

## **LHP EIA Public Consultation - Transcript**

*April 8, 2021*

*6 p.m.*

WEBVTT

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00:01:02.580 --> 00:01:11.280

Director Newbold: Having their concerns or questions heard, I will go through a few housekeeping rules as it relates to the meeting tonight.

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00:01:11.700 --> 00:01:22.170

Director Newbold: Please note that, due to the issues of bandwidth we are asking that you not turn on your cameras that's allowing the presenters to have the opportunity to use the bandwidth.

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00:01:22.410 --> 00:01:33.720

Director Newbold: To make their presentation, such that all personnel persons, whether in The Bahamas or outside of The Bahamas, may have the best opportunity of getting the information without disruption.

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00:01:34.800 --> 00:01:44.880

Director Newbold: Secondly, we ask that your mics remain muted until such time that you are asked, to make any sort of statement or comment or we open the floor to such.

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00:01:45.630 --> 00:01:57.030

Director Newbold: Third, I know that there are a lot of strong positions relative to this project but tonight, our effort is to identify any matters, gaps.

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00:01:57.390 --> 00:02:07.800

Director Newbold: Inconsistencies or anything of an environmental concern associated with the environmental document that has been placed in the public domain for review.

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00:02:08.310 --> 00:02:18.030

Director Newbold: That being said, those individuals who have the need to express an opinion, we are asking that you put those opinions in the chat.

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00:02:18.960 --> 00:02:32.970

Director Newbold: One of the outputs of this project, sorry of this process, is the production of a public consultation report that report must reflect any comments, concerns or opinions that are shared or

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00:02:33.840 --> 00:02:44.820

Director Newbold: provided during the consultative process which is inclusive of tonight's meeting, as well as a 21 working day period thereafter.

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00:02:45.150 --> 00:02:57.540

Director Newbold: So I don't want people to feel slighted should they not be able to get the floor per se for the meeting and so that they can verbalize their positions, but we are really, really.

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00:02:58.050 --> 00:03:17.340

Director Newbold: urging you, I'm asking you, that the request for the floor, be related to actual questions associated with the EIA or the identification of any gaps associated with the documentation that has been put in the public domain.

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00:03:18.360 --> 00:03:32.310

Director Newbold: We will ask everybody use the hand raised function in order to be called upon, if you are not compliant with the house rules that I am putting forward, you will be at first muted.

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00:03:32.940 --> 00:03:42.360

Director Newbold: And if you consistently persist, you will be ejected from the meeting. I want to be very clear here, it will not be Disney that's going to

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00:03:43.050 --> 00:03:49.050

Director Newbold: eject you from the room, it will be the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection, as we have one function.

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00:03:49.260 --> 00:03:57.000

Director Newbold: For tonight's meeting, it is to meet and gather from the Bahamian people and those who may have interest in the Bahamian environment,

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00:03:57.360 --> 00:04:09.900

Director Newbold: Any concerns relative to the production of the information as provided to the government in the EIA we're asking you to be partners with us in this, for, if you would all our minds and.

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00:04:10.350 --> 00:04:15.420

Director Newbold: heads together on this review process if there are gaps you let us know.

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00:04:16.230 --> 00:04:23.880

Director Newbold: If you don't let us know that there are any gaps during the course of this consultative process we assume that the document is ready to go so.

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00:04:24.150 --> 00:04:36.900

Director Newbold: it's very important that we get those questions or concerns and not so much your opinion as to whether the project could go ahead or not go ahead, because that is not the objective of tonight's meeting.

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00:04:38.670 --> 00:04:48.480

Director Newbold: As I said, we want everybody to be respectful of this process okay keep that in mind, second thing we also want you to be aware of

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00:04:48.990 --> 00:05:00.630

Director Newbold: tonight is the night for Disney to make its presentation to all interested parties after tonight, there will be a 21 day period where you can still provide your comments.

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00:05:01.050 --> 00:05:16.290

Director Newbold: via email directly to the department or via Disney or both. By law, both parties must share any comments it's received from the public with regards to the process so either which way we both going to get it.

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00:05:17.010 --> 00:05:39.270

Director Newbold: And you can definitely check back with the production of the public consultation report to verify that your comment was captured and is reflected in the document. That being said, the cutoff time is 21 days from today's meeting. Should your comment come in on 22nd day by law, it is non....

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00:05:40.290 --> 00:05:49.230

Director Newbold: It can't be admissible, so we to advise you and we do urge you to be very efficient in the use of the time that's legally mandated for this process.

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00:05:50.340 --> 00:06:00.540

Director Newbold: So, as it relates to the functionality of the participation in tonight's meeting for those of you that are on via your computers, please note at the bottom of your screen.

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00:06:01.140 --> 00:06:06.960

Director Newbold: You will see that there is a reaction, there's a smiling emoji with a plus over their head.

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00:06:07.800 --> 00:06:22.140

Director Newbold: You will be able to click that to put your hands up right, and if you are on your phone, then you would have to look and see how the whole process is outlaid on your phone, I think it may be to the right, but whether using

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00:06:23.250 --> 00:06:27.390

Director Newbold: An apple device or android device, you would have to make that determination.

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00:06:28.470 --> 00:06:45.480

Director Newbold: But we will only be allowing folks to take the floor during the question and answer period and that will be via the raising of your hands the system will put persons in the rank and order in which their hands are raised.

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00:06:46.500 --> 00:06:55.770

Director Newbold: The process for tonight, now that I've gone through the house clearing rules, housekeeping rules rather, the process for the night is one the meeting is being recorded too.

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00:06:56.250 --> 00:07:03.300

Director Newbold: Disney will have 30 minutes in which they gave the presentation about their project, there will be no interruptions during that presentation.

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00:07:03.780 --> 00:07:15.300

Director Newbold: After that presentation, there will be a 40 minute period where we will take question and answers, you will have one minute to get your question out.

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00:07:15.810 --> 00:07:29.880

Director Newbold: Please do not have a speech, we just need you to get to the salient point of the question, so that we can use this time as efficiently as possible, so with that being said, I will now turn the process over to

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00:07:31.290 --> 00:07:33.420

Director Newbold: Miss Prunty

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00:07:34.470 --> 00:07:39.480

Director Newbold: for her for the introduction of the Disney team on the presentation for tonight.

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00:07:40.920 --> 00:07:48.930

Kim Prunty: Thank you, Director Newbold and thanks to everyone who has joined us, we are grateful for the opportunity to share more information about our projects.

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00:07:49.350 --> 00:07:57.900

Kim Prunty: I will be delivering the presentation tonight, along with Dr Mark Penning who is Vice President of our Animal Science and Environment team. Dr Mark, could you introduce yourself.

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00:07:59.550 --> 00:08:19.500

Mark Penning: Yes, I can, good evening everybody and thank you for the opportunity and I am very proud to lead the Disney Animal Science and Environment team, which essentially consists of about 1000 animal care professionals, conservationists, educators.

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00:08:20.580 --> 00:08:26.550

Mark Penning: And people that are really passionate about protecting the planet for generations to come.

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00:08:28.740 --> 00:08:36.810

Kim Prunty: Thank you, Dr Mark. First as we get started, we just like to share our general commitment to The Bahamas. The Bahamas is as much our home as anywhere.

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00:08:37.290 --> 00:08:45.330

Kim Prunty: From an economic impact perspective it is estimated our operations lead to more than \$60 million annually in direct spending in the Bahamas.

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00:08:45.750 --> 00:08:59.100

Kim Prunty: that's when we're operational. Today, and when we're operational, 75% of the cruises have at least one stop in the Bahamas. We've operated Castaway Cay for more than 20 years and all four of our ships are registered in The Bahamas.

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00:08:59.550 --> 00:09:08.310

Kim Prunty: From a conservation perspective, Dr Mark and his team have also been involved for quite some time making significant donations from the Disney Conservation Fund.

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00:09:08.790 --> 00:09:19.530

Kim Prunty: Also Mark's team has been very involved in coral rehabilitation efforts in Abaco for more than 10 years. They've also supported eco camps and help support curriculum for Bahamian schoolchildren.

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00:09:21.840 --> 00:09:27.510

Kim Prunty: We spent a lot of time in the Bahamas talking to people about what's important to make sure that when we contribute to the community

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00:09:27.750 --> 00:09:34.740

Kim Prunty: we're doing it in a way that meets community needs and a few themes have come out because of that. One is the importance of Bahamian ownership.

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00:09:35.070 --> 00:09:40.530

Kim Prunty: Which is why we've invested a million dollars over three years to the National Small Business Development Centre

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00:09:40.800 --> 00:09:49.080

Kim Prunty: and the Eleuthera Chamber to create an Eleuthera Business Hub, to take advantage of the project that we're bringing as well as the others are bringing into Eleuthera.

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00:09:49.740 --> 00:09:56.820

Kim Prunty: We also have a focus on education and workforce development. We've worked with the LJM Maritime Academy to provide scholarships.

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00:09:57.270 --> 00:10:06.870

Kim Prunty: we've also worked with the Ministry of Education. We've done reading programs for years, most recently, we provided devices to students in Eleuthera and Abaco to help

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00:10:07.230 --> 00:10:19.020

Kim Prunty: during these challenging times. We also continue to work with Urban Renewal in Eleuthera to provide computers for after school needs, support college program visits and so forth.

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00:10:19.440 --> 00:10:30.420

Kim Prunty: As you'll hear today, promoting culture is very important to us in this project. We continue to work with the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture to support Junior Junkanoo and other programs to continue

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00:10:31.140 --> 00:10:38.130

Kim Prunty: to share the culture and the unique culture of The Bahamas. And, of course, we also contribute to emerging community needs.

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00:10:38.490 --> 00:10:43.740

Kim Prunty: we've contributed during Hurricane Dorian both to the rebuilding efforts through donations to nonprofits.

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00:10:44.040 --> 00:10:56.790

Kim Prunty: As well as direct contributions of supplies and other things to communities in need using our ships, as well as supporting our Bahamian employees. Over the holidays, we contributed to Bahamian feeding programs as another example.

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00:10:59.010 --> 00:11:06.060

Kim Prunty: Many of you have likely seen this presentation. This slide has been in nearly every presentation we've given in the Bahamas, for the past three years.

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00:11:06.570 --> 00:11:18.570

Kim Prunty: Our design principles are really about developing the site in an environmentally responsible way, creating sustainable economic opportunities for Bahamians, celebrating Bahamian culture, and further strengthening the community.

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00:11:21.210 --> 00:11:30.930

Kim Prunty: From a design perspective I think many of you know that Lighthouse Point was privately owned for decades, it was available for sale for several years before Disney Cruise Line purchased it.

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00:11:31.290 --> 00:11:40.440

Kim Prunty: The previous development proposal which I'll show you in just a minute included plans for several homes, condominiums, villas, a hotel and 140 slip marina.

