



BELIZE ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES

Ref. No.: BET 2/2010/PML

February 12, 2010

**Mr. Martin Alegría,
Chief Environmental Officer
Department of Environment
10/12 Ambergris Avenue
Belmopan City, Belize**

Dear Mr. Alegría,

In reference to your correspondence of February 1st, 2010 Ref.: PRO/PIER/07/94/17(52) EIA Screening of Placencia Marina Project, please find most of the additional requested information. You will note that immediately following the NEAC meeting, the Developer proceeded to comply with the request being made. As a matter of fact, the developer has been very cooperative in meeting each and every requirement of the DOE and has never tried to avoid his responsibility.

We have been trying to obtain the required Oceanographic information of the micro-climatic conditions of the project area and have approached several local experts in the field which in itself have taken two additional weeks to receive a response. Three of the four individuals contacted, namely Mr. Ramon Frutos, Mr. Rudolph Williams and Mr. George Hanson, responded that for them to be able to conduct the studies the investor would need to purchase or obtain specialized equipment not currently available in Belize (see attached correspondences). This again would indicate that for the equipment to be properly sourced and imported would require additional time. This also probably indicates that this would be the first time that a project of this nature would be generating this type of specific information for a relatively small project site. Even Ara Macao's 67 acre land-locked marina, three miles north of the project site, which would have far greater

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impacts to the Placencia Peninsula, was granted clearance without being required to provide this specific type of data. A literature review has indicated that no other project of this type has been required to generate this information perhaps due to the unavailability of the equipment(s) in Belize. Despite this, Mr. Caruso is not objecting to meeting NEAC's request only that the current situation does not allow him to meet this specific request expeditiously to avoid losing investor confidence.

In addition, Mr. Frutos, former Chief Meteorological Officer, has also provided his professional opinion that this micro-climatic data should not vary significantly from the information provided in the EIA and that the study would imply a significant delay to the environmental clearance process.

Mr. Caruso has informed us that this delay due to unavailability of equipment needed to gather the requested oceanographic information poses a serious risk in him losing current investors' interest in the project. He is asking that you kindly reconsider once more the inclusion of the purchase of equipment and oceanographic data gathering as a condition of the Environmental Compliance Plan.

We thank you for your kind consideration and attention.

Sincerely,



Ismael E. Fabro

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