



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE (EXTRAORDINARY)

VOL. 62

Caroni, Trinidad, Friday 13th January, 2023—Price \$1.00

No. 6

46

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NOTICE TO JURORS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that one of the Masters of the High Court of Justice will sit in Chambers at the Supreme Court at Port-of-Spain on WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY, 2023 at 8.00 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of hearing applications by persons for exemption from serving as Jurors at the Session to be held at the Hall of Justice, Port-of-Spain, Convocation Hall on Wednesday 1st February, 2023 at 8.00 o'clock in the forenoon.

All such applications should be made in writing and submitted by emailing it to juryHOJ@ttlawcourts.org or by delivering it to the Criminal Registry, Hall of Justice, Port-of-Spain.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2022.

LA-VANNA BOUYEA
*Assistant Registrar, Hall of Justice
Port-of-Spain*

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PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that one of the Masters of the High Court of Justice will sit in Chambers at the Supreme Court at San Fernando on WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY, 2023 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of hearing applications by persons for exemption from serving as Jurors at a Session to be held at the Court Office No. 271 Naparima-Mayaro Road, Princes Town on Wednesday 1st February, 2023 and every other hearing after to be held at the Supreme Court, San Fernando.

All such applications should be made in writing by emailing it to JurySFO@ttlawcourts.org or by delivering it to the Criminal Registry, San Fernando.

Applications made after that date may not be entertained.

Dated this 19th day of December, 2022.

K. GRAY
*Acting Deputy Registrar, Supreme Court
San Fernando.*



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
Public Statement of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STATEMENT UPDATE 2021-2022
IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTIONS 7, 8 AND 9 OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CHAPTER 22:02

In accordance with sections 7, 8 and 9 of the **Freedom of Information Act Chap 22:02** (FOIA) the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) is required by law to publish this statement, which lists the documents and information generally available to the public.

The FOIA gives members of the public:

- 1) A legal right for each person to access information held by the MEEI;
- 2) A legal right for each person to have personal information relating to himself/herself amended where it is held by MEEI and such information is incomplete, incorrect or misleading;
- 3) A legal right to obtain reasons for adverse decisions made regarding an applicant's request for information under the FOIA; and
- 4) A legal right to complain to the Ombudsman and to apply to the High Court for judicial review to challenge adverse decisions made under the FOIA.

SECTION 7 STATEMENTS

SECTION 7 (1)(a)(i)

MEEI: FUNCTIONS

The main policy goal for the energy and minerals sectors is to optimally utilise the country's hydrocarbon and mineral resources by ensuring its efficient administration in order to obtain the greatest returns to the country for the benefit of all citizens. The energy and minerals sectors are primarily administered by the MEEI whose portfolio encompasses the following:

- 1) management and regulation of oil and gas operations; upstream activities; downstream marketing activities; and the petroleum services industry;
- 2) development and implementation of a wide range of policies related to the energy sector viz. fiscal, environmental, pricing and industry;
- 3) policy management and control of state-owned energy-based companies; and
- 4) management and regulation of the minerals sector.

The following State Enterprises fall under the portfolio of the MEEI:

Wholly Owned Enterprises

- The Guaracara Refining Company Limited (Guaracara)
- Heritage Petroleum Company Limited
- National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited
- National Quarries Company Limited
- Paria Fuel Trading Company Limited
- Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (PETROTRIN)
- Trinidad and Tobago National Petroleum Marketing Company Limited
- Union Estate Electricity Generation Company Limited
- Trinidad and Tobago Upstream Downstream Energy Operations Company Limited
- Trinidad Petroleum Holdings Limited

Majority Owned Enterprises

- ALU TRINT Limited
- POWERGEN
- Trinidad Nitrogen Company Limited

Minority Owned Enterprises

- Atlantic LNG Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited
- ALUTECH Limited
- Eastern Caribbean Gas Pipeline Company Limited
- Trinidad and Tobago Marine Petroleum Company Limited

Indirectly Owned Enterprises

- La Brea Industrial Development Corporation Limited
- National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago
- National Enterprises Limited
- NATPET Investment Company Limited
- NGC E&P Investments Limited
- NGC E&P Investments (Barbados) Limited
- NGC CNG Company Limited
- NGC NGL Company Limited
- NGC Petrochemicals Limited
- NGC Pipeline Company Limited
- NGC Trinidad and Tobago LNG Limited
- Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited
- Trinidad and Tobago LNG Limited
- Trinidad and Tobago NGL Limited
- TRINMAR Limited
- TRINTOC Services
- Trinidad Generation Unlimited

MEEI DIVISIONS AND UNITS

The MEEI comprises of nine (9) Divisions which are as follows:

- Commercial Evaluation
- Contracts Management
- Downstream Petroleum Management
- Energy Information Management and Technology Division
- Energy Research and Planning
- Minerals
- Petroleum Operations Management
- Resource Management
- Renewable Energy

There are also nine (9) Units that provide support services to these Divisions and to the rest of the Ministry namely:

- Accounting
- Administration
- Communications
- Human Resources
- Internal Audit
- Legal
- Production Sharing Contract Audit
- Subsidy Verification
- Monitoring and Evaluation

THE MEEI DIVISIONS:

COMMERCIAL EVALUATION DIVISION

Areas of Responsibility:

1. Fiscal & Economic Modelling

- To develop economics models of Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs), Exploration and Production (E&P) Licences and price formulas in marketing contracts.
- To calculate Financial Obligations, Royalties, Government's share of profit petroleum from PSCs, Petroleum taxes and free cash flow to the contractor from scenarios proposed for the development of oil and gas fields.
- To provide technical support and reviews.
- To advise on petroleum taxation, legislation and fiscal policies.
- To advise on fiscal incentives with respect to oil & gas projects.

2. Commercial Evaluation

- To track and advise monthly Financial Obligations and Profit Share payments from PSC and E&P licences.

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- To develop and implement systems which meet administration obligations for contracts.
- To evaluate the commercial and fiscal terms offered under competitive bid rounds, PSCs and (E&P) Licences.
- To evaluate the financial capability of both state and international energy companies.
- To evaluate the price and related commercial terms in natural gas and crude oil marketing contracts submitted for the Minister's approval pursuant to the terms of the PSC.
- To evaluate the changes to the petroleum taxes regime and identify the scenarios that can incentivise petroleum exploration.

3. Development of New Business Opportunities

- To review and advise on commercial aspects of development plans submitted by energy companies.

4. Negotiations

- To advise on the economic terms during any negotiations of PSCs and E&P Licences.

CONTRACTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION**Areas of Responsibility:**

1. To monitor PSCs and E&P Licences, ensuring company compliance with terms and conditions.
2. To manage the technical and commercial aspects of administration of PSCs and E&P Licences.
3. To monitor the Minister's share of Profit Petroleum and other financial obligations under the PSC.
4. To manage stakeholder interface with upstream contractors.

ENERGY RESEARCH & PLANNING DIVISION**Areas of Responsibility:****1. Planning**

- To analyse socio-economic impact of energy sector activities.
- To optimise resource development in determining investment opportunities.
- To monitor and review upstream and midstream energy sector developments.
- To capitalize on 'in-country' spending and develop local resources.

2. Research

- To gather intelligence and investigate new international energy sector developments.
- To engage in technological development and energy products market studies.
- To prepare cabinet notes, technical papers, speeches, briefing documents, reports and economic reviews on energy sector activities.
- To evaluate manpower skill requirements in the energy sector.
- To develop and analyse domestic and international energy statistics.
- To forecast energy sector trends and build scenarios for the evaluation of industry performance and future direction.
- To develop strategy and policy recommendations based on local and global trend analysis.

3. Quantitative Evaluation and Analysis

- To develop economic/statistical and financial analysis of the domestic energy sector.
- To engage in National Energy Balance modelling and development.
- To coordinate and analyse administrative reports of the MEEI as well as those from state enterprises under the MEEI's remit.

4. Secretariat Functions

- To develop and implement Local Content Policy and provide secretariat functions to the Permanent Local Content Committee.
- To manage the Secretariat of the Standing Committee on Energy.
- To manage the Secretariat for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.
- To represent the MEEI on the Work Permit Advisory Committee.
- To coordinate regional energy diplomacy initiatives.
- To represent the MEEI on the Cabinet appointed Technical Committee to co-ordinate the Execution of the Implementation Plan for the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of Trinidad and Tobago to the Paris Agreement (2017 to 2030)

5. Servicing Regional International Commitments

- To prepare reports on domestic energy sector development.
- To analyse and disseminate national energy sector statistics.
- To provide support for and develop regional international energy sector policies and relationships.
- To prepare reports for international rating agencies.
- To provide secretarial and technical functions for Trinidad and Tobago's multilateral and bilateral relations and assisting with Trinidad and Tobago's foreign relations.

6. Expenditure

- To monitor and evaluate the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) projects that fall under the purview of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.
- To monitor Foreign Direct Investments of companies in the energy sector of Trinidad and Tobago.

DOWNSTREAM PETROLEUM MANAGEMENT DIVISION**Areas of Responsibility:****1. Downstream Retail Marketing Group**

- To compute Ex-Terminal Prices.
- To administer the Petroleum Production and Fuel Levy and Subsidy Act.
- To calculate Royalty.
- To monitor local and international crude oil prices.
- To administer the Petroleum Impost.
- To monitor Guaracara's refinery operations.
- Administration of Marketing Licences under the Petroleum Act.
- To monitor and regulate the Marketing of Petroleum Products Sector.
- To monitor imports of Petroleum Products.
- To monitor Exports of Crude Oil.
- To develop and implement policy.

2. Supply and Transmission Group

- To forecast and monitor Natural Gas supply and demand.
- To monitor Natural Gas Production and Utilization data.
- To assess and participate in the review process of Field Development Plans to assist the Contract Management Division in their management of the technical aspects of administration of PSCs and E&P Licences.
- To review pipeline licence applications and serve as the stakeholder interface with the MEEI for the issuance of pipeline licenses.