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00:11:41.160 --> 00:11:45.210

Kim Prunty: 140 slip marina conducted through the salt, constructed through the salt ponds.

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00:11:45.780 --> 00:11:51.180

Kim Prunty: We considered several other locations in the Bahamas. Even nearby in Eleuthera as an example, we looked at Egg Island.

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00:11:51.570 --> 00:11:58.410

Kim Prunty: We got into the Environmental Impact Assessment and did not feel comfortable with the environmental impact it would have on the marine environment.

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00:11:59.070 --> 00:12:14.940

Kim Prunty: We really looked at a variety of other places Morgan's Bluff and Andros, an example, some locations in the Berry Islands, and it really came down to where can we locate that would not require dredging and would allow access to deep water, and was privately owned land.

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00:12:15.990 --> 00:12:23.430

Kim Prunty: The project components include a variety of things. One is Disney donated land, so public road, parking and beach amenities and

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00:12:23.760 --> 00:12:31.200

Kim Prunty: the southern most point of the property. And government will work with us to determine how they will they will use those areas.

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00:12:31.860 --> 00:12:41.340

Kim Prunty: An open- trestle appear that is capable of hosting one ship at a time, with no dredging, a small Marina, also no dredging and back of house support areas.

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00:12:41.820 --> 00:12:54.720

Kim Prunty: Beach areas with beach chairs, an art and culture center, open air buildings for things like food and beverage and merchandise, cabanas, service roads, walking paths and future expansion areas.

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00:12:57.150 --> 00:13:06.450

Kim Prunty: This slide gives you an idea of how the project has evolved. On the far left, this is not a Disney project, this is the project I mentioned and reference that had

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00:13:06.930 --> 00:13:11.550

Kim Prunty: a significantly larger environmental impact, should it have been built.

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00:13:12.120 --> 00:13:20.610

Kim Prunty: The middle is where we were in 2019 and you can see, the biggest difference between that and the far right, which was in late 2020,

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00:13:20.970 --> 00:13:31.230

Kim Prunty: is in this Northwest quadrant where we discovered some sensitive habitats and cultural ruins, and as a result, moved some of this work to the eastern side of the property.

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00:13:31.860 --> 00:13:44.370

Kim Prunty: We also narrowed the pier. We've heard from many, many stakeholders that minimizing the marine impact was critically important and narrowing the pier has allowed us to reduce the impact by about 25%.

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00:13:47.400 --> 00:13:51.900

Kim Prunty: You can see this larger, I wish we were in person, and we can have a big board so everyone can see this closely,

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00:13:52.380 --> 00:14:03.870

Kim Prunty: we've got some recreation areas, a service ramp, a marina, the security center I mentioned, the pier as well as the berth, that is capable of hosting only one ship,

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00:14:04.710 --> 00:14:14.970

Kim Prunty: some cabanas in this area, this area around here and the South beach is a potential future expansion, these are the donated lands in the southern most point.

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00:14:15.690 --> 00:14:29.610

Kim Prunty: And then, this is the area where we will have many of those open air facilities, beach areas for our guests, the art and cultural center is right in the middle, and then you'll see this whole area here, which is the Disney donated lands.

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00:14:33.660 --> 00:14:38.070

Kim Prunty: We'll talk a bit more about this, but the design for the site is rooted in Bahamian culture.

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00:14:38.580 --> 00:14:49.560

Kim Prunty: And in reference to the environment, you can see that this is a conceptual image, the roofs of the building are not what you would consider typical, they're meant to evoke a spirit of the environment, as well as culture.

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00:14:51.960 --> 00:15:04.410

Kim Prunty: When we integrate art into our projects it's not necessarily a picture on a wall. We try to look for ways to take an artist's idea and build it into the very architecture of our facilities.

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00:15:05.040 --> 00:15:18.720

Kim Prunty: We are working now with Antonius Roberts and Kevin Cooper for beginning to bring more artists into the process whereby we pay them to produce designs for us that we can begin to integrate into our projects.

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00:15:21.750 --> 00:15:30.630

Kim Prunty: I always share this as a reminder of our commitments, through our Heads of Agreement with Government we committed to a \$250 to \$400 million investment.

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00:15:30.990 --> 00:15:37.590

Kim Prunty: That's not because of the size and scope of the project, it's because our commitment to low density development and sustainable building practices.

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00:15:38.130 --> 00:15:44.730

Kim Prunty: We committed to donating 190 acres plus another 205, 2.5 excuse me, 2.5 acres.

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00:15:45.090 --> 00:15:51.330

Kim Prunty: At the southern most point which will be conveyed to government, we talked about rooting the design in the stories and culture of The Bahamas.

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00:15:51.690 --> 00:15:57.720

Kim Prunty: At least 120 construction jobs with an overall ratio of 80% Bahamians over the life of construction.

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00:15:58.170 --> 00:16:04.950

Kim Prunty: At least 150 operations jobs well-paying and with benefits and the variety of disciplines and opportunity for advancement.

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00:16:05.520 --> 00:16:15.600

Kim Prunty: As a comparable at Castaway Cay we currently pay \$600 to \$700 per week for our employees and that type of compensation would continue at Lighthouse Point.

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00:16:16.050 --> 00:16:24.660

Kim Prunty: We have recently moved to 100% Bahamian employment at Castaway we are in that process right now and hiring for some additional roles.

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00:16:25.290 --> 00:16:35.100

Kim Prunty: We agreed to offer training and professional development programs, space for Bahamian vendors for the sale of authentic high quality Bahamian retail goods, services, etc.

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00:16:36.990 --> 00:16:46.020

Kim Prunty: Priority to Bahamian owners and operators to provide port adventures. Priority to Bahamian entertainers which just makes a lot of sense, given our commitment to rooting the experience

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00:16:46.380 --> 00:16:58.140

Kim Prunty: in the stories and culture and art of the Bahamas. Purchase Bahamian agricultural and seafood products. Numerous environmental protection measures. At least 30% of the energy demand from renewable energy,

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00:16:58.530 --> 00:17:11.640

Kim Prunty: and we are working toward more than that at Castaway we are approximately 70% or will be within the next month or two from a renewable perspective, and then full access to the site for citizens and residents of the Bahamas for non-commercial purposes.

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00:17:14.040 --> 00:17:19.170

Kim Prunty: The environmental commitments that we made early in this process were to develop less than 20% of the property.

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00:17:19.560 --> 00:17:28.680

Kim Prunty: Our current design calls for 16% of the acreage to be developed, far more will be donated, which is about 25% and left undeveloped which is 59%.

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00:17:29.490 --> 00:17:37.470

Kim Prunty: We committed to employing sustainable building practices. Examples are the open trestle pier, elevated walkways in several areas, as well as solar.

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00:17:38.070 --> 00:17:48.780

Kim Prunty: Develop and maintain environmental monitoring programs, before, during and after construction. We've already started that process which you'll hear more about and we've included Bahamians in that process.

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00:17:49.530 --> 00:18:04.680

Kim Prunty: Donating the land, we previously talked about that was privately owned. Education programs. We committed to minimize environmental impacts and appropriately mitigate unavoidable impacts and to complete a comprehensive EIA and EMP before beginning construction.

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00:18:07.590 --> 00:18:18.450

Kim Prunty: Moving on to the EIA itself, so Disney Cruise Line has spent three, more than three years, working with a team of highly qualified and experienced scientists and other professionals to complete an EIA.

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00:18:18.990 --> 00:18:30.600

Kim Prunty: Field investigations have spanned 36 months in order to capture seasonal variations. Our first site visit was all the way in October of 2017 and we actually had people who were on the site today

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00:18:31.440 --> 00:18:37.710

Kim Prunty: participating in monitoring programs. The first draft of the EIA was submitted in December of 2019.

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00:18:38.190 --> 00:18:45.120

Kim Prunty: Since then, we have worked with first the BEST Commission and now the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection to make numerous technical revisions

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00:18:45.480 --> 00:18:53.670

Kim Prunty: based on DEPP questions and comments and changes to applicable law. The EIA has also been updated based on additional field work and data collection.

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00:18:54.690 --> 00:19:01.050

Kim Prunty: Disney Cruise Line has met with numerous stakeholders throughout this process, including the residents of Eleuthera, The Bahamas National Trust

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00:19:01.380 --> 00:19:07.440

Kim Prunty: and other respected environmental and conservation NGOs, as well as other stakeholders in The Bahamas more broadly.

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00:19:07.890 --> 00:19:16.260

Kim Prunty: The relevant feedback, in many cases has been addressed in the EIA. Examples of adjustments that have been made, both as a result of these conversations

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00:19:16.560 --> 00:19:23.880

Kim Prunty: and ongoing EIA fieldwork, include things like providing meaningful access to the site for citizens and residents of The Bahamas.

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00:19:24.360 --> 00:19:33.570

Kim Prunty: Through many, many conversations with our future neighbors in Eleuthera we learned how very important this was and so we've continued to provide that as part of this project.

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00:19:33.990 --> 00:19:43.620

Kim Prunty: We also heard from the residents of Eleuthera the importance of maintaining a public road. Those of you who've been there recently know what disrepair the road is currently in, and that will obviously be

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00:19:44.190 --> 00:19:54.930

Kim Prunty: improved. We talked already about narrowing the pier to reduce the marine impacts. I also talked about the Northwest area where we've moved things due to sensitive habitats and historical ruins.

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00:19:55.470 --> 00:20:07.830

Kim Prunty: And then adjusting development plans due to a variety of things in this case it was the south beach area due to the piping plover. Additionally we've been asked to review key species of importance, and we have continued to do that.

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00:20:09.480 --> 00:20:11.400

Kim Prunty: And with that I will turn it over to Dr Mark.

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00:20:12.750 --> 00:20:22.740

Dr. Mark Penning: Thank you, Kim I want everyone to know that, on the very first conversation we had about Lighthouse Point, we said that we as Disney would not move forward

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00:20:23.490 --> 00:20:32.880

Dr. Mark Penning: Unless we could do so in an environmentally responsible way, and this EIA conducted by a team of experts shows us that we can do that.

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00:20:33.840 --> 00:20:39.420

Dr. Mark Penning: This project is not expected to result in the loss of marine or terrestrial biodiversity.

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00:20:39.900 --> 00:20:51.480

Dr. Mark Penning: The points you see on this page are highlights, and I'll go through them in detail in just a moment, but just to call out there are no unique marine habitats or species in the development footprint.

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00:20:52.050 --> 00:21:03.420

Dr. Mark Penning: And there are no coral reefs in the footprint, they are no patch reefs either. When you add on a 75 foot buffer on either side of the pier.

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00:21:03.810 --> 00:21:14.520

Dr. Mark Penning: And you think about the extent of the pier itself that total space will result in around about 1/10 of an acre of coral that we will mitigate.

