

April 4th 2011

News Release

CUC explains Outages

Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd (CUC) commenced load shedding operations on Sunday between 12 noon and 7:00 pm as a result of problems that developed on two of its generating units which led to a temporary reduction in generating capacity.

It is expected that the load shedding will continue today. As a result there will be some outages during the course of today and until further notice.

Vice President of Production, Mr. David Walter, says that, "Repairs are being carried out on the two engines so we have had to resort to rolling blackouts. This means that we have to take feeders off the system for up to an hour at a time. Repairs to one of the units will be completed later today and should restore adequate capacity. The second unit may also be available during the next 24 hours."

In a release of February 7th, the Company advised the public that following the major damage sustained to three of its large generating units, there was the increased possibility of power outages due to any further loss of generation. The repairs to these large units are on schedule to be completed in early May.

Meanwhile the Company is currently working to connect temporary mobile generation which it has imported. However, until this temporary capacity is in place and the out-of-service capacity is restored, further unplanned maintenance outages may lead to rotating customer outages due to temporary capacity shortfalls.

"We will be marginal with capacity reserve for another 2 to 3 weeks or until all mobile units are on line," Mr. Watler added.



CUC apologises for any inconvenience the disruptions may cause.

For further information, please contact Pat Bynoe-Clarke 914-1107