposals Depreciation charge	458,598 587,000  (147,983)	1,161,890 146,184 (4,902) (247,078)	362,111 55,626 (7,271) (48,069)	255   	1,982,854 788,810 (12,173) (443,130)
Closing net book amount	897,615	1,056,094	362,397	255	2,316,361
As at December 31, 2015 Cost Accumulated depreciation Net book amount	1,324,220 (426,605) 897,615	3,846,846 (2,790,752) 1,056,094	1,275,186 (912,789) 362,397	6,441 (6,186) 255	6,452,693 (4,136,332) 2,316,361
Year ended December 31, 2014					
Opening net book amount Additions Disposals Depreciation charge Prior Period Depreciation	514,679 263,400 (162,273) (157,209)	1,416,835 116,063 (21,106) (344,610) (5,291)	343,078 65,517 (366) (46,119)	474  (179) (41)	2,275,066 444,980 (183,924) (547,979) (5,291)
Closing net book amount	458,597	1,161,891	362,110	254	1,982,852
As at December 31, 2014 Cost Accumulated depreciation	737,220 (278,623)	3,711,761 (2,549,870)	1,260,877 (898,767)		5,716,298 (3,733,446)
Net book amount	458,597	1,161,891	362,110	254	1,982,852

## Regulated Industries Commission Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) December 31, 2015

4.	Cash in hand and at bank	2015 \$	2014 \$
	Cash in hand RBL Money Market Bank – Current Account	3,000 3,862,317 9,893,639	3,000 3,862,317 2,158,741
	RBL Money Market (Land) RBL Pooled Bond	7,136,959  20,895,915	7,081,686 5,116,543 18,222,287

The Money Market Funds have been classified as a cash equivalent because management uses the account for working capital requirements. The interest rate at the year-end was 0.85%.

5.	Accounts receivable and prepayments	2015 \$	2014 \$
	Insurance Rental deposit	39,840 16,738	36,909 16,738
	Value added tax recoverable	465,423	368,145
	Copiers Maintenance Contract		24,322
	Contract Services	40,292	
	HP Support Services		102,714
	TTPOST – PO Box Rental		620
	Refundable deposit – Furness (Trinidad) Ltd.	154,700	154,700
	Interest receivable	7,931	
	Motor Vehicle Maintenance	2,141	
	OCCUR Membership	31,867	19,746
	•	<u>758,932</u>	723,894
_			
6.	Accounts payable and accruals		
		2015	2014
		\$	\$
	Gratuity provision	271,600	63,030
	Salary	2,500	148,498
	Other	853,271	298,750
		1,127,371	510,278

## Regulated Industries Commission Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2015

#### 7. Accumulated Funds – Government Grants - \$223

This represents the balance in the government grants account with respect to the assets taken over from the former Public Utilities Commission. The government grant is accounted for in accordance with circular F 22/8/43 issued by the Ministry of Finance to all Government Institutions on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1969.

#### 8. Retained Earnings – Depreciation on P.U.C. Assets - \$31

An amount equivalent to the depreciation charge on assets taken over from the former Public Utilities Commission (PUC) was transferred from the Reserves Accumulated Funds – Government Grants to Retained Earnings. This measure, in effect, reimbursed the Regulated Industries Commission for the depreciation expense incurred on behalf of the PUC. This method of depreciation used is in accordance with circular F 22/8/43 issued by the Ministry of Finance to all Government institutions on July 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1969. (See Statement of Changes in Equity, Page 5)

9. Other income 2015 2014 \$ \$ 117,979 139,257 Interest from investments **PUC** 180 117,979 139,437 10. Staff welfare 2015 2014 \$ \$ Staff functions 16,704 182,583 Uniforms 20,249 1,500 Carnival 55,852 Contract gratuities 208,600 208,946 Government contribution to NIS 315,196 292,290 Group health insurance 157,409 149,853 Group life insurance 96,894 95,653 Pension expense 499,727 496,184 Salaries 6,962,806 7,012,672 Other 56,537 71,980 8,315,373 8,586,262

#### 11. Key Management Compensation

Key Management personnel received compensation of \$3,642,566 (2014:\$3,761,447) for the year, in the form of short term, employment benefits and post- employment benefits. This is included in Staff welfare.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2015

12.	Operating leases	2015	2014
		\$	\$
	Less than one year	2,284,800	2,284,800
	Between one and five years	6,752,100	7,706,940
		9.036.900	9.991.740

During the year \$2,284,800 (2014: \$2,284,800) was recognized as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in respect of leases.

#### 13. Financial risk management

The commission's activities expose it to credit risk, compliance risk and reputation risk. The commission's overall risk management procedures employed manage the risks as discussed below:

#### (a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a loss for the other party by failing to pay for its obligation. Credit risk relating to accounts receivable balances are consistently managed and analysed for each client. Cash balances are held with reputable financial institutions and the commission has actively sought to limit the amount of exposure to any single financial institution therefore minimizing credit risk arising from cash and cash equivalents.

The Commission also actively monitors global economic developments and government policies that may affect the growth rate of the local economy.

#### (b) Compliance risk

Compliance risk is the risk of financial loss, including fines and other penalties, which arise from non-compliance with laws and regulations of the state. The risk is limited to a significant extent due to the supervision applied by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, as well as by the monitoring controls applied by the commission. The commission has an Audit Committee which does routine reviews on compliance.

#### (c) Reputation risk

The risk of loss of reputation arising from the negative publicity relating to the commission's operations (whether true or false) may result in a reduction of its clientele, reduction in revenue and legal cases against the commission. The commission engages in activities that bring awareness to its operations and therefore engender trust and minimize this risk.

#### 14. Comparative information

Where necessary, comparative information is adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current period. These changes do not materially affect the financial statements.