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00:21:15.240 --> 00:21:30.750

Dr. Mark Penning: We intentionally placed the pier in such a way that it would have the least harm possible and it's designed as an open trestle pier so that we will not have to dredge at all. On land, all the species that were observed are um

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00:21:32.280 --> 00:21:42.750

Dr. Mark Penning: found in the approximately 80% or even more of the property that is not going to be developed. There are some ruins, we'll talk a little about that in just a moment.

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00:21:44.220 --> 00:21:52.140

Dr. Mark Penning: We first looked at Lighthouse Point and the space around Lighthouse Point to see what is there, we wanted to know what we had to deal with.

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00:21:52.560 --> 00:22:04.470

Dr. Mark Penning: And there, we did this over a period of three years, so we studied extensively the benthic habitat types looking at what corals were there, what species of fish, we found sea turtles,

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00:22:04.860 --> 00:22:15.060

Dr. Mark Penning: no sign of sea turtle nesting but we're still looking, and then spawning aggregations that we've heard about, we did not see but we're continuing to study.

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00:22:17.490 --> 00:22:36.750

Dr. Mark Penning: Talking about the impacts that space covered by the pier is approximately five acres. If you think of shading underneath the pier structure, so that's about three and a half acres of hard bottom habitat and then about one and a half acres of sand.

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00:22:39.390 --> 00:22:50.850

Dr. Mark Penning: When you look at corals and coral reefs, we do not have coral reefs in that space. What do you see there reflects that habitat that we have chosen and again.

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00:22:51.930 --> 00:23:03.480

Dr. Mark Penning: when you add a 75 foot barrier, a buffer zone, on either side of that Pier we're still looking at 1/10 of an acre of coral that we will mitigate.

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00:23:04.860 --> 00:23:18.120

Dr. Mark Penning: We also know that there's a small proportion of those that are endangered, but we feel comfortable, knowing that the patch reefs and fore reefs are at least 500 feet away from the structure.

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00:23:20.850 --> 00:23:38.130

Dr. Mark Penning: We did an engineering analysis to make sure that the pier is not going to cause backup of sand. We wanted sediment to be able to move through, and also the same for fish and benthic species. The small marina the same, we do not expect any significant long term sand accumulation.

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00:23:39.270 --> 00:23:49.950

Dr. Mark Penning: And then, just to be clear, the cruise vessel will come in from the deepwater offshore to the east coast and we'll cross over between Half Moon Cay and Lighthouse Point over the bridge.

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00:23:50.640 --> 00:24:05.040

Dr. Mark Penning: Which is no shallower than 80 feet and the cruise ship's draft is 27 feet, so there's more than enough space and that place is used already for privately owned cruise ships.

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00:24:06.180 --> 00:24:19.680

Dr. Mark Penning: So the mitigation and our team is focused on moving coral species that are the larger stony corals that have a high rate of success being relocated.

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00:24:20.100 --> 00:24:27.540

Dr. Mark Penning: We know this because we already do it, we have a coral nursery and a rehabilitation program in Abaco.

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00:24:28.110 > 00:24:40.620

Dr. Mark Penning: And we have a 90% success rate with those over a decade it's a very comprehensive program and we feel very confident about it. We've not seen sea turtle nesting

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00:24:41.190 --> 00:24:56.610

Dr. Mark Penning: on the beaches there, but if nesting does occur, we are very lucky in being able to manage an existing sea turtle nesting beach here in Florida associated with our Vero Beach Resort, which is the most

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00:24:58.680 --> 00:25:05.130

Dr. Mark Penning: most used loggerhead sea turtle nesting beach in the world and we manage that.

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00:25:06.090 --> 00:25:14.100

Dr. Mark Penning: And have done so for a decade already and we feel very confident about being able to mitigate should they be using the beach.

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00:25:14.820 --> 00:25:22.620

Dr. Mark Penning: As far as marine mammals are concerned, we will implement Best Management Practices, visual monitoring of course scaled noise intensity.

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00:25:23.070 --> 00:25:37.380

Dr. Mark Penning: And things like that and, most importantly, an education program on Best Management Practices that we can share with our guests crew and of course vendors as well. We've heard about fish migration corridors

138

00:25:37.740 > 00:25:51.900

Dr. Mark Penning: and specifically talking about bonefish with bonefish experts, and of course we're going to continue the work that we've already started as we go through the construction phase and into operation.

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00:25:54.600 --> 00:26:04.110

Dr. Mark Penning: Looking on land and also over a three year period, we had experts study the spaces, there we looked at the vegetation types

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00:26:04.770 --> 00:26:12.120

Dr. Mark Penning: very carefully. We know that the broad leaf evergreen forest or the coppice covers approximately half of that property.

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00:26:12.690 --> 00:26:25.890

Dr. Mark Penning: Just under 30% is the sand strand. We found those four species listed there the Blolly, Lignum Vitae, Mahogany and Horseflesh on the protective tree order, we found those there. Interestingly

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00:26:26.580 --> 00:26:36.510

Dr. Mark Penning: a lot of those in the Northwest quadrant and so again that made us change our plans completely and we relocated what had been allocated to that space.

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00:26:36.930 --> 00:26:48.300

Dr. Mark Penning: There are two invasive plant species of real interest the Casuarina, there's about 22 acres of it. We will mechanically remove much of that, and

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00:26:48.870 > 00:27:01.170

Dr. Mark Penning: we can't promise to remove all of it it's really difficult but, but we will certainly use that then for mulching and various other things, and you know potentially.

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00:27:02.310 --> 00:27:10.290

Dr. Mark Penning: charcoal use or something like that, but we want to manage the Casuarina and then of course the scavola white inkberry on the dunes.

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00:27:13.080 --> 00:27:23.460

Dr. Mark Penning: The avian surveys more than 100 species of birds found, of course, White Pond has got a lot of diversity there. The birds that we focused on and, most importantly, were

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00:27:23.730 --> 00:27:41.610

Dr. Mark Penning: a small little group of piping plovers on the Bottle Bay Beach and we redesigned how we were thinking of using that space to accommodate those little birds, and we also looked at the Great Lizard Cuckoos and the Kirtland's Warbler that have generated a lot of interest in that space.

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00:27:44.490 --> 00:27:50.070

Dr. Mark Penning: Other fauna as well as listed there. What the specialist team told us really is that

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00:27:50.850 --> 00:28:05.250

Dr. Mark Penning: that the species that we've found, they've got more than enough space to move out into the rest of the undeveloped area, remember that we are looking at an approximately 16%.

150

00:28:05.970 --> 00:28:22.170

Dr. Mark Penning: of that area that will be developed and there is a lot of space remaining for those birds to retreat to and, in fact, some of the species like Kirtland's Warbler will probably benefit from the more broken up land in those spaces that are developed.

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00:28:26.460 --> 00:28:33.150

Dr. Mark Penning: And the keystone around any program like this is of course monitoring, monitoring, monitoring, so we've already started that

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00:28:33.900 --> 00:28:45.420

Dr. Mark Penning: and we plan to continue throughout the construction and into the operations phase and using very talented Bahamians to help us with this work, of course.

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00:28:45.810 --> 00:29:03.780

Dr. Mark Penning: And we will work with the government agencies on anything like the removal of trees, or you know anything else that needs to be done in that respect, and we just plan to work with all relevant government parties and agencies and do the best we can, with that side.

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00:29:07.140 --> 00:29:08.760

Dr. Mark Penning: So let me hand back to Kim.

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00:29:10.020 --> 00:29:19.260

Kim Prunty: From a cultural resources perspective, the surveys were completed in February 2019 in January 2020. We also did a site visit with the AMMC.

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00:29:19.590 --> 00:29:27.570

Kim Prunty: There were nine ruins and several ancillary features on site predominantly in the northern area of the property and the vicinity of Old Bannerman Town.

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00:29:27.960 --> 00:29:37.680

Kim Prunty: We've talked about moving development away from these areas so there's no anticipated impacts to these structures and no plans to develop where any of these structures are located.

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00:29:40.350 --> 00:29:48.900

Kim Prunty: From an economic impact perspective, a study was conducted by Oxford Economics, which has completed many similar studies and The Bahamas.

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00:29:49.380 --> 00:29:59.100

Kim Prunty: You can see what the study shows, but over a 25 year time horizon a more than \$800 million increase in Bahamian GDP and a more than \$355 million increase.

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00:29:59.400 --> 00:30:08.130

Kim Prunty: In Bahamian government revenues which exceeds concessions, the only concessions that were requested or part of existing government acts, there were not additional concessions requested.

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00:30:08.520 --> 00:30:16.680

Kim Prunty: We will have a delay due to the pandemic, site work, and that's after all approvals have been granted from every relevant agency,

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00:30:17.040 --> 00:30:24.390

Kim Prunty: is expected to begin in 2021 likely toward the end of the year, with opening slated in the first half of 2024.

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00:30:25.050 --> 00:30:33.810

Kim Prunty: What's been particularly important for us with this project based on the many people that we've talked to in Eleuthera is how do we maximize participation.

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00:30:34.110 --> 00:30:43.140

Kim Prunty: I'm going to give you some examples of that. So we have toured construction sites prior to the pandemic and met with contractors across Eleuthera. We've spent

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00:30:43.590 --> 00:30:48.300

Kim Prunty: A considerable amount of time with the Bahamian Contractors Association, the Society of Engineers.

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00:30:48.660 --> 00:30:59.790

Kim Prunty: other industry organizations and we have hosted multiple information sessions in Eleuthera and Nassau to maximize opportunities for Bahamian contractors. We will continue to do that.

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00:31:00.300 --> 00:31:14.640

Kim Prunty: Numerous local contributors participated in the EIA. Through our monitoring programs there will be staff roles requiring environmental expertise. In a minute I will introduce you to the many people who have contributed to this effort.

168

00:31:15.120 --> 00:31:28.050

Kim Prunty: The geotechnical work that was part of our environmental review was conducted by ENCO International, Carlos Palacios' organization, and then the construction of the Small Business Development Centre was completed by Bahamians.

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00:31:29.310 --> 00:31:38.610

Kim Prunty: We have held, prior to the pandemic, numerous information sessions and have met with hundreds of potential employees, vendors, tour operators and others

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00:31:39.030 --> 00:31:52.890

Kim Prunty: over the past few years to build relationships and maximize opportunities. I spoke a little bit earlier about the Eleuthera Business Hub that facility is in Rock Sound, it is now open though limited capacity as a result of COVID-19.

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00:31:54.510 --> 00:32:08.880

Kim Prunty: We are about to release information about grant programs for Central and South Eleuthera to enable businesses to get ready and to use the resources and mentoring and that's available at the Eleuthera Business Hub.