3. Downstream Gas Utilization Group

- To maximize revenue from the marketing of petrochemicals.
- To promote the development of downstream gas-based industries/plants.
- Diversify the Energy Sector.
- Proper Management of Data and Information Resources.
- Maintain stakeholder relationships.

4. LNG Group

- To monitor the LNG Value Chain.
- To monitor Atlantic LNG's Operations.
- To conduct critical analysis of Contractual Arrangements along the LNG Value Chain.
- To analyze and assess the Global LNG Outlook.
- To represent Trinidad and Tobago in the Gas Exporting Countries Forum.

RENEWABLE ENERGY DIVISION

The Renewable Energy Division was established by Cabinet in July 2017 and is charged with the overall responsibility of developing and promoting the use of Renewable Energy and Renewable Energy Technologies within Trinidad and Tobago. This Division is also mandated to create an enabling environment for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and for maximizing opportunities for clean energy and clean production and the development of a culture for Energy Efficiency and conservation. In doing so, the division seeks to develop and promote Renewable Energy policies and projects, while supporting Renewable Energy resource development and investment opportunities.

The Renewable Energy Division is sub-divided into two (2) streams namely:

- i. Sustainable Energy Policy Development and Public Awareness; and
- ii. Sustainable Energy Development & Management.

Areas of Responsibility:

- To assist the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in fulfilling its local, regional and international commitments as it relates to Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change.
- To conduct Policy and Legislative Development and review as pertains to renewable energy.
- To spearhead Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency initiatives that the MEEI may engage in.
- To interact with all relevant internal and external stakeholders in the pursuit of renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives.
- To conduct analyses of renewable energy plants; and engage in resource development and assessment.

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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**Areas of Responsibility:****1. Acreage Management**

- To develop and recommend policies and strategies to optimise producing acreage.
- To manage the conduct of national oil and gas audits.
- To conduct reservoir engineering and Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) studies internally or through academic institutions.
- To review and recommend proposals for EOR and monitor implementation.
- To prepare national crude and condensate forecasts.
- To help determine the existence and extent of Cross-Border resources.

2. Exploration and Development Planning

- To evaluate technical and commercial potential of open acreage.
- To manage Competitive Bidding Rounds.
- To generate external acreage enhancement projects.
- Input in Law of the Sea negotiations and related matters.
- To license Technical Data.
- To host Virtual and Physical Data Rooms.

PETROLEUM OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT DIVISION**Areas of Responsibility:**

- To evaluate newly built, modified and repaired facilities for approval purposes.
- To research and develop HSE guidelines, codes and standards.
- To approve decommissioning/ abandonment of facilities.
- To inspect and audit petroleum operations.
- To investigate accidents / incidents.
- To manage the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP).
- To approve measurement systems and methods of measurement.
- To monitor loading of crude oil onto tankers for export.
- To ensure the calibration of gas meters, Lease Automatic Custody Transfer (LACT) units and crude oil storage tanks.
- To audit service station fuel specifications.

ENERGY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

The Energy Information Management and Technology Division is responsible for the collection, collation, storage and retrieval of all energy related information in all media formats. The Division includes the Geographic Information Systems Section, the Energy Data Operations Section, the Information Technology Section and the Library Section.

With respect to data, the Energy Information Management and Technology Division seeks to:

- To manage technical data records of the MEEI.
- To improve the quality of MEEI seismic data.
- To maintain an energy data repository.
- To enable secure accessibility of industry data to the Ministry's authorized internal and external stakeholders.

Geographic Information Systems Section

This section is responsible for the production of physical Maps and Charts. Its other responsibilities include:

- To manage spatial datasets such as well coordinates, seismic data, mineral and geological data and concession blocks.
- To verify geospatial data.
- To analyse and query spatial data.
- To prepare publications.
- To scan, print, digitize and store maps.

Energy Data Operations Section

This section is responsible for establishing and enforcing Data Standards that govern how our systems receive consistent data, and for defining the business rules which guide the processing, transformation and output creation of energy related data. The Section comprises the following three (3) teams:

- The Draughting Office Team - Responsible for the Ministry's Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
- The Data Processing Team - Responsible for receiving all incoming data from licensees and operators. It also provides monthly, quarterly and annual statistical Production Data reports for internal use, as well as for external use, once the Permanent Secretary approves an external request.
- The Legacy Data Team - Responsible for the storage, retrieval and curation of MEEI's records

archive, which contains submissions by licensees and contractors, including but not limited to Seismic Data, Well Logs and Production Data.

