



To: All News Editors

Tuesday February 19, 2019

NWC PURSUING FURTHER TEMPORARY SOLUTION TO REDUCE IMPACT OF THE 18" FERRY PIPELINE BREAK

The National Water Commission (NWC) is advising the public that emergency contracting and procurement procedures are being used to implement an alternative interim measure to provide more water to areas impacted by the unrepairable break on the 18" Ferry Transmission Pipeline.

A contractor has therefore been engaged on an emergency basis to install, in the shortest possible time, approximately 1.5 kilometers of pipelines to by-pass the area of the broken pipe and other parts of the 18" transmission main now underneath the Highway.

While the National Water Commission has been working very closely with the National Works Agency (NWA) to fast-track the construction of the two (2) new replacement pipelines to the south of the new Mandela Highway, various challenges being encountered now suggest that the end of March timeline for completion of these permanent solutions will not be met.

The pipeline route through the swamplands has already been cleared; the raised embankment or berm has already been built; culverts under the embankment are now being built; and, much of the large 900mm and 600mm pipes have already been bought, delivered to site and are now being laid.

However, there are some other critical fittings and material that have not yet been received, delaying the expected completion.

The National Water Commission is therefore proceeding with the installation of this interim 300mm pipeline on the northern side of the Highway. This we expect will result in some measureable improvement in the service delivery capabilities to customers even before the permanent solution comes into place.

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