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00:32:09.330 --> 00:32:17.910

Kim Prunty: We mentioned the art program, so we are working with Antonius Roberts and Kevin Cooper in Eleuthera and will continue to work with them as we bring more artists into this project.

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00:32:18.870 --> 00:32:26.670

Kim Prunty: We really want to provide as many training and development programs, as necessary, so that we can have 100% Bahamian employment

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00:32:27.090 --> 00:32:37.800

Kim Prunty: and jobs for the people of Eleuthera. We've worked with the Ministry of Labour and the University of the Bahamas and the National Training Agency, and Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute,

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00:32:38.130 --> 00:32:44.250

Kim Prunty: so that people are ready to take advantage of the opportunities that this project and others and Eleuthera will provide.

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00:32:45.750 --> 00:32:53.370

Kim Prunty: And with that I am sharing our list of local consultants, as well as others who have contributed to the process.

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00:32:54.270 --> 00:33:06.510

Kim Prunty: So I will introduce those who are able to participate in our Q&A session today and I will ask them to turn on their video and to

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00:33:07.410 --> 00:33:22.380

Kim Prunty: make themselves available by unmuting if a question is asked. So you've already met Dr Mark Penning we also have Dr Andy Stamper, who is the manager of Conservation Science for Disney. We have Claire Martin, who is the senior manager of Disney Conservation.

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00:33:23.400 --> 00:33:35.250

Kim Prunty: David Chiaradonna, who is our senior project manager at Walt Disney Imagineering. Melissa Alexiou of Waypoint Consulting in The Bahamas, who is our environmental consultant and environmental manager.

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00:33:36.690 --> 00:33:48.990

Kim Prunty: Greg Braun, who, on behalf of a team conducted marine and coral studies. Colin Brooker, who is a historian. Tanya Ferguson, who helps lead botanical and field investigations.

181

00:33:49.860 --> 00:34:02.610

Kim Prunty: Latesha Gibson who also led avian and botanical field investigations. Dr. Phil Kramer who led our coral assessment using the AGRRA method, as well as coastal movements of water and marine generally.

182

00:34:03.690 --> 00:34:15.150

Kim Prunty: Predensa Moore who led our avian field investigations. Pete Peterson of ATM who compiled the reports. Zach Sears of Oxford Economics, who developed our economic impact study.

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00:34:20.790 --> 00:34:23.310

Kim Prunty: And with that Director Newbold we turn it back over to you.

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00:34:26.160 --> 00:34:41.580

Director Newbold: Alright Thank you so much for that introduction and presentation So, ladies and gentlemen, I will now indicate that there are 324 persons on the calls and we have had, um,

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00:34:42.330 --> 00:34:54.630

Director Newbold: the chat has been very active and we have had several questions being placed in the chat group. I will open the floor by virtue of a raising of your hands.

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00:34:55.200 --> 00:35:09.510

Director Newbold: Anybody who has a question that they would now like to present. We have 40 minutes for our question and answer period. I see Silas, and I do apologize to everyone should I mispronounce your name.

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00:35:10.590 --> 00:35:15.840

Director Newbold: Silas Cooper you can unmute your MIC and take the floor, please.

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00:35:16.440 --> 00:35:23.010

Silas V. Cooper: Good evening, as the Silas Cooper, I'm sorry, good evening. I have a question with respect to the progress

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00:35:24.180 --> 00:35:26.850

Silas V. Cooper: for Miss Kim can you speak towards

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00:35:28.710 --> 00:35:29.190

Silas V. Cooper: the

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00:35:30.570 --> 00:35:32.340

Silas V. Cooper: selection of the contractors.

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00:35:33.510 --> 00:35:34.830

Silas V. Cooper: Can you speak to us about that, please?

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00:35:36.750 --> 00:35:41.220

Kim Prunty: Dave, I think that question is probably more in your area with project management.

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00:35:41.670 --> 00:35:57.180

David Chiaradonna: Sure yeah I'll speak to that one. So right now we are still out in a competitive bid environment, we will be looking to currently select the contractor around mid to end of May to develop the project.

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00:35:58.050 --> 00:36:01.320

Kim Prunty: And Dave do you want to talk a little bit about the design builder format?

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00:36:02.130 --> 00:36:05.070

David Chiaradonna: Sure yeah just the way we're treating the project.

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00:36:05.250 --> 00:36:06.210

INAUDIBLE

198

00:36:09.030 --> 00:36:09.990

David Chiaradonna: Sorry Director Newbold?

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00:36:10.530 --> 00:36:11.670

Director Newbold: I'm sorry you go ahead.

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00:36:12.870 --> 00:36:25.050

David Chiaradonna: The way we are treating the contracting method for the project is via a design build, which means that we will hire a general contractor that will be responsible for the design and the construction of the project.

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00:36:25.800 --> 00:36:35.460

David Chiaradonna: That means they will have the architect engineer of record under their purview. What we've given them is a very robust RFP or request for proposal for the project

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00:36:35.910 --> 00:36:51.360

David Chiaradonna: that will allow them to come up with it means and methods to use sustainable practices, sustainable building practices, all the things we're looking at to develop the project with a very light footprint and very light touch to the environment and the land side portion.

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00:36:58.200 --> 00:37:05.910

Director Newbold: Thank you um the next person we have is Sam Brown, can you, you can mute your MIC.

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00:37:07.950 --> 00:37:09.180

Sam Brown: Hi how are you?

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00:37:11.490 --> 00:37:21.090

Sam Brown: I just have a question more on the economic side of things so Disney has promised 150 jobs are these jobs committed to Bahamians?

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00:37:23.040 --> 00:37:32.220

Kim Prunty: Yes, they are, so at least 150 jobs for Bahamians it's in a variety of roles, these are jobs that are well paying and benefits and with benefits.

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00:37:32.700 --> 00:37:45.570

Kim Prunty: As I mentioned, \$600 to \$700 weekly, which is above the average and it's similar to what we're doing at Castaway. We previously had about 150 jobs for Bahamians at Castaway.

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00:37:45.990 --> 00:37:53.250

Kim Prunty: We're moving toward 100% Bahamian and I think that there's that is completely possible at Castaway as well as at Lighthouse Point.

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00:37:56.010 --> 00:38:02.760

Director Newbold: Thank you, next we have Demarco Mott, please unmute your MIC.

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00:38:05.010 --> 00:38:15.210

Demarco Mott: Yes, good evening I'm Demarco from the island of Grand Bahama, one of the questions that I have for the entire group that's doing this study and all the wonderful things.

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00:38:16.320 --> 00:38:27.510

Demarco Mott: The things that I noticed from the impact assessment itself, you know the plan and so is that there's a lot of conversation on minimum environmental impact here.

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00:38:28.020 --> 00:38:36.810

Demarco Mott: Minimum environmental impact there. When we add all those minimum up that becomes a major environmental impact for the island of Andros.

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00:38:37.290 --> 00:38:48.240

Demarco Mott: And the question I mean that keeps coming through my head is why did we choose Andros and why did we choose to say you know it's minimum of this impact, minimum that?

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00:38:48.690 --> 00:38:55.950

Demarco Mott: You are unsure about any turtles or if they have any nests there. If there's so many you know uncertainties

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00:38:56.700 --> 00:39:08.190

Demarco Mott: why are we choosing to do this project in Andros? And Bahamians we love on this we give Andros a different appreciation, because that is our life that's the center of

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00:39:09.150 --> 00:39:19.080

Demarco Mott: our country. So in general, why Andros and all these uncertainties are leaving me to wonder, you know that that's not very safe in my understanding.

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00:39:20.580 --> 00:39:30.900

Director Newbold: All right, Mr. Demarco let me assure you that the project is not directed at the island of Andros, this is a project that's identified for Eleuthera.

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00:39:33.270 --> 00:39:37.590

Director Newbold: Next, we have John, John can you unmute your MIC please.

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00:39:42.600 --> 00:39:43.500

John: Okay, can you hear me.

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00:39:44.280 --> 00:39:45.210

Director Newbold: We can hear you, sir.

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00:39:45.870 --> 00:39:49.560

John: Very good um my name is John McDougal on a property up on

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00:39:50.850 --> 00:40:05.010

John: North Eleuthera and I'm more interested in the design phase, because it's just as announced that this is design build, so the open trestle bridge the number of bents and piles and depth of piles has not been determined yet.

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00:40:07.500 --> 00:40:20.250

David Chiaradonna: That is correct, it has not been determined yet. That's what will be looking at is part of the design build techniques, so you know, the goal here I'll just be transparent as possible is to increase the spans as um

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00:40:21.150 --> 00:40:28.020

David Chiaradonna: to get as much distance out of those spans so we can limit every piece of impact on that sea floor.

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00:40:30.090 --> 00:40:31.650

John: My next question would be.

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00:40:32.970 --> 00:40:44.850

Director Newbold: Sir, I'm sorry, sir, as we have a 40 minute time limit I'm going to ask you to join the line that I could give everybody the opportunity. Next we have Dr Ancelino Davis, please unmute your MIC.

227

00:40:46.530 --> 00:40:48.930

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: Hi good evening everyone, thank you for the presentation.

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00:40:49.980 --> 00:40:59.100

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: My question is specifically directed to Phil Kramer I know you have significant experience in the Caribbean

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00:40:59.460 --> 00:41:09.660

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: and I would like to know how the coral reefs that you surveyed with AGRRA in the area actually compare to the other coral reefs throughout The Bahamas.

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00:41:10.260 --> 00:41:27.990

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: Within the AGRRA framework and for the rest of the team, the \$60M per year direct spending, I want to know if your economic analysis showed what that is per guest and how that compares to other hotel expenditure in The Bahamas.

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00:41:35.190 --> 00:41:37.830

Dr. Phil Kramer: Kim do you want me to respond here directly?

Kim Prunty: Sure

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00:41:42.090 --> 00:41:47.610

Dr. Phil Kramer: Hi Leno, good to hear from you. So, let me just kind of clarify something up front

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00:41:48.780 --> 00:41:53.940

Phil Kramer: and that is that you know the direct impact area on this development is

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00:41:54.390 --> 00:42:03.690

Phil Kramer: predominantly a hard bottom area and that's a coral community so it's not that there's no corals there, there are corals there but it's not a coral reef.

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00:42:04.050 --> 00:42:20.640

Phil Kramer: A coral reef is something that is basically able to build structure, grow up towards sea level, and there are coral reefs in the greater Lighthouse Point area, but not in the footprint, where the trestle has been proposed, and it was partly moved and located because of that.

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00:42:21.750 --> 00:42:26.550

Phil Kramer: In response to your question, and so, just to clarify there the coral community

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00:42:27.150 --> 00:42:42.240

Phil Kramer: and there's five hard bottom types that we identified the average coral cover in those in that hard bottom community is you know between 0.5 and 1.5- 2% max of live coral cover.

