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Utility Regulation and Competition Office

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OfReg investigates fuel storage fire

The Utility Regulation and Competition Office (OfReg) recently responded to an incident involving what is suspected to be an illegal fuel storage at a private residence at Mangrove Avenue in Prospect. The incident which occurred on 7 September 2022, appeared to be caused by the fueling of a vehicle, resulting in a fire which was brought under control by the combined efforts of the Cayman Islands Fire Service (CIFS) and Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) personnel.

Once the situation stabilized, OfReg's Fuel Team went on site to address the matter of storage equipment observed at the location. A significant quantity of gasoline and diesel was observed, all of which were confiscated as required under the Dangerous Substances Act.

There were no injuries, and no immediate environmental impacts were assessed, however significant damage was observed to property and equipment at the site. OfReg has commenced a full investigation.

Chief Fuels Inspector Mr. Duke Munroe said "these illegal operations present significant danger to the public and the environment. We rely heavily on members of the public to report these situations to us so we can take appropriate enforcement action by prosecution in summary court".

OfReg reminds the public that it is illegal to store fuel over 250 gallons without a valid operating permit. Where fuel is stored below the legal threshold, for permanent or incidental/temporary storage, the office is available to provide guidance on the safe storage and transport of dangerous substances.

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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