

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **Public Utilities Commission (PUC)**

In exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Public Utilities Commission Act, Chapter 223 of the Laws of Belize, and the Electricity Act, Chapter 221 of the Laws of Belize, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC; the Commission) hereby notifies the general public that on April 6, 2022, it made the **2022 HML-BEL Power Purchase Agreement Decision** (hereinafter referred to as “the HML-BEL PPA”) prescribing the terms and conditions in respect of the provision of electricity services being provided by Hydro Maya Limited to the Belize Electricity Limited (hereinafter referred to jointly as “the Parties”).

#### **Background:**

The records held at the PUC show that on 24th July 1998, HML was granted a Concession by the Government of Belize for the “*construction and operation of a 2 Megawatt hydroelectric generating facility on Government-owned land and for water usage on the Rio Grande River near San Miguel in the Toledo District* (hereafter referred to as the “Government Concession”). The term of the Government Concession is for twenty-five years and shall expire on July 28, 2023.

On the basis of the Government Concession the Rio Grande Hydroelectric Project proposed by Hydro Maya was selected under a Call for Competition conducted by BEL in 2003. Subsequently, HML executed a PPA with BEL for a term of fifteen years for a hydroelectric project of at least 2MW, but less than 3.45MW, having expected energy output of 11,542 MWhs per annum and a tariff of BZ Dollar equivalent US\$0.0675/kWh (hereafter referenced as “the Original PPA”).

#### **Summary of the Decision in respect of the HML-BEL PPA renewal:**

- a) The Commission is of the view that the definitions and practices under the Original PPA between the Parties that expired on March 7, 2022 should continue under the new Agreement. Therefore the terms and of conditions under the renewed PPA has been updated and modernized while conforming to the intent of the Original PPA.
- b) The term of the renewed HML-BEL PPA shall expire on July 28, 2023, being congruent with the term of the Government Concession.
- c) The compensation demanded by Hydro Maya in the renewed HML-BEL PPA shall remain unchanged at the Belize Dollar equivalent of US\$0.0675/kWh.
- d) If there are no objections, the Parties are authorized to execute the renewed HML-BEL PPA on or after April 28, 2022.

#### **Viewing of Initial Decision:**

The renewed HML-BEL Power Purchase Agreement may be viewed in its entirety at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission at #4 Princess Margaret Drive, Marina Towers, Belize City, or on the PUC Website at [www.puc.bz](http://www.puc.bz).

*Issued by the Public Utilities Commission on April 13, 2022*