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00:42:43.200 --> 00:42:54.510

Phil Kramer: When it comes to a broader coral reefs in the Lighthouse Point area their best developed over on the east side of South Eleuthera.

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00:42:55.200 --> 00:43:05.760

Phil Kramer: Where the wave energy is much greater and currents are greater and you do have patch reefs on the southern side as well as well as a coral reef wall, we surveyed.

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00:43:06.570 --> 00:43:18.030

Phil Kramer: All of those predominantly the patch reefs and the fore reefs structures, most of those are using the AGRRA sort of standard for conditions

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00:43:18.990 --> 00:43:23.760

Phil Kramer: are fair, they have about 10% coral cover, I think the most coral cover we measured

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00:43:24.180 --> 00:43:34.740

Phil Kramer: was on a fore reef site on the east southeast side, and I think we got up to maybe 12% or 13% live coral cover. That's pretty typical of Bahamas reefs today so.

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00:43:35.250 --> 00:43:48.870

Phil Kramer: Certainly, in the past, when I first started surveying reefs, we had easily reefs measuring 30% that's no longer the case today, unfortunately 10% is about average. So I would say the

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00:43:49.530 --> 00:43:57.780

Phil Kramer: you know the true coral reefs in the Lighthouse Point area are typical of what you see in much of the Bahamas today.

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00:44:02.160 --> 00:44:02.970

Director Newbold: Thank you.

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00:44:04.260 --> 00:44:09.090

Director Newbold: Next, we have Miss Casuarina McKinney Lambert please unmute your MIC.

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00:44:13.740 --> 00:44:23.190

casuarinamckinney: Good evening everyone, this is Casuarina and I'm speaking on behalf of BREEF, ReEarth, Save the Bays, Water Keepers Bahamas and Water Keepers Alliance,

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00:44:23.760 --> 00:44:26.580

casuarinamckinney: partners in the last chance for Lighthouse Point campaign.

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00:44:27.180 --> 00:44:36.150

casuarinamckinney: Almost two years ago, our organizations which have decades of experience on the environmental issues that are being raised tonight and have been for quite some time,

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00:44:36.780 --> 00:44:44.610

casuarinamckinney: we wrote to Disney and offered to cooperate with them to ensure that the EIA meet the high standards expected of such a well-known company.

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00:44:45.480 --> 00:44:53.070

casuarinamckinney: We have been rebuffed and brushed aside. This is something that needs to be addressed, no matter where the project is located.

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00:44:53.850 --> 00:44:59.730

casuarinamckinney: This project is a major decision for the future of Eleuthera and for The Bahamas as a whole.

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00:45:00.180 --> 00:45:10.110

casuarinamckinney: And I want to just point out that the our campaign petition for a better option for Lighthouse Point that really looks at potential alternatives

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00:45:10.560 --> 00:45:22.470

casuarinamckinney: has garnered over 440,000 signatures. The whole of The Bahamas and the world is watching this process and we believe that there's a huge opportunity for Disney and The Bahamas

255

00:45:22.860 --> 00:45:34.350

casuarinamckinney: to show a transformative leader, leadership, to build back better. The world has changed and we need something that has more benefits for Eleuthera and The Bahamas.

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00:45:35.040 --> 00:45:45.120

casuarinamckinney: I think, irrespective of any of our views of this current proposal, we can all agree that Disney and the Government must complete conduct a science based credible EIA.

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00:45:45.720 --> 00:45:56.250

casuarinamckinney: In order to make a rational decision about such a huge project in such an iconic location. Based on number of expert reviews and I know we have a very short amount of

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00:45:59.220 --> 00:46:02.850

Director Newbold: Your minute has expired, and we have not heard a question.

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00:46:03.510 --> 00:46:17.640

Director Newbold: We don't have problems with your position, but you would need to put that in the chat or send it as you said that we would like to get the questions that are questioning the quality of the EIA such that we can identify issues and...

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00:46:18.210 --> 00:46:18.990

casuarinamckinney: OK, So my question.

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00:46:20.220 --> 00:46:24.030

casuarinamckinney: What I'm looking at is I'm asking for the

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00:46:25.380 --> 00:46:38.670

casuarinamckinney: unsubstantiated claims on the economic benefits the economic assessment was done well before COVID and so I'm asking for an economic assessment that reflects the current economic reality.

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00:46:39.180 --> 00:46:47.430

casuarinamckinney: I'm also on for questions on how climate change is being addressed I didn't see that in the EIA adequately addressed.

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00:46:47.700 --> 00:46:58.590

Director Newbold: Ok I'm gonna have to cut you off the points been made. You can join the line, after again to come up with any additional questions, but I have to be fair and transparent to everybody in the process.

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00:46:59.310 --> 00:47:07.290

Director Newbold: Okay, thank you. So economics anybody wouldn't make comments the economics query that she read?

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00:47:08.370 --> 00:47:10.680

Kim Prunty: So Zach would you mind answering that question?

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00:47:12.060 --> 00:47:17.640

Zachary Sears: Hi, sure thing. Zachary Sears I'm an economist with Oxford Economics I'm happy to take that question.

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00:47:19.590 --> 00:47:27.870

Zachary Sears: So the current situation with COVID there's a couple of reasons why we think the analysis that was done a few years ago, still holds.

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00:47:29.700 --> 00:47:40.980

Zachary Sears: And there's really two parts, I think, to think about one is that this analysis takes a long term perspective. We took we took this out to over 25 years.

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00:47:41.940 --> 00:47:51.210

Zachary Sears: And generally, I think the reasonable expectation here is that COVID is a short term dynamic, it is a public health situation.

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00:47:51.630 --> 00:48:01.890

Zachary Sears: We have all the confidence in the world that there will be a public health remedy here in the short term, and this analysis looks well beyond that. The second

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00:48:02.760 --> 00:48:13.680

Zachary Sears: thing to think about is that the way that the analysis was conducted is it is a spending based approach. It is based on all of the construction and development spending

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00:48:14.370 --> 00:48:29.550

Zachary Sears: that is planned, and then also our estimates of onshore visitor spending. And what we do is we take that spending and we estimate the benefits, above and beyond a baseline. So

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00:48:30.030 --> 00:48:38.910

Zachary Sears: what that baseline is, is less important. So right now in the short term, clearly that baseline economy is at a lower level.

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00:48:39.540 --> 00:48:55.260

Zachary Sears: That is true. But if the spending occurs that we expect it to at that level, then the benefit from the project would still be the same, the increment, the project increment would still be there, regardless of that baseline, what level the baseline is at.

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00:48:58.320 --> 00:49:07.620

Director Newbold: Okay, thank you. Can I have Scott, and I'm not gonna try to say your name Scott, Scott Tiegs can you unmute your MIC.

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00:49:10.590 --> 00:49:17.790

Scott Tiegs: Scott Tiegs pretty close, thank you very much. Yeah my name is Scott Tiegs. I'm a biology professor at Oakland University in Michigan.

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00:49:18.210 --> 00:49:26.160

Scott Tiegs: I have a PhD in aquatic ecology and I specialize in human impacts to aquatic ecosystems. As I was looking through the assessment, I noticed that

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00:49:26.760 --> 00:49:32.070

Scott Tiegs: it states that no bonefish have been cited on Lighthouse Point and I thought that was strange because

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00:49:32.550 --> 00:49:37.650

Scott Tiegs: I've visited that area, many times I've been coming to Eleuthera for over 10 years and in fact I

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00:49:38.370 --> 00:49:45.780

Scott Tiegs: Bring groups of students there as part of a marine ecology class and we routinely see bonefish in this area. They're all over the place.

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00:49:46.110 --> 00:49:54.330

Scott Tiegs: And so my question is well I wish that, by the way, I wish, there was an ecologist on the call that Disney had put forth because I haven't been an appropriate person to whom I could direct this question.

283

00:49:54.690 --> 00:50:10.170

Scott Tiegs: But my question for whoever wants to tackle it is you know how you could have missed this very obvious and conspicuous species that's an obvious economic concern for the island of Eleuthera and does that speak to the thoroughness of the surveys that you have performed to date?

284

00:50:15.960 --> 00:50:16.290

Kim Prunty: So, Dr. Kramer.

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00:50:17.010 --> 00:50:17.820

Dr. Andy Stamper: I'll take that one.

286

00:50:19.050 --> 00:50:35.790

Dr. Andy Stamper: Yeah it just happens that because we have to report exactly what we see in the EIA, we did not see it during those surveys. We do state that we do feel that they're in the area and we're working with the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust.

287

00:50:37.290 --> 00:50:40.620

Dr. Andy Stamper: And we've been talking to them. We've looked at all their materials

288

00:50:41.850 --> 00:50:48.570

Dr. Andy Stamper: the publications and we know that in the area. We do have plans in the fall to tag fish

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00:50:49.590 --> 00:50:54.180

Dr. Andy Stamper: to understand exactly how they use that area. There's also

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00:50:55.290 --> 00:51:08.070

Dr. Andy Stamper: mechanisms. One of the biggest concerns from the bonefish trust is the marina and we have discussed with them exactly how we can mitigate that. They've given feedback and we have incorporated that

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00:51:08.850 --> 00:51:18.840

Dr. Andy Stamper: When we do build the Marina to assure that they can transfer through. We're also looking at corridors underneath the, underneath the trestle.

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00:51:19.380 --> 00:51:30.030

Dr. Andy Stamper: Those are kind of experimental at this point, but we are we're looking at where we need to have some time to tag in that in that exact area, to make sure that

293

00:51:31.050 --> 00:51:34.350

Dr. Andy Stamper: we know exactly how they're utilizing that, that point.

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00:51:37.980 --> 00:51:48.600

Director Newbold: Thank you. Scott, may I clearly make known to you at this time, if you are indeed in possession of data relative to the gap that you have identified in this

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00:51:49.500 --> 00:51:55.650

Director Newbold: but relative to this project on the screen, please provide the information directly to the government, such that it would be

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00:51:56.250 --> 00:52:08.430

Director Newbold: taken in consideration with the information provided. We appreciate that. Next can I get Tyson J Dimmock. Tyson J, could you please unmute your MIC, thank you.

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00:52:16.860 --> 00:52:17.790 Director

Newbold: Tyson J?

298

00:52:19.500 --> 00:52:24.360

Director Newbold: Alright, and interest of time Beth Hall, can you please unmute your MIC. Beth Hall.

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00:52:28.200 --> 00:52:28.680

Beth Hall: Good evening.

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00:52:29.940 --> 00:52:31.530

Beth Hall: Um can you hear me.

301

00:52:32.040 --> 00:52:32.850

Director Newbold: We can hear you.

302

00:52:33.600 --> 00:52:41.130

Beth Hall: Okay, good evening everyone, and um thank you um. You said that there were going to be over 150

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00:52:42.780 --> 00:52:52.470

Beth Hall: jobs for Bahamians when this whole entire project, if it goes through as it is tabled, is in it's completed.

