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PRESS RELEASE

Sugar Industry Commission of Inquiry Public Hearing Rescheduled

Belmopan, August 30, 2024.

The public hearing for the Commission of Inquiry into the Sugar Cane Industry for today, Friday, August 30th, has been rescheduled. The stakeholders who were to appear today are now scheduled to appear on Thursday, September 5th.

Commissioners will continue to work and will meet to analyze the added information received during the hearings. However, the meetings and discussions today will not be livestreamed.

The public hearings and livestreaming will resume on Saturday, August 31st at the conference room, Escuela Secundaria Mexico in San Roman village in the Corozal District, and will continue to be livestreamed on the Government of Belize Press Office Facebook page. The stakeholders that will appear on Saturday, August 31st, are the Northern Sugar Cane Farmers Association (NSCFA), and the various arms of the Sugar Industry Control Board (SICB), including the Sugar Cane Production Committee (SCPC) and the Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).

On Monday, September 2nd, the public hearings will move to the Ministry of Agriculture's conference room at the agriculture showgrounds in Belmopan. Santander Sugar will appear in front of the Commission on Monday and Tuesday, September 2nd and 3rd to answer questions on its sugarcane production operations and its factory. On Wednesday, September 4th, the hearings return to Escuela Secundaria Mexico's conference room where Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will be in attendance. On Thursday, September 5th, the Corozal Sugar Cane Producers Association (CSCPA) and Progressive Sugar Cane Farmers Association (PSCFA) will appear in front of the Commission at the Escuela Secundaria Mexico venue, after which the public hearings will conclude.

Ends