Information Technology Section

This section has the overall responsibility of providing and managing information and communication systems and technologies employed by MEEI. The security, functionality and progressive operation of these systems must be strategically aligned with the objectives of the MEEI. The Section is comprised of the following three (3) teams:

- The Network and Infrastructure Team
- The Solution Development and Implementation Team
- The Service Delivery and Support Team

Library Section

This Section is responsible for organising and maintaining an information service comprising resource material that is primarily relevant to the work of the MEEI. The library operates from two (2) physical locations as follows:

- The main office in Port of Spain, where the collection covers a range of information items on the technical, social and economic aspects of the local, regional and international energy and minerals industry; and
- The South Office, where a smaller, more specialized, technical collection of energy-related information is available.

The library is also available for use by the general public, which includes other government agencies, energy companies, local and international researchers and students.

Library/Reading Room Facilities:

Information can be accessed from our libraries in both the MEEI North and South Offices located at Level 24, International Waterfront Centre, #1 Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain and Maska Building, South Trunk Road, La Romaine respectively. Both libraries are open to the public from **Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** In order to better serve your information needs, it is highly recommended that requests be made in advance either by **telephone at 225-4334 ext. 2439** or by email to librarypos@energy.gov.tt.

The policy of the MEEI for provision of copies of documents held in the public domain is that the documents are for reference use in the library and are not available for loan to the general public.

MINERALS DIVISION

The Minerals Act Chap. 61:03 and the Minerals (General) Regulations made thereunder (the Act and Regulations) governs the minerals sector in Trinidad and Tobago. In accordance with legislation, the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries, under whose portfolio the mineral sector falls, is responsible for the general administration of the Act, and the Director of Minerals is responsible for the implementation of the Act and Regulations.

Minerals Advisory Committee

Section 15 of the Act establishes the Minerals Advisory Committee (MAC) which includes representatives of various Ministries/Departments and the Tobago House of Assembly. The Permanent Secretary serves as Chairman, and the Director of Minerals serves as Deputy Chairman, of the MAC. The duties of the MAC, as listed under Section 16 of the Act, include :

- To advise the Minister on matters of general policy with respect to exploration, mining, processing, import and export of minerals and other minerals related matters.
- To receive and consider applications for licences and to make recommendations thereof to the Minister.
- To advise the Minister on the establishment of mining zones and the establishment of mining blocks therein.
- To advise the Minister on the quantum of performance and rehabilitation bonds.
- To advise the Minister on matters of the environment as they relate to mines.
- To review the provisions of the Act and the Regulations from time to time and make recommendations to the Minister as may be considered necessary.
- To advise the Minister on all such matters that may be referred to it.

Office of the Director of Minerals

Pursuant to Section 9(1) of the Act, the Director of Minerals is responsible for the implementation of the Act. As provided by Section 9 (2) of the Act, the Director of Minerals may, with the approval of the Minister, delegate his functions and duties to such other officers of the Minerals Division as he may deem fit. In accordance with Section 10 of the said Act, the statutory duties of the Director of Minerals include:

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- a) To promote and facilitate the effective and efficient management and development of mineral resources in general and the State mineral resources in particular.
- b) To conduct geological and geophysical surveys with a view to locating deposits of mineral resources.
- c) To evaluate, collect, compile, analyse and publish data pertaining to the quality and quantity of mineral resources of Trinidad and Tobago with a view to determining their economic potential and use.
- d) To prepare reports, maps and other records, provide data and maintain registers in respect of licences and provide data to the public, subject to any confidentiality.
- e) To advise licensees on proper and safe mining methods.
- f) To advise the operators of mines, in consultation with relevant Ministries, on methods of rehabilitation of lands.
- g) To enforce rehabilitation of State lands affected by mining in consultation with relevant Ministries.
- h) To submit proposals to the MAC for the establishment of mineral reserve blocks or mining zones for the proper regulation of mining activities on State and private lands in consultation with Town and Country Planning Division.
- i) To inform the Commissioner of State Lands, every six months during the duration of a licence, of the amount of royalties due on any particular licence for mining on State Lands.

The Minerals Division

The Minerals Division is currently comprised of two (2) sections – the Exploration and Development Section and the Operations Section.

1. The Exploration and Development Section:

- To carry out duties delegated by the Director of Minerals relating to exploration and development activities.
- To perform Secretariat functions for MAC.
- To perform other functions as required to give effect to the Act and Regulations.
- To process new applications for licences in the Minerals Division.

2. Operations Section:

- To carry out duties delegated by the Director of Minerals relating to operations activities
- To perform other functions as required to give effect to the Minerals Act and Regulations.

THE MEEI UNITS:**ACCOUNTING UNIT**

The general roles and functions of MEEI's Accounting Unit are basically the same as for other Government Ministries or Departments.

Areas of responsibility:

- To process the MEEI's payroll.
- To process the payment of expenses relating to the MEEI after ensuring the proper authorization in accordance with the Exchequer and Audit Ordinance.
- To collect, record and account for all revenue received from Royalty, lease payments, Petroleum Impost, levy, license fees, administrative fees and charges and other miscellaneous payments.
- To pay taxes to Board of Inland Revenue on behalf of companies in respect of Production Sharing Contracts.
- To provide support to the Accounting Officer with the effective discharge of accounting functions and responsibilities by providing information and relevant accounting statements.