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00:52:54.420 --> 00:52:59.010

Beth Hall: In its completeness, how many jobs will there actually be in total, for all your employees?

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00:53:03.930 --> 00:53:05.100

Beth Hall: Who would like to answer that question?

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00:53:08.100 --> 00:53:10.470

Kim Prunty: I'm not sure I completely understand the question.

307

00:53:10.800 --> 00:53:12.840

Beth Hall: So let me, let me just say.

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00:53:12.870 --> 00:53:20.250

Beth Hall: Let me just say it again, so it has been stated that there will be right over 150 jobs.

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00:53:21.510 --> 00:53:27.210

Beth Hall: For Bahamians. When this whole thing is completed at Lighthouse Point um

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00:53:28.230 --> 00:53:30.750

Beth Hall: in its entirety, how many um

311

00:53:31.770 --> 00:53:33.630

Beth Hall: employees will you have?

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00:53:35.340 --> 00:53:42.330

Kim Prunty: So we will have more than 150, at least 150 employees, at Lighthouse Point.

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00:53:42.510 --> 00:53:45.720

Kim Prunty: So that's.

314

00:53:45.930 --> 00:53:47.310

Beth Hall: Only going to be Bahamians?

315

00:53:47.520 --> 00:53:55.080

Kim Prunty: Can I please finish?

Beth Hall: Yes

Kim Prunty: So we will have at least 150 jobs at the site, the intention is to have those filled with Bahamians.

316

00:53:55.680 --> 00:54:06.390

Kim Prunty: But that's just working for Disney Cruise Line. We anticipate many other jobs in the form of vendors, who provide services and who provide jobs,

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00:54:06.990 --> 00:54:14.610

Kim Prunty: services and goods, to the operation. We anticipate jobs being generated by our port adventures and tour operators.

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00:54:15.330 --> 00:54:24.000

Kim Prunty: We anticipate jobs being created by the artisans and others who will bring their goods to be sold at the site.

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00:54:24.360 --> 00:54:35.940

Kim Prunty: And we like to have interactive experiences for our guests, so we anticipate that people won't just sell their goods they'll show guests, how to make them and provide an interactive experience for them to do that so.

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00:54:36.360 --> 00:54:42.510

Kim Prunty: The at least 150 jobs are specific to Disney and we think it will actually be more than that, but

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00:54:42.780 --> 00:54:52.770

Kim Prunty: we don't want to over promise and under deliver, so we have said, at least 150 and then we anticipate numerous other jobs from service providers, port adventures,

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00:54:53.280 --> 00:55:08.820

Kim Prunty: etc., which is why the investment and the Small Business Development Centre and Eleuthera Chamber with the Eleuthera Business Hub is so important. Because, if we're not going to open until 2024 these, this gives people time now to prepare for the opportunities that will be available.

323

00:55:10.500 --> 00:55:11.940 Beth

Hall: Okay, so so.

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00:55:13.080 --> 00:55:19.740

Director Newbold: Sorry, as I said previously, thank you, thank you Liza Rizzo can you unmute your MIC please.

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00:55:22.500 --> 00:55:32.070

Liza Rizzo: Hi um you mentioned that you were providing 100 or, excuse me \$1 million to small businesses, over the course of three years. \$333,000 a year.

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00:55:32.580 --> 00:55:41.640

Liza Rizzo: For a company with a market cap of over 300 billion, I think that that's seemingly insulting to Eleuthera. How did you only come up with a million dollars for that?

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00:55:45.510 --> 00:55:57.120

Kim Prunty: So we look at this as a beginning and it's for a variety of things, just to be very clear, it's to set up the facility, which has been completed, and now it is open. It is to provide training for

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00:55:58.080 --> 00:56:04.560

Kim Prunty: those who want the training, everything from basic business training to helping businesses that have been established for a while.

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00:56:05.070 --> 00:56:10.770

Kim Prunty: It is providing grants so that money is distributed among all these different activities.

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00:56:11.370 --> 00:56:16.830

Kim Prunty: Working with the Small Business Development Centre and working with the Eleuthera Chamber there hasn't been something like this,

331 00:56:17.100 > 00:56:22.230

Kim Prunty: in this exact form on the island, so we wanted to first understand what is the realm of

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00:56:22.620 --> 00:56:31.530

Kim Prunty: individuals who need assistance, what types of assistance, do they most need, and so this is the beginning of the relationship. We're still several years out.

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00:56:31.860 --> 00:56:33.570

Kim Prunty: Three years out from the project.

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00:56:33.930 --> 00:56:45.480

Kim Prunty: And what can we do now to get people ready? So, I would consider this an initial investment. I also would say that you know, there are many needs in Eleuthera and talking to the residents and citizens there

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00:56:45.750 --> 00:56:51.840

Kim Prunty: and there are a variety of other programs that will be getting involved in. We spoke about the Ministry of Education, we talked about

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00:56:52.110 --> 00:57:03.180

Kim Prunty: The workforce development programs. And so I would say there will be numerous other parts and pieces in terms of our investment in the community and we're very much in the process of evaluating that.

337

00:57:04.770 --> 00:57:09.420

Director Newbold: Thank you, Dr Bently Higgs, can I ask you to unmute your MIC.

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00:57:13.470 --> 00:57:14.460

Dr. Bently Higgs: Hi good afternoon.

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00:57:15.600 --> 00:57:17.160

Dr. Bently Higgs: Pleasure, being a part of this meeting.

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00:57:18.390 --> 00:57:22.710

Dr. Bently Higgs: I'm a PhD in sustainable solid waste management.

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00:57:24.000 --> 00:57:31.050

Dr. Bently Higgs: And, basically, I was listening to the presentation and it was mentioned that consideration will be

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00:57:32.550 --> 00:57:56.790

Dr. Bently Higgs: provided for solid waste management. Is this waste management plan done from, is it a comprehensive waste management plan that you have developed for, for I guess the southern portion of Eleuthera to encompass the Lighthouse Point um traffic that will generate waste.

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00:57:58.500 --> 00:58:02.220

Dr. Bently Higgs: Yeah so yeah do you do you have a full plan?

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00:58:04.680 > 00:58:12.060

Kim Prunty: So, most of this will be covered in the environmental management plan, but I can certainly share with you kind of philosophically and if anybody else

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00:58:12.570 --> 00:58:21.810

Kim Prunty: from our team wants to jump in. So, our goal is to achieve zero waste to landfill for this project. We seek to do that in a variety of ways. First is reducing

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00:58:22.260 --> 00:58:32.100

Kim Prunty: the waste created in the first place. So a perfect example of that is our plastics program across Disney and at Disney Cruise Line we've eliminated plastic straws, we've eliminated

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00:58:32.970 --> 00:58:39.030

Kim Prunty: you know, individual amenity bottles in staterooms we have essentially

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00:58:39.780 --> 00:58:48.690

Kim Prunty: eliminated, you know tons and tons of plastic waste over the past few years and that's one example. But we look to reduce in any way that we can.

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00:58:49.050 --> 00:58:56.340

Kim Prunty: Recycling is another really important part of the process, so items that can be recycled will be returned to the ship.

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00:58:56.970 --> 00:59:11.490

Kim Prunty: We recycle a significant amount of material, as it exists today. The other really great opportunity in Eleuthera is about reusing. So we already order and supply ourselves to reduce waste as much as possible.

351

00:59:12.180 --> 00:59:24.120

Kim Prunty: However, we look forward to the opportunity to share additional construction materials operational materials, etc, working with an organization in Eleuthera to provide that free of charge to

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00:59:25.050 --> 00:59:35.460

Kim Prunty: individuals in the community. For waste that doesn't fit into those buckets we are still looking at the latest technology, looking at

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00:59:36.210 --> 00:59:42.870

Kim Prunty: The type of incineration that could have the least environmental impact and exploring things like waste to energy opportunities.

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00:59:43.230 --> 00:59:58.380

Kim Prunty: So our Environmental Management Plan will address this. We are also hopeful that technology will catch up and we're willing to invest in that technology to provide those opportunities. And Dave I don't know if you have anything further to add.

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00:59:59.820 --> 01:00:11.220

David Chiaradonna: Nope. I agree. I mean I think through incineration how that technology emerges, you know we can look at those sustainable practices, things like very low burning incineration to where you do have

356

01:00:11.730 > 01:00:25.830

David Chiaradonna: a low carbon footprint output and then you can convert a lot of that energy back to you know usable things on site that would be in the confines of our back of house utility, so you captured it.

357

01:00:26.550 --> 01:00:31.350

Kim Prunty: Yeah but getting to reduce, recycle, reuse taking us through those steps first.

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01:00:32.490 --> 01:00:45.030

Director Newbold: All right, for us, ladies and gentlemen, let me just for the record, indicate there are 317 persons presently on the call and the chat has just blown up with over 100 comments opinions and some questions.

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01:00:46.260 --> 01:00:51.180

Director Newbold: That being said, can I ask Kelly Arkles to unmute your MIC and take the floor.

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01:00:53.970 --> 01:00:54.960

Kelly Arkles: Hi everyone can you hear me?

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01:00:55.830 --> 01:00:56.550

Director Newbold: We can hear you.

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01:00:56.820 --> 01:01:04.140

Kelly Arkles: Hi, wonderful so my question comes down to the access that Disney's EIA states for

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01:01:04.800 --> 01:01:15.120

Kelly Arkles: The southernmost tip, in particular, and my question is it's allowed for Bahamian residents and citizens for non-commercial purposes, what does that allow, that's my first question.

364

01:01:15.450 --> 01:01:28.620

Kelly Arkles: My second question is, is it only going to be when cruise ship is not in port? And then what about access for stay over tourists, which I'm speaking on behalf of who have already fallen in love with Lighthouse Point, is our access now prohibited?

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01:01:33.660 --> 01:01:40.320

Kim Prunty: So full access for citizens and residents of The Bahamas means full access for citizens and residents of The Bahamas.

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01:01:40.770 --> 01:01:52.530

Kim Prunty: And we will be working with our own security team and local law enforcement and taking the direction of local law enforcement if they would ask that we put any parameters as an example around it.

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01:01:53.400 --> 01:02:00.990

Kim Prunty: But they will be able to visit when the ship is in port or when it's not in port, so and so that's the piece,

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01:02:01.380 --> 01:02:08.730

Kim Prunty: the first question, I believe. I think that you know that there will be periods of time during construction where for safety reasons.

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01:02:09.570 --> 01:02:19.680

Kim Prunty: full access may not be available, just to be fully transparent, and we'll be working with Government and law enforcement and our own safety team to understand what that looks like.

