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LAST CHANCE FOR LIGHTHOUSE POINT

April 20, 2021

The Honourable Romauld Sotario Ferreira Minister of the Environment and Housing Member of Parliament (FNM) Charlotte House (2nd Floor), Shirley & Charlotte Street P. O. Box N-4849 Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

Rochelle Newbold
Director
Department of Environmental Planning and Protection
Charlotte House, 1st Floor
Charlotte & Shirley Streets
P.O. Box N-7132
Nassau, Bahamas

Dear Minister Ferreira and Ms. Newbold,

Invitation to second extended public consultation to discuss Disney's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed cruise ship port at Lighthouse Point.

We are writing to invite you to attend our second extended public consultation meeting on April 22 at 6:00 PM EST (Zoom link, Meeting ID: 869 3813 6074) to discuss Disney's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for their proposed project at Lighthouse Point.

Our first extended public consultation on April 15 attracted more than 100 participants from Eleuthera, The Bahamas, and across the world. The meeting clearly showed that there are serious concerns about the adequacy of Disney's EIA. Independent experts and members of the public identified numerous deficiencies in the document.

As Casuarina Mckinney-Lambert, Executive Director, BREEF, stated, "Irrespective of your view of Disney's current proposal, we can agree that Disney and the Government need to conduct a science-based EIA with meaningful public participation as a basis for a rational decision about

such a major project. Our goal with these extended public consultations is to further the discussions of the key areas where this EIA needs to be improved so that Disney, the Government, and the public can make a sound judgment about the future of Lighthouse Point."

As a result, we will be hosting a second extended public consultation to discuss important issues identified in the EIA by the public and independent local and international experts. This meeting will focus on the adequacy of the EIA with regard to its consideration of oceans and climate change. As of now, the meeting will begin with a presentation from independent expert Dr. Thomas Goreau, Ph.D., President of the Global Coral Reef Alliance and Chief Scientist at Blue Regeneration SL. The meeting will also include a presentation of findings from the report by the Woods Hole Group on Disney's EIA and its consideration of sea-level rise. Once again we are eager for you, and any other Government officials who are able, to join us on April 22 for a transparent, thorough, and meaningful discussion about the EIA.

Thank you and please let us know if you will be able to attend.

Respectfully,

Sam Duncombe

**Executive Director** 

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On behalf of the Last Chance for Lighthouse Point Campaign

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Cc: Casuarina Mckinney-Lambert, Executive Director, BREEF Rashema Ingraham, Executive Director, Waterkeepers Bahamas Joseph Darville, Executive Director, Save the Bays

Marc Yaggi, Executive Director, Waterkeeper Alliance (International)