There are other functions of the Accounting Unit that are unique to the MEEI. These include:

- To collect and account for all MEEI's revenues.
- To ensure proper compliance with the Exchequer and Audit Ordinance before processing payment of any MEEI expenses.
- To record all revenues received and payments made e.g. lease payments, administrative charges, payment of licence fees etc.
- To record revenues collected from royalty, petroleum impost and subsidy.

ADMINISTRATION UNIT

This Unit is responsible for facilities and office management in the MEEI. It also handles the procurement of goods and services, as well as making official travel arrangements for officers.

Areas of responsibility:

- Records Management– to identify, select, order and manage organisational records.
- Procurement (Cost Management & Office Management)– to review/assess quotations and make recommendations for purchase.
- Facilities Management– to facilitate maintenance of the building (by liaising with UDeCOTT) and to monitor MEEI's furniture and materials requirement.
- General Administration– to manage customer service representatives, maids, operators/receptionists, registry systems and transportation services.

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

This Unit is responsible for broadcasting pertinent MEEI activity and information to the general public through various channels such as newspaper, social media, television and radio. MEEI's website activity is also monitored and updated by this Unit.

Areas of responsibility:

- To cover all communications with external and internal stakeholders.
- To transmit consistent general and tailored messages.
- To produce key presentations, press releases, conferences and events newsletters, website content, and leadership team presentations.
- To pinpoint marketing opportunities for investors.
- To inform the public of MEEI policies, programmes, services and activities.
- To ensure that all information about MEEI in the public domain is accurate, reliable, complete, timely and comprehensible.
- To receive feedback and address concerns, issues, views and expectations of the public about MEEI's duties, products and services.
- To ensure that MEEI is transparent, proactive, accessible, responsive and answerable to all its stakeholders.

SUBSIDY VERIFICATION UNIT

The Subsidy Verification Unit (SVU) was established in March 2012 to implement measures that make the monitoring of the diesel supply chain more efficient. Additionally, SVU verifies the correctness of monthly subsidy claims submitted to the MEEI by the two (2) Wholesale Marketing Companies.

Areas of responsibility:

- To determine a control system for clients of who purchase and use subsidised diesel in their vessels and businesses.
- To audit the diesel supply chain.
- To verify the accuracy of purchases and sales of subsidised fuel by the service stations, marinas and peddlers on a monthly basis.
- To ensure customers' compliance with the Wholesale Marketing Licence and the Retail Marketing Licence.
- To create and maintain a database of all applicants seeking approval to purchase diesel at the subsidised price from MEEI.
- To review applications submitted for approval to purchase diesel at the subsidised price.
- To create and maintain a statistical database which identifies the hourly fuel consumption rate of engines in the various vessels and machinery.

HUMAN RESOURCES UNIT

This Unit is responsible for planning and organising all matters relevant to employees, in MEEI.

Areas of responsibility:

- To facilitate staff industrial relations activities as provided for by law.
- To guide the enrolment and recruitment of MEEI personnel.
- To moderate training and development of employees during the course of employment.
- To arrange for recruitment of new personnel as vacancies arise.
- To maintain personal files for all members of staff, which includes information on promotions, transfers, leave and confidential reports.
- To instruct personnel on the procedure for their exit from the MEEI, including retirement from the public service or resignation.
- To keep abreast of conditions of employment in the Public Service.
- To take disciplinary action against staff if need arises.

INTERNAL AUDIT UNIT

This Unit provides independent and objective advisory services to the Accounting Officer on improving the financial management of the MEEI. It also ensures the efficient, effective, economical and ethical manner operation of the MEEI's finances. The scope of internal audit processes covers the areas of risk, control and governance.

Areas of responsibility:

- To establish and monitor the achievement of MEEI's policy and service objectives.
- To identify, assess and manage the risks in achieving those objectives.
- To ensure the economical, effective and efficient use of resources.
- To ensure compliance with established policies (including behavioural and ethical expectations), procedures, laws and regulations.
- To safeguard the assets of MEEI from all losses, including those arising from fraud, irregularity or corruption.
- To ensure the integrity and reliability of information, accounts and data, including internal and external reporting and accountability processes.

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LEGAL UNIT

This Unit advises MEEI on all legal issues within the energy sector and minerals sector; gives specialized petroleum law and mineral law advice; and provides general legal advice to the other Divisions and Teams/Units of MEEI.

Areas of responsibility:

- To prepare energy and energy related contracts, licences, memoranda, other agreements and contracts.
- To provide advisory opinions to the MEEI on all legal matters relating to the oil, gas, minerals and renewable energy sectors as well as in areas of Human Resource Management and General Administration as required.
- To participate as part of MEEI's team in the negotiation of PSCs, licences and other contractual arrangements between the State and international oil and gas companies as well as agreements with other governments.
- To prepare preliminary drafts of relevant petroleum legislation and amendments thereto to the Chief Parliamentary Counsel as required.

The Attorneys from the Legal Unit also serve on various Cabinet appointed and other Committees as nominated.