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01:02:20.490 --> 01:02:29.250

Kim Prunty: But you know we will do our best to navigate around that and once it when it's operational, it is open to citizens and residents. And

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01:02:29.850 --> 01:02:47.610

Kim Prunty: In terms of other visitors there's a fairly substantial portion of the beach that is being donated, 25% of the area, um as noted earlier in the presentation and so for someone who's not a resident, that area will be available.

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01:02:48.090 --> 01:02:49.980

Kelly Arkles: But not the southernmost tip, correct?

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01:02:51.480 --> 01:02:54.780

Kim Prunty: The southernmost tip would be for citizens and residents of the Bahamas.

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01:02:54.900 --> 01:03:11.130

Kelly Arkles: OK well, the only thing that I wanted to say my last time it would be to any of the Bahamian government that your stay over tourists, which you have noted bring in more than cruise tourists, you are slighting us by this, many people have fallen in love with this site, thank you.

375

01:03:14.130 --> 01:03:18.270

Director Newbold: Oh next we have Sam, Sam can you unmute your MIC, please.

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01:03:22.260 --> 01:03:22.590

Sam?s: Hi.

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01:03:24.240 --> 01:03:24.780

Sam?s: Good evening, everyone.

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01:03:25.920 --> 01:03:26.790 Sam?s:

Sorry about the.

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01:03:28.200 --> 01:03:28.830

feedback.

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01:03:30.360 --> 01:03:40.980

Sam?s: What I what I'm trying to understand is, I do not see anything in your EIA that speaks to a million people coming to that site every year.

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01:03:41.460 --> 01:03:58.950

Sam?s: And the impact of those people, excuse me peeing in the water, suntan lotion everywhere, which we know is not good for the for corals like, how do you all intend to deal with that? And you know, removing,

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01:04:00.450 --> 01:04:10.080

Sam?s: or shall I say dumping another grade of sand on top of what is already an exquisite beach.

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01:04:10.890 --> 01:04:19.080

Sam?s: How, how do you all like come to a beautiful place and then decide it's not as beautiful as it really needs to be,

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01:04:19.500 --> 01:04:27.390

Sam?s: and we're going to make it really much more beautiful but it does not make sense to me. I don't understand how,

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01:04:27.900 --> 01:04:47.910

Sam?s: number one, well not number one there's so many, but how do you build a cruise port in the middle of a proposed Marine Protected Area and think that that's a good idea? Would you be happy if we came to your country and built in Yosemite?

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01:04:49.020 --> 01:04:50.490

Sam?s: I mean, because essentially that is

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01:04:50.490 --> 01:04:51.810

Sam?s: What you're doing to us.

388

01:04:52.410 --> 01:04:58.350

Director Newbold: Ms. Duncombe, thank you so much, give them an opportunity to respond to the question about the volume of visitors, thank you.

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01:05:01.470 --> 01:05:10.860

Kim Prunty: So I would say a couple of things. First, is that only one ship is able to be hosted in port, at a time.

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01:05:11.670 --> 01:05:23.820

Kim Prunty: Our ships range in passenger volume from 2800 passengers to up to 3800 passengers and we deal with this today with Castaway Cay, which is also less than 20% developed.

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01:05:24.330 --> 01:05:31.770

Kim Prunty: The natural environment exists for the overwhelming majority of the property. We have more than 20 years of experience of

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01:05:32.100 --> 01:05:41.520

Kim Prunty: keeping our guests in areas where they are welcome and not allowing them to areas that they are not, and so we will use that experience.

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01:05:42.030 --> 01:05:50.850

Kim Prunty: as this site becomes operational. We also intend to have a pretty significant educational program

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01:05:51.180 --> 01:06:01.200

Kim Prunty: associated with this project, which includes things like not using sunscreen that is not coral friendly. It includes a variety of things, not going into areas that

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01:06:02.010 --> 01:06:04.950

Kim Prunty: you know you're not welcome into because of the environmental protection.

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01:06:05.280 --> 01:06:13.170

Kim Prunty: You know, we survey our guests and what we hear from them is they want to go to real places, they also want to be involved in helping to protect the environment.

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01:06:13.500 --> 01:06:29.820

Kim Prunty: We have a whole theme park at Disney's Animal Kingdom, which focuses on educating our guests, and so we feel comfortable that based on our experience at Castaway and based on our experience in places all over the world, that we can help protect this this place.

398

01:06:31.440 --> 01:06:36.090

Director Newbold: Thank you now you have Sarah Corbett, Sara please unmute your MIC.

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01:06:40.110 --> 01:06:45.840

sarah corbett: Yeah and just to be clear, this is Jeremy hanging out here with Sarah, uh thanks for your time I do respect it.

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01:06:48.330 --> 01:06:56.250

sarah corbett: One thing everyone seems to agree on is that Lighthouse Point is rich, it's just about like who thinks that they own that wealth.

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01:06:57.270 --> 01:07:04.620

sarah corbett: You guys, have you guys have admitted pretty clearly just now that you have no idea what you do about the waste. Your answer was basically,

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01:07:05.100 --> 01:07:14.730

sarah corbett: well, some technology will be invented by the time that we need to deal with that, but the reality is you have no idea of the impact of this is going to have.

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01:07:16.050 --> 01:07:25.110

sarah corbett: But you really use the word you really emphasize the word environmentally responsible, and I think everyone agrees, like yeah we want you to be environmentally responsible.

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01:07:25.980 --> 01:07:36.690

sarah corbett: But we all apparently disagree on what environmentally responsible is so I would like to really hear directly from you guys because he really danced around this specifically.

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01:07:40.800 --> 01:07:50.700

sarah corbett: Why do you think that your very narrow version of environmentally responsible is the one that everybody else should go along with?

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01:07:53.550 --> 01:07:56.610

Director Newbold: Thank you Corbett give them an opportunity to answer.

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01:07:58.560 --> 01:08:06.030

Kim Prunty: So what I would share is that what we were asked to do is to complete an Environmental Impact Assessment.

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01:08:06.600 --> 01:08:14.670

Kim Prunty: We fully believe that everyone has a right to their own opinion, our Environmental Impact Assessment was based on three years of collecting facts

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01:08:15.150 --> 01:08:29.640

Kim Prunty: and putting together data and analyzing data, so what we presented is not opinion, um, there's numerous, there are numerous facts throughout the document. And I would like to also clarify,

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01:08:35.430 --> 01:08:51.420

Kim Prunty: I would also like to clarify that it's not that we don't have a plan for waste, it's that is covered largely in the Environmental Management Plan, which is the phase we go into after that and we shared our philosophy and the details will be available in the plan.

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01:08:55.050 --> 01:08:59.070

Director Newbold: Thank you, can we get Andy Mims, please unmute your MIC.

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01:09:03.210 --> 01:09:05.850

Andy Mims: Hi there, thank you for taking my

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01:09:06.930 --> 01:09:13.950

Andy Mims: question. I'm a shareholder of the company, I appreciate the fact that you're going through this and that you're um,

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01:09:16.320 --> 01:09:23.400

Andy Mims: trying to be transparent here I did hear some questions by a woman earlier, Casuarina McKinney,

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01:09:24.840 --> 01:09:33.270

Andy Mims: and I'm trying to learn more about this project myself. I was frustrated that she was cut off.

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01:09:34.320 --> 01:09:52.950

Andy Mims: particularly given your commitment to transparency, and I would hope that she could have the MIC again and finish your questions, and I would encourage Disney to take her call if she or her hand if she raises it again, because I would like to hear the rest of her question.

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01:09:53.010 --> 01:09:53.280

Director Newbold: Thank you, Mr. Mims.

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01:09:55.410 --> 01:10:02.490

Director Newbold: And for clarity to all Disney is not controlling the accessibility of anybody involved in the discussion or the Q&A today.

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01:10:03.060 --> 01:10:09.900

Director Newbold: I just want to make that very clear, as I said in the very beginning, the whole matter is being controlled by the Department of Environmental Planning & Protection.

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01:10:10.320 --> 01:10:22.080

Director Newbold: We also want everybody to be clear and understanding and there's 21 days opportunity thereafter to have any concerns that they may have addressed by putting it in writing, it will be responded to.

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01:10:22.530 --> 01:10:36.810

Director Newbold: That being said, we've held, Dr Davis for a while trying to allow those who have not yet made initial comments to have that opportunity, but I think I will ask him now to unmute his MIC and take the floor and then we will proceed with the others.

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01:10:41.490 --> 01:10:42.540

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: Thank you again,

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01:10:43.620 --> 01:10:44.550

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: Director Newbold.

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01:10:45.960 --> 01:11:02.730

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: This is addressed, I guess, probably Miss Prunty will be able to help on this, the tour... the cruise tourism industry has really been pushing for Bahamian and Caribbean shore excursion

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01:11:04.290 --> 01:11:18.000

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: program offerings to meet the requirements of the global certificate and sustainable tourism. Now, you say that access to the site is only for non-commercial purposes.

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01:11:18.840 --> 01:11:33.780

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: I would like to know if you will be allowing bird guides or environmental guides from the Bahamas access to the site and not just to your guests, but to bring in their own guests as well.

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01:11:34.650 --> 01:11:47.370

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: Because it's not sustainable, for them to only be able to work when you are in country and based on the guidelines of the global certificate and sustainable tourism,

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01:11:47.880 --> 01:12:05.130

Dr. Leno Davis @SciPerspective: if you do not allow that that would actually be a negative impact both socially, economically and environmentally. And if you're not doing that are you bringing in your own employees who then would not be as experienced in our environment.

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01:12:06.960 --> 01:12:08.310

Director Newbold: Thank you, Dr Davis.

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01:12:09.180 --> 01:12:22.500

Kim Prunty: That's a great question um, and you know, we have already through the EIA through our monitoring programs are including Bahamians and we intend to do that, throughout the operation of

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01:12:23.430 --> 01:12:30.000

Kim Prunty: of the of the site, so what I would tell you is know if we brought in employees, they would be Bahamians.

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01:12:30.450 --> 01:12:41.790

Kim Prunty: And we do think that there are a lot of great environmental stories to tell, and I think there's a lot of work to do, and we have a couple of years to do that, to understand exactly what that looks like.

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01:12:42.150 --> 01:12:54.750

Kim Prunty: And maybe Claire would like to also add. She leads our conservation programs but collaborating, especially in country, um, is a big priority of ours. Claire, do you want to talk a little bit about that?

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01:12:55.770 --> 01:13:02.190

Claire Martin (she/her): Yes, sure, at Disney as part of our enterprise social responsibility strategy we are looking at

435

01:13:02.520 --> 01:13:15.030

Claire Martin (she/her): how we really think about providing inspiration, opportunity and access from early childhood, all the way to early career for local communities where we work, and we know we're in this example would be the exact same.

436

01:13:15.570 --> 01:13:23.790

Claire Martin (she/her): We're looking at you know paid positions focused on conservation and science. We're also focused on you know more comprehensively how we can support

437

01:13:24.390 --> 01:13:30.270

Claire Martin (she/her): education and opportunity for Bahamians to be you know to be the next generation of conservation leaders.

