



To: All News Editors

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Senator Samuda encourages residents in Macka Hill, St Mary, to help fight water theft

With more than \$31 million invested in the Macka Hill Pipeline Replacement Project, Senator Matthew Samuda, Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, is urging residents in and around Macka Hill to refrain from stealing water from the network.



Senator Matthew Samuda, Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, encouraged Macka Hill residents to report water theft.

Samuda, during his address at the commissioning ceremony for the Macka Hill Pipeline Replacement Project in St Mary on Wednesday, March 15, highlighted that there are often unscrupulous individuals who take water illegally from the National Water Commission's

network. In addition to pleading with residents to desist from stealing the water, he urged them to report the dishonest people who do so.

“Having put \$31 million into the distribution network, having someone access it illegally destroys the network, it undermines the investment and it reduces your quality of life. So, I'm asking you, ladies and gentlemen, to join us in fighting this scourge of water theft,” he said, as the rain drizzled on the tent.

As part of this \$31 million investment, the NWC replaced 3.5 kilometres of transmission and distribution pipelines and installed isolation and air valves.



Senator Matthew Samuda (centre), Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, shares a laugh with Bromley Primary student Hadasia Thompson while turning on the pipe during the commissioning ceremony for the Macka Hill Pipeline Replacement Project in St Mary. Joining in the activity are (from left) Councillor for the Belfield Division, Levan Freeman; Dr Norman Dunn, the Member of Parliament for St Mary South Eastern; community health aids Alicia Wilson and Evette McLaughlin; Acting Vice President of Operations at NWC, Herman Fagan; and Acting Regional Manager for St Ann, St Mary and Portland, David Pryce.

This project has provided improved access to water supply for approximately 1,000 people in Macka Hill, Borie Road, Belfield and its environs. In addition, there should be a reduction in non-revenue water losses, and the NWC has, so far, updated more than 85 accounts to its customer base.

With such an investment, it comes as no surprise that it was appreciated by the Councillor for the Belfield Division, Levan Freeman. In expressing his gratitude, he also applauded members of the NWC for always being willing to assist the residents.

Dr Norman Dunn, the Member of Parliament for St Mary South Eastern, noted that the project is a step in the right direction, and he is hopeful that more people in his constituency will eventually receive better water supply.

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