PSC AUDIT UNIT

The main objective of this Unit is to provide assurance to the Minister that contractors/companies are compliant with the PSCs.

Areas of responsibility:

- To ensure that contractors maintain adequate accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices in the international petroleum industry.
- To ensure that contractors have satisfied their financial obligations, to the Minister, under the Contracts.
- To ensure that claimed costs are not disqualified for cost recovery and the claimed amounts are supported by adequate audit evidence and are properly classified.
- To ensure that all sales of petroleum products by the Contractors are made at 'arms-length' prices (in accordance with sales agreements) and that all amounts are brought to account.
- To ensure that cost recovery amounts and the Minister's share are calculated and accounted for in accordance with the PSCs.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION UNIT

The main objective of this Unit is the development and implementation of the MEEI's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework in line with the principles of Results-Based Management as outlined in the National Monitoring and Evaluation Policy of Trinidad and Tobago.

Areas of Responsibility:

- To monitor and evaluate programmes and projects related to the National Development Agenda within the MEEI and any agencies under the purview of the MEEI.
- To lead the development and implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems for the MEEI including designing frameworks and procedures, preparing reports on monitoring and evaluation findings that are compatible with the requirements of the National Performance Framework (to the Ministry of Planning and Development) and reviewing the performance of the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) and Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) projects of the MEEI.
- To participate in the preparation of strategic plans for the MEEI.
- To establish effective monitoring and evaluation partnerships through:
 - i. the establishment of monitoring and evaluation task forces to fulfil specific short-term monitoring and evaluation objectives and technical working groups; and
 - ii. the conducting of joint study tours and joint evaluations and the participation at conferences and meetings etc.
- To instil a culture of monitoring and evaluation within the MEEI through the development and implementation of an advocacy and communication plan.
- To direct, supervise and monitor the implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems while ensuring that timely decisions on corrective actions are made and implemented.

MEEI: STRUCTURE

The MEEI organisational structure at present is shown in the Organisation Chart attached.

EFFECT OF MEEI FUNCTIONS ON MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The work of the MEEI impacts the Gross Domestic Product of Trinidad and Tobago and ultimately the standard of living of every citizen of the country. The sustainability of the sector and the optimisation of economic returns are therefore of paramount importance to the MEEI and Trinidad and Tobago.

In its energy strategy for the longer term, the MEEI is also pursuing the promotion of renewable energy development in the diversification of energy sources of Trinidad and Tobago.

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (ii)**Categories of documents in the possession of the MEEI:**

1. Cabinet documents.
2. Policy and procedure documents.
3. News releases, speeches etc. originating in the MEEI.
4. Maps, charts, compact and digital disks, diskettes, tapes, photographs, abstracts and catalogues.
5. Documents relating to the strategic review of MEEI.
6. Legislation and legal instruments.
7. Reports - annual, statistical, audit, consultants, technical, corporate etc.
8. Pamphlets, brochures, posters, newspaper clippings, and bulletins.
9. Minutes and agenda of meetings.
10. Books and journals.
11. Registers, approvals, licenses, contracts, etc.

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (iii)**Material prepared for publication or inspection:**

The Library at the Port of Spain office has a catalogue of information available at the MEEI. While the library does not offer photocopying service, the public may inspect the material between the hours of 9.00am to 3.00pm Monday to Friday at:

The Library, Level 24
MEEI
International Waterfront Centre
#1 Wrightson Road
Port of Spain
Tel.225-4334 Ext. 2439
Fax: 225-5764
E-mail: librarypos@energy.gov.tt

The Library
MEEI South Office
Maska Building
South Trunk Road
La Romaine
Tel. 225-4334 Ext. 3314
Email: mmohammed@energy.gov.tt

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (iv)**Publications available from MEEI:**

The following publications are available to Members of the public on the MEEI website at www.energy.gov.tt

- The Monthly Bulletin of the MEEI
- The Annual Report of the MEEI

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (v)**The procedure to be followed when accessing documents from the MEEI**

How to request information:

(1) General Procedure

Our policy is to respond to all requests for information, however in order to reserve all rights given by the FOIA, (e.g. the right to challenge a decision if a request for information is refused) a request in writing must be submitted by using the Request for Access to Official Documents form. This form is available on MEEI's website.

(2) Details in Request

Applicants should provide details that will allow for ready identification and location of the records that are being requested. If insufficient information is provided, clarification will be sought from the applicants. If there is any doubt in relation to how a request must be detailed, MEEI's Designated FOI Officer (as named in section 7 (1) (a) (vi)) can be contacted for assistance.

(3) Requests not handled under the FOIA

A request under the FOIA will not be processed to the extent that it seeks information that is readily available in the public domain, either from the MEEI or from another public authority, for example brochures and pamphlets etc.

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(4) Responding to requests

MEEI is required to furnish copies of documents only when they are in our possession or can be retrieved from storage. Prior to the commencement of the FOIA, old records may have been destroyed. The granting of a request for such documents would therefore be impossible. Various laws, regulations and manuals give the time periods for preserving records before they can be destroyed.

