The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited

Media Release

NGC Group partnering to secure the future of our nation's children

November 20th 2020

On Friday November 20th 2020, the NGC Group of Companies - comprising NGC, National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (National Energy), Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL), NGC CNG Company Limited (NGC CNG), and La Brea Industrial Development Company Limited (LABIDCO) - committed support to the Ministry of Education's (MOE's) "No Child Left Behind" public engagement initiative. This initiative was launched to facilitate both the synchronous and asynchronous learning that is part of the "new normal" in education, and aims to equip children in need with devices to access learning platforms and other resources.

At a media event held at the MOE offices in Port of Spain, NGC President Mark Loquan revealed that the NGC Group would donate $2,000,000.00 worth of laptops and tablets to Primary and Secondary schools in communities near the Group's installations across the country. Beneficiaries will include schools in Couva, Penal, La Brea, Mayaro, Guayaguayare, Couva, Point Fortin, Toco, and Moruga among others.

This larger initiative by the NGC Group is also supported by individual efforts by member companies. PPGPL has pledged to donate desktops that are no longer required by its staff to children in fenceline communities. Additionally, LABIDCO has embarked on a project to assist children in their community of La Brea who do not have access to online platforms and require printed materials to participate in classes. The company has commenced printing and copying of curriculum material to be distributed to approximately 500 students from five participating primary schools.

According to NGC President Mr. Mark Loquan, "Our current intervention in the form of purchase of devices seeks to help in bridging the digital divide which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Education is a universal right, and it is unacceptable that any child should be excluded or denied the opportunity to learn for want of resources such as computers or tablets. Corporate Trinidad and Tobago must continue to come to the forefront to support and invest in our young people, for they will be the ones to carry our nation in years to come."

The NGC Group's support of this MOE initiative reflects its ongoing commitment to investing in education and youth empowerment. Education is a foundation block of its sustainability agenda, through which the Group is seeking to build a more secure future for Trinidad and Tobago. Investments have included partnership with educational institutions such as The University of the West Indies, support of literacy efforts through the work of the Adult Literacy Tutors Association (ALTA) and the NGC Bocas Lit Fest, as well as music literacy training for sponsored steelbands. Most recently, the NGC Group has turned attention to improving energy literacy and awareness, with the Energy SmarTT app being launched early in 2020. The app is also being

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updated to meet the needs of the youth as part of a larger process of youth engagement on Energy Efficiency and Literacy.

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