

**Press Release**  
**By**  
**The Progressive Liberal Party**  
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**Will the Incompetent FNM Government come clean on BEC?**

The Jr. Minister Phenton Neymour gave a very strong and firm undertaking to the Bahamian people around mid-2010 that a major overhaul would be undertaken on BEC generators during the winter season of 2010/2011 when the demand for electricity was lowest. This did not materialize and here residents are into the dog days of summer and BEC is just now scrambling to execute long overdue maintenance on generators without a firm date when these works will be completed. This is yet another example of massive mismanagement and negligence of a vital and critical Government Institution.

On coming to office in May 2007, the FNM found a Corporation that was functioning without load shedding in New Providence. They also found executed contracts and expertly considered plans for enchantments in the Family Islands which were all subjected to the disastrous Stop Review and Cancel Policy. The FNM were caught fast asleep at the wheel during the 2008 oil price crisis which contributed to the free fall in the fortunes of BEC.

The FNM Government engaged a cadre of consultants whose reports have never seen the light of day in the House of Assembly. The FNM borrowed hundreds of millions of dollars and have not been able to resolve BEC's problems which they engendered. Despite the numerous promises of Minister after Minister, they have failed miserably at ensuring uninterrupted electricity supply to residents and businesses alike of the Bahamas. There are indications that this summer will be a disaster. The PLP demands that Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham who promised to deal with those responsible for BEC Abaco running out of oil but has failed to so do, to come clean with the public without delay on what lies ahead for residents during what is expected to be a long hot summer.

The PLP reminds the Prime Minister that it was he who told the Bahamas that his Government was modernizing and expanding public infrastructure that will give New Providence a modern city and make it hugely attractive and environmentally sustainable. Further, the Prime Minister claims that his focus on infrastructure will ensure that New Providence is a truly world-class destination.

The Progressive Liberal Part reminds the Prime Minister that a critical part of being world-class means providing uninterrupted electricity. It does not mean building a new power plant in Abaco three years behind schedule and discovering after the plant is commissioned that someone forgot to build the needed transmission lines which could have been constructed by qualified Bahamians who were available. World-Class requires visionary leadership.