

# Barbados gears up for groundbreaking green energy project in St Philip



AERIAL SHOT OF THE Centrale Électrique de l'Ouest Guyanais (CEOG) project under construction in French Guiana. (GP)



HYDROGÈNE DE FRANCE

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JACQUELINE BECKLES, Regional Head of Operations and RSB Project Manager, engaging stakeholders from the Ministry of Health and the Six Roads Polyclinic (not pictured) on the island's first hybrid green hydrogen power plant to be built in St Philip. Below left, Carter's General Store Managing Director, Brian Hurley, and (right), Farm Road Terrace community resident Mark Haynes chatting with RSB Community Liaison Officer, Meshia Clarke, about the RSB project. (GPs)

## Stakeholder engagement in progress on RSB power plant

THE COMMUNITY OF Six Roads and the wider St Philip parish is seeing renewed energy – quite literally – as stakeholder engagement activities ramp up for the island's first solar and hydrogen hybrid power plant. The project, known as Renewable® Barbados (RSB), is being developed by international renewable energy developer HDF Energy and will be constructed on part of the historic Harrow Plantation.

As Barbados sets its sights on a more sustainable and resilient energy future, the RSB team is deepening its outreach to ensure that residents, businesses, and institutions across the project area of influence are informed and involved. In discussions with the Minister of Energy, Senator the Honourable Lisa Cummins had this to say about the RSB project: "Green hydrogen isn't just about clean energy usage. It's about new industries, new job opportunities for our people and lower fuel costs over time." She also went on to state that "private sector initiatives like RSB contribute positively to Government's climate smart and green growth agenda – as we aren't just producing green hydrogen – Barbados is continuing to lead in ambition and execution. We are shaping the energy future for island states."

### Local voices at the centre

Community Liaison Officer for the RSB project, Meshia Clarke, noted that "We've had a great start to our community spot check sessions, there's been strong interest from residents who want to know how the project will benefit Barbados and their own neighbourhoods."

Key questions from the community have focused on job opportunities, water usage,



AIDAN ROGERS, Strategic Advisor, engaging members of the Six Roads Church of Christ in Marchfield St Philip, on the RSB project. (GP)

safety measures, and when construction is set to begin.

Among those already engaged are businesses in the Six Roads commercial area, including Chefette, Republic Bank, City of Bridgetown Cooperative Credit Union, Automotive Art, and Carters General Store. Schools such as Princess Margaret Secondary, Hilda Skeene Primary, and Reynold Weekes Primary have also been part of the ongoing dialogue, alongside institutions like the Six Roads Polyclinic and local churches.

Long-time Farm Road Terrace resident, Shane Wiseman, whose home borders the southern edge of the project site, shared his perspective: "It's good to know that the developers are reaching out early and giving us a chance to voice our concerns and hear what's coming."

### Building with respect – for people and history

With Barbados following the successful example of the CEOG hydrogen power

plant in French Guiana, this local project is designed not just to deliver clean energy but also to honour the community and its heritage.

As the site sits on former plantation lands, the RSB team is working closely with the Barbados Museum and Historical Society and the Barbados Railway Project to ensure that the island's cultural and historical legacy is acknowledged and respected throughout the development process.

### Smart planning, transparent communication

To address potential disruptions during the construction phase, a Traffic and Route Mitigation Plan has been developed to address potential congestion. Additionally, a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be put in place which will allow residents to voice any project-related concerns and receive timely responses.

In the weeks ahead, the team will focus on additional residential areas such as Neil Kirk Gardens, Marchfield, Crescent Drive,

and other parts of Farm Road Terrace, while continuing to engage schools, churches, and community-based groups.

### Regional Projects in Development

As RSB steps up its community engagement in Barbados, construction for the Centrale Électrique de l'Ouest Guyanais (CEOG) project in French Guiana, of which HDF Energy is the pioneering developer, is in full swing. With all 26 of the hydrogen tanks fully installed, Siemens Energy, the engineering, procurement and construction contractor for the project, is currently building out the hydrogen power centre facility with HDF Energy's hydrogen fuel cells being an integral part of the technology. The CEOG project is already seeing positive benefits through the creation of local jobs as a result of project construction, and the RSB Barbados project is expected to see the same.

### Stay Informed, Stay Connected

The RSB project team invites all residents and interested parties to stay connected and informed via the project's dedicated website – [www.renewstable-barbados.com](http://www.renewstable-barbados.com) – which provides access to key documents and updates, and other social media channels will be rolled out in the future.

To learn more about the Renewable® Barbados project or to request a community session, contact Community Liaison Officer Meshia Clarke at [rsbarbados@hdf-energy.com](mailto:rsbarbados@hdf-energy.com) or call +1 246 234-3288. This is only the beginning of Barbados' journey towards a greener, more secure energy future, built with the voices and values of our communities at its heart.