

## Press Statement



**URGENT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014**

**From: Esworth Martin, General Manager**

There has been much speculation and debate in the public regarding APUA's recent financial challenges which have affected the company's ability to meet its existing obligations. In light of this, the Management of APUA would like to state that it is guided solely by its mandate to provide a service to the people of Antigua & Barbuda, and its governing policies.

As a responsible Corporation, providing an essential utility service to the nation, APUA is bound to its duty to remind customers that, under the terms and conditions of supply, they are obligated to pay their bills as they become due. Customers are also advised to keep their payments up to date in circumstances where special arrangements have been made.

During the latter part of May 2014, APUA has recorded an abnormal decrease in cash inflow due to the failure of customers to pay their bills as is customary. It is possible that this may have been influenced by promises of a shift in policy made in various public forums.

The Authority would therefore like to advise customers that the timely payment of their bills enable the company to provide essential services which contribute to all aspects of the economic and social life of the country. It is for this reason that its standard terms and conditions currently in force disconnects services for non-payment.

APUA would also like to encourage the support and partnership of all Antiguan and Barbudans as it strives to fulfill its mandate. The Authority is asking that all persons and organizations act responsibly in making statements about policies and operations to avoid any future negative repercussions on any of our stakeholders.

APUA continues to be "necessary for life" through the valuable service it provides to Antigua and Barbuda.

-End-