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**UTILITY REGULATION AND COMPETITION OFFICE**

16 November 2021

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Fuel Sector Forum on Bulk Tanks & Pipeline Operations**

The Utility Regulation and Competition Office (OfReg) met with stakeholders on 13 October, to discuss a wide range of topics relating to the safe operations of bulk fuel storage facilities in the Cayman Islands. Topics included risk based inspections, corrosion and cathodic protection systems, emergency exercises, fuel pipeline management and certification for persons performing work in the sector.

“As the Cayman Islands relies on the fuel industry for the generation of the majority of its non-renewable energy needs, it is important for the industry to come together periodically and discuss new and innovative trends, best practices and lessons learned from incidents, and to examine relevant codes and standards governing the industry”, said Mr Duke Munroe, OfReg’s Chief Fuels Inspector.

Representatives from Clean Gas Ltd, CUC, Home Gas Ltd, SOL Petroleum, the Fire Dept and RUBIS were in attendance and actively participated on a number of key points which will be used to inform future improvements in the sector.

This included the resilience of the bulk facilities to withstand seismic forces and the ongoing challenge of cathodic protection systems to resist corrosion on tanks. The sector undertook to continue to explore additional solutions in this area to ensure fuel storage equipment, which is a critical national infrastructure, is protected and fully compliant with relevant codes and standards.

Other discussions points included operations standards for the propane industry and the network of underground fuel pipelines for receiving fuel and connecting the main fuel terminals.

“This forum was invaluable to promote knowledge sharing and encourage collaboration within the sector. The candid discourse, constructive criticisms and representations made were very useful, and we are now compiling the key outcomes for development of an action and implementation plan.” said Mr. Munroe.

The Fuel Sector Forum is now slated to be an annual event and will play a key role in OfRegs ongoing industry engagement programme.

For further information please contact our office at 946-4282 or by emailing our Manager of Consumer Affairs & Public Education.

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**ABOUT OFREG**

The Utility Regulation and Competition Office ('OfReg' or the 'Office') is the independent regulator established by section 4 of the Utility Regulation and Competition Act (as revised) (the 'URC Act') for the electricity, information, and communications technology, water, wastewater, and fuel sectors in the Cayman Islands.

OfReg provides the opportunity for consistency and collaboration in regulation across the energy, fuel, ICT, and water sectors; better utilisation of skills and resources resulting in more efficient and effective regulatory processes; encouraging competition where appropriate and feasible; championing sustainability and innovation across markets, contributing to the economic and social goals of the Cayman Islands.

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Chief Fuels Inspector Mr. Duke Monroe and Intern Romaine Knight discuss piping operations.



Deputy Chief Fuel Inspector Mr Ken Springer discusss Risk Based Inspections.