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**PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED
ENERGY SECTOR INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN (IRP)**

May 3, 2018: Hamilton, Bermuda - The Regulatory Authority of Bermuda has today launched the first stage of public consultation on a proposed Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) for Bermuda’s energy sector.

The proposed IRP document, produced by BELCO, is now published and the public is encouraged to provide input on the proposal. Public and stakeholder submissions and comments will feed into the Authority’s overall review and analysis of the proposal.

After public consultation, the Authority will set out the strategy and will lay the foundation for the future of Bermuda’s energy sector, balancing the island’s long-term electricity demand and supply needs.

To encourage stakeholder input, the Authority will host two Town Hall meetings next week to explain to the public how the process works. It is open to all, including potential investors, regulated entities, sectoral participants, government agencies and consumers of Bermuda.

Regulatory Authority Interim Chief Executive, Aaron Smith said; “We are keen for as many stakeholders as possible to participate in this public consultation. The Town Hall meetings will inform interested parties of the process, explaining how and why feedback can be provided for inclusion in the final IRP.”

He explained; “This is the initial stage of the process. BELCO produced a proposal, as required under the Electricity Act, and for the next 60 days the public is encouraged to review and comment on it. There is also the opportunity to submit new proposals for bulk generation or demand side resources for potential inclusion in the IRP.”

The Town Hall meetings are scheduled at St. Paul AME Centennial Hall, Hamilton on Tuesday, May 8th at 2pm and Thursday, May 10th at 6pm. The same presentation will be delivered at both sessions.

The focus of the public meetings is to explain the importance of the Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) for Bermuda’s energy sector and will explain the consultation process for developing the IRP.

The energy sector IRP will set out the strategy for the procurement and retirement of generation assets as well as demand-side resources that meet the needs of consumers, in a cost-efficient manner, in a way that is consistent with Bermuda’s energy policy objectives.

The IRP Proposal Consultation is [available online here](#).

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