(5) Furnishing documents

An applicant is entitled to copies of information we have in our possession, custody or power. MEEI is required to furnish only one copy of a document. If a legible copy of a document to be released cannot be made, MEEI will not attempt to reconstruct it; instead, the applicant will be furnished with the best copy possible and note its quality in our reply. MEEI is not compelled to do the following:

- a) create new documents; or
- b) perform research on behalf of applicants.

(6) Time limits

The FOIA institutes a time limit of thirty (30) days to make the decision whether or not to disclose the documents requested by the applicant. Where there is failure to meet this deadline, the FOIA gives the applicant the right to proceed as if the request had been denied. Every effort will be made to comply with the time limits, but if it appears that processing the requests may take longer than the statutory limit, MEEI will acknowledge the request and advise the applicant of its status. Since there is a possibility that requests may be wrongly addressed or routed, the applicant may wish to call or write to ascertain the status of the request and confirm that it has been received.

(7) Fees and Charges

Section 17(1) stipulates that no fee shall be charged by a public authority for the making of a request for access to an official document. However, where access to an official document is to be given in the form of printed copies, or copies in some other form, such as on tape, disk, film or other material, the applicant will be required to pay the prescribed fee incurred for duplication of the said material. Similarly, where documents in the public domain are made available to a member of the public, MEEI may charge duplication fees in accordance with its normal replication policy.

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (vi)

Officers in the MEEI responsible for:

- a) the initial receipt of and action upon notices under section 10
- b) requests for access to documents under section 13; and
- c) applications for corrections of personal information under section 36 of the FOIA, as follows:

The Designated FOI Officer is:

Mrs. Indira Ramkissoon-Rambharose
Senior State Counsel
Level 25, International Waterfront Centre
#1 Wrightson Road
Port of Spain
Tel: 225-4334 Ext. 2551
Fax: 225-5764
E-mail: iramkissoon@energy.gov.tt

The two Alternate FOI Officers are:

Ms. Arlene Lawrence
State Counsel II
Level 25, International Waterfront Centre
#1 Wrightson Road
Port of Spain
Tel: 225-4334 Ext. 2506
Fax: 225-5764
E-mail: alawrence@energy.gov.tt

Ms. Nazeema Mohammed
Librarian I
South Office
Maska Building
South Trunk Road, La Romain
Tel: 225-4334 Ext. 3314
E-mail: nmohammed@energy.gov.tt

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (vii)

At the present time there are no Advisory Boards, Councils, Committees and other bodies that fall within the meaning of this section of the FOIA.

SECTION 7(1) (a) (viii)**Library/Reading Room Facilities:**

Information can be accessed from our Libraries in both the North and South MEEI Offices. General enquiries may be made of our Librarian, who can be reached at **225-4334 ext. 2439**. The library/reading room in MEEI's Head Office is located on Level 24, International Waterfront Centre, #1 Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain and it is open to the public from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. The policy of MEEI for provision of copies of documents held in the public domain is that the provision of such documents is to be subject to a small charge to cover administrative costs.

SECTION 8 STATEMENTS**SECTION 8 (1) (a) (i)**

With respect to documents containing interpretations or particulars of written laws and schemes administered by the public authority, the following legislation as amended apply:

1. Petroleum Act Chapter, 62:01 and Regulations;
2. Petroleum Production and Fuel Levy and Subsidy Act, Chapter 62:02;
3. Petroleum Taxes Act, Chapter 75:04;
4. Income Tax (In Aid of Industry) Act, Chapter 85:04;
5. Income Tax Act, Chapter 75:01;
6. Unemployment Levy Act, Chapter 75:03;
7. Minerals Act, Chapter 61:03 and Regulations;
8. Asphalt Industry Regulation Act, Chapter 87:50;
9. Mining Compensation Act, Chapter 61:02;
10. Geological Survey Act, Chapter 60:02;
11. Exchequer and Audit Act, Chapter 69:01;
12. Fiscal Incentives Act, Chapter 85:01;
13. Freedom of Information Act Chapter 22:02;
14. Occupational Safety & Health Act, Chapter 88:08;
15. Environmental Management Act, Chapter 35:05; and
16. Corporation Taxes Act, Chapter 75:02.