438

01:13:30.660 --> 01:13:41.310

Claire Martin (she/her): And we want to work with local partners to determine the best way to do that and to think about how we best invest philanthropically, but also where we can pull together expertise to support as well.

439

01:13:44.430 --> 01:14:03.840

Director Newbold: Thank you, we, it is now 7:17pm, there are three more minutes left in this activity. There are 309 persons, still on the call and the chat group has well over 200 comments. That being said, I will ask Miss Thompson and Miss Thompson to take the floor, please.

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01:14:10.290 --> 01:14:11.430

Director Newbold: Thompson are you there?

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01:14:13.950 --> 01:14:17.700

Director Newbold: Interest of time, Kishon Turner please take the floor, please.

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01:14:18.870 --> 01:14:19.920

Kishon Turner: Yes, good night.

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01:14:22.350 --> 01:14:27.780

Kishon Turner: Based on your low density development and sustainable practices.

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01:14:29.760 --> 01:14:35.340

Kishon Turner: What is your yearly projected carbon footprint, if you are only using 30% renewable energy?

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01:14:40.650 --> 01:14:45.570

Kim Prunty: So this information is in the EIA. I'm trying to find it right now, and let me,

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01:14:45.630 --> 01:14:54.240

Kim Prunty: let me be clear, this is another one of the situations that we, we are still working through. We committed to at least 30%.

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01:14:54.630 --> 01:15:10.080

Kim Prunty: We anticipate that that will be growing to more than 30%, as I mentioned at Castaway Cay we're in the middle of an installation that will bring us to 70% solar, so it is really just the starting point that we committed to as part of our EIA.

448

01:15:10.830 --> 01:15:16.860

Kim Prunty: We have calculated it I don't know if anybody else from our team has it in front of them.

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01:15:17.400 --> 01:15:24.990

Dr. Mark Penning: Kim it's worth just making clear, if I can jump in there, that we could look at a greater percentage of solar but we've

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01:15:25.350 --> 01:15:37.740

Dr. Mark Penning: really got to weigh that up against cutting out coppice vegetation that probably you know does a better job than even the panels do you know. We want to leave forest intact, so that

451

01:15:38.250 --> 01:15:50.220

Dr. Mark Penning: also factors into the 30% equation. It's not that we didn't want to go higher than 30%. I hope that makes sense and Kim if I'm not mistaken, that number was 3100.

452

01:15:52.110 --> 01:15:52.980

Director Newbold: Thank you.

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01:15:53.190 --> 01:15:56.910

Dr. Mark Penning: And we're on, it's 25% less than what we're doing at Castaway.

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01:15:58.500 --> 01:16:01.290

Kim Prunty: And that number is also reducing due to the installation.

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01:16:02.070 --> 01:16:11.610

Director Newbold: Ladies, gentlemen, we are at the 7:20pm mark, I will allow one more question that would be from Miss Rashema Ingraham. Please take the floor and ask your question.

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01:16:15.030 --> 01:16:19.590

Rashema Ingraham: Thank you, thank you and I'm so happy that I have the opportunity to speak.

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01:16:20.280 --> 01:16:31.800

Rashema Ingraham: Just going back to the question that was asked first, I believe, about the construction and whether or not Bahamians were also going to be used for the construction. I wanted to know if

458

01:16:32.610 --> 01:16:46.380

Rashema Ingraham: the LEED certification, which is a gold standard, was going to be adopted in this project, and how it's going to be adopted? And looking at those Bahamian contractors, how was training going to be to make sure that they are up to those standards?

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01:16:48.960 --> 01:16:57.060

David Chiaradonna: Yeah so I can answer the question on the LEED certification and we'll talk the training. So LEED certification, as far as the buildings are concerned, right now, that we're constructing

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01:16:57.570 --> 01:17:02.580

David Chiaradonna: for guests, they are very much open air buildings very limited windows,

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01:17:03.150 --> 01:17:11.820

David Chiaradonna: very limited lighting, roofing structures. So all in all, to get a LEED certification on the buildings that we're constructing, it will be challenging.

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01:17:12.090 --> 01:17:22.320

David Chiaradonna: We are going to look at that. Now, I can say from the back of house locations where we will have warehouses, where we will house cast, those are buildings that will definitely be considered.

463

01:17:23.700 --> 01:17:33.990

David Chiaradonna: As far as training is concerned, um, again with this project being a design build, we have a robust set of deliverables that we are asking our design build teams to come back with.

464

01:17:34.440 --> 01:17:52.080

David Chiaradonna: Training, first and foremost, is number one alongside of safety. We will not do anything unless we train, um you know our talent, to be able to move forward with activities on a daily basis, and that goes for our Bahamians as well, which is all incorporated

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01:17:52.650 --> 01:17:53.730

David Chiaradonna: into what we've committed

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01:17:53.730 --> 01:17:55.890

David Chiaradonna: to do as part of the Heads of Agreement.

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01:17:56.790 --> 01:18:09.030

Kim Prunty: And what I would also add, is, we have worked closely with the Bahamian Contractors Association throughout this process and are an active conversations with them about what kind of training is needed, and how we can assist with that.

468

01:18:14.160 --> 01:18:28.980

Director Newbold: All right, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you all for your participation in this meeting today, I know that there are a lot of questions, I know there are a lot of opinions that people would like to express, but we would be here all night and

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01:18:30.180 --> 01:18:40.710

Director Newbold: the opportunity that is required is for you to be able to make your presentations or make your queries known, and I think, for the most part, those who wanted to verbalize those

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01:18:41.100 --> 01:18:56.430

Director Newbold: had the opportunity. And as I said in the chat, we have well over 300 statements, opinions and some questions that are posted there and those that are in writing, are being captured by the system, as well as the recording of the meeting.

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01:18:58.440 --> 01:19:12.480

Director Newbold: What will, the next steps which will happen is that the Disney will have the opportunity to address all comments, questions and concerns. And when I say comments let me be clear, I don't mean,

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01:19:12.960 --> 01:19:23.070

Director Newbold: I don't think Disney should be here and then Disney to say something. Your comments and opinions are accepted as is. What Disney is responsible to is providing

473

01:19:23.700 --> 01:19:39.330

Director Newbold: responses to questions, to addressing any gaps that may be in the documentation or highlighted by members of the public. For the next 21 working days, and so I want to make a correction to the slide. I do apologize for not catching this earlier.

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01:19:40.380 > 01:19:54.510

Director Newbold: You have until actually April, I'm sorry March...May 7, you have until Friday May 7 at 5pm Eastern Standard Time to provide your comments. Any comments received

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01:19:54.990 --> 01:20:03.150

Director Newbold: Beyond that day will not be accepted. Disney will not be able to complete its process until after that May 7 timeline.

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01:20:03.810 --> 01:20:12.840

Director Newbold: As you may send in your comments on May 6 and you want to make sure the document is thoroughly addressed and your comments or concerns, not comments, your questions

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01:20:13.290 --> 01:20:29.850

Director Newbold: or concerns or identifications of gaps are truly responded to as comprehensively as possible. Should you have any concerns about ensuring that your questions or concerns or identification of gaps are not taken into account, you are

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01:20:30.900 --> 01:20:39.750

Director Newbold: have the option of ensuring that those are filtered into this department, or they can be filtered directly to Disney or both.

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01:20:40.500 --> 01:20:52.290

Director Newbold: In any event, by law we are required to pass along any questions or concerns that come to us to the Developer, not just Disney, in any project that's ongoing.

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01:20:52.590 > 01:21:08.250

Director Newbold: And those must be addressed. Once those are, once the public consultation report is completed, the Government will review it, it will be posted up on their website for you to ensure that your questions have been captured and are being

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01:21:09.990 --> 01:21:19.500

Director Newbold: considered and are a part of the documentation. And if there have not been any substantive concerns for the environment or any

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01:21:20.430 --> 01:21:28.500

Director Newbold: responses or questions that have been posed that have not been thoroughly addressed through the EIA process those must be addressed.

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01:21:29.100 --> 01:21:38.100

Director Newbold: We will not be able to move any further unless they are substantively addressed, if any, has been highlighted. If none has been highlighted

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01:21:38.370 --> 01:21:42.750

Director Newbold: and there is no concern about the environmental sustainability of the project,

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01:21:43.140 --> 01:21:53.550

Director Newbold: then the project will move on to the next step, which, Miss Prunty has indicated, will be the production of the Environmental Management Plan. That document will also be provided on the website

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01:21:54.120 > 01:22:02.310

Director Newbold: and will be available for the public to review. If you have any questions or comments relative to that document when it is submitted, you are free to provide it to the Department for its,

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01:22:03.870 --> 01:22:13.650

Director Newbold: while it's doing its review in consideration of your concerns. If throughout the entire process it is determined that there is no significant environmental concerns relative to

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01:22:13.980 --> 01:22:18.720

Director Newbold: the development being proposed by the developer, and that being in this case Disney

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01:22:18.990 --> 01:22:25.470

Director Newbold: a certificate of Environmental Clearance will be issued to the developer, which will then trigger their ability

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01:22:25.740 --> 01:22:35.580

Director Newbold: to approach the Ministry of Works and all other infrastructure related permits and agencies that issue that permit for them to then undertake the works.

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01:22:36.060 --> 01:22:42.360

Director Newbold: If anybody has any questions or concerns or needs further clarification to what I have indicated here tonight

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01:22:42.720 > 01:22:54.660

Director Newbold: please know that the Department is available and open to the public. We do accept calls, we do respond to your emails and we are very, we try and be very transparent with every process

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01:22:55.620 --> 01:23:01.770

Director Newbold: as it relates to the new environmental legislation that now requires that all information be shared with the public.

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01:23:02.280 --> 01:23:15.150

Director Newbold: We stand by that, we support that and we encourage you to hold the government's feet to the fire to ensure that that process is transpired, transcurring and it is being implemented.

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01:23:16.170 --> 01:23:24.180

Director Newbold: So, without any further ado I say thank you for Disney and its consultants for participating and being a part of the process this morning, I mean this evening.

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01:23:24.540 --> 01:23:39.120

Director Newbold: And I say thank you to members of the public, residents and visitors to The Bahamas, for also being a part of the process this evening. We look forward to a finalization, either which way, and you will be informed. Good night to all.

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01:23:40.710 --> 01:23:49.560

Director Newbold: Oh I'm so sorry Reverend Anderson, if you are on the call please raise your hand, so you can close this out in a word of prayer.

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01:23:56.760 --> 01:23:58.530

Director Newbold: Reverend Anderson are you there.

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01:24:03.540 --> 01:24:07.860

Director Newbold: Okay, so yet again folks I say good night, and thank you.