SECTION 8 (1) (a) (ii)

The manuals, rules of procedure, statements of policy, records of decisions, letters of advice to persons outside the public authority, or similar documents containing rules, policies, guidelines, practices or precedents that apply under this section are as follows:

- 1) A Guide to Obtaining a Work Permit in Trinidad and Tobago.
- 2) Underground Storage Tank Systems – Guidelines for the Installation and Use of Underground Storage Tank Systems.
- 3) Aboveground Hydrocarbons Storage Tanks (Horizontal) Inspection Checklist Ground Storage of Diesel and Kerosene – Guidelines for the aboveground.
- 4) LPG Storage – Guidelines and Application Procedure for LPG Storage.
- 5) Road Tank Wagons – Guidelines for the Transportation of Petroleum by Road Tank Wagons (Draft).
- 6) Handling and Storage of Petroleum Products – General Guidelines for Handling and Storage of Petroleum Products – and Combustible Liquids.
- 7) Code of Practice for Drilling and Production Rigs Operating in Trinidad and Tobago.
- 8) Information Requirements for Approval of Fixed Offshore Platforms.
- 9) Information Requirements of MEEI-Data required for drilling Exploratory Wells.
- 10) Instructions for the Preparation of Tax Claims for Useless Footage/Abandoned Interval and Qualifying Sidetrack for Certification by MEEI.
- 11) MEEI's Final Document – Definitions of Drilling Terminology.
- 12) Lahee Classification of Exploration & Development Wells.
- 13) Draft Guidance on the Sustainability Incentive and Investment Tax Credit.
- 14) MEEI Guidelines for Abandoning Wells.
- 15) Requirements for Geophysical Surveys for Oil & Gas Deposits.
- 16) Guidelines for Evaluation of Exploratory Wells.
- 17) MEEI Templates for Mining Licence Applications: Mine Design Plans, Rehabilitation Plans, Health and Safety Plans.

SECTION 8 (1) (b)

In enforcing written laws or schemes administered by the public authority where a member of the public might be directly affected by that enforcement, being documents containing information on the procedures to be employed or the objectives to be pursued in the enforcement of the written laws or schemes, the following will apply:

- Role of the Certified Verification Agent: Onshore and Offshore Pipelines and Facilities.

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SECTION 9 STATEMENTS**SECTION 9 (1) (a)**

A report or a statement containing the advice or recommendations, of a body or entity established with MEEI, including:

- Accident/Incident Reports.
- Oil Spill Contingency Plans.

SECTION 9 (1) (b)

A report or a statement containing the advice or recommendations:

- of the body or entity established outside MEEI by or under a written law; or
- by a Minister of Government of either public authority for the purpose of submitting a report or reports, providing advice or making recommendations to MEEI or to the responsible Minister of MEEI.

There are no reports or statements to be published under this section at this time.

SECTION 9 (1) (c)

A report or a statement containing the advice or recommendations of an inter-departmental committee whose membership includes an officer of MEEI, namely:

- Accident /Incident reports.

SECTION 9 (1) (d)

A report or a statement containing the advice or recommendations of a committee established within the MEEI to submit a report, provide advice or make recommendations to the responsible Minister of MEEI or to another officer of MEEI who is not a member of the committee, namely:

- National Oil Spill Contingency Plan for Trinidad and Tobago.

SECTION 9 (1) (e)

A report (including any report concerning the results of studies, surveys or tests) prepared for the MEEI by a scientific or technical expert, whether employed within MEEI or not, including a report expressing the opinion of such an expert on scientific or technical matters, namely:

- Reports from CARIRI'S Petroleum Testing Laboratory on samples submitted by MEEI for analyses. A list of laboratory analyses that have been conducted can be obtained from MEEI.
- Ryder Scott Audit & Updates.

SECTION 9 (1) (f)

A report prepared for the MEEI by a consultant who was paid for preparing the report.

- There are no reports to be published under this section at this time.

SECTION 9 (1) (g)

A report prepared within the MEEI and containing the results of studies, surveys or tests carried out for the purpose of assessing, or making recommendations on, the feasibility of establishing a new or proposed Government policy, programme or project.

- There are no reports or statements to be published under this section at this time.

SECTION 9 (1) (h)

A report on the performance or efficiency of the MEEI, or of an office, division or branch of the MEEI, whether the report is of a general nature or concerns a particular policy, programme or project administered by the MEEI.

- There are no reports or statements to be published under this section at this time.

SECTION 9 (1) (i)

A report containing:

- final plans or proposals for the re-organisation of the functions of the MEEI; or
- the establishment of a new policy, programme or project to be administered by the MEEI; or
- the alteration of an existing policy programme or project administered by the MEEI, whether or not the plans or proposals are subject to approval by an officer of the MEEI, another public authority, the responsible Minister of the MEEI or Cabinet, namely:

SECTION 9 (1) (j)

A statement prepared within MEEI and containing policy directions for the drafting of legislation, namely:

- The Minerals Policy White Paper for Trinidad and Tobago.
- Draft Policy Paper on the Implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Trinidad and Tobago.
- Draft Policy Paper on the Introduction of Local Content Legislation in Trinidad and Tobago

SECTION 9 (1) (k)

A report of a test carried out within the MEEI on the product for the purpose of purchasing equipment.

- There are no reports to be published under this section at this time.

SECTION 9 (1) (l)

An environmental impact statement prepared within the MEEI.

- There are no environmental impact statements to be published under this section at this time.

SECTION 9 (1) (m)

A valuation report prepared for MEEI by a valuator, whether or not the valuator is an officer of the MEEI.

- There are no reports to be published under this section at this time.

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ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

