

December 14, 2020

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

Dr. Mark Penning  
Vice President of Animals Science and Environment  
The Walt Disney Company  
500 South Buena Vista Street  
Burbank, CA 91521-9722

Dear Minister Ferreira and Dr. Penning,

**Request for updated information on the status of Disney Cruise Line's proposed cruise ship port at Lighthouse Point on Eleuthera**

While we are still awaiting a reply to our letter on October 27th about the draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed cruise ship port at Lighthouse Point, we are now writing to inquire more generally about the status of the project as a result of a recent indication that the project could be postponed for years or even canceled.

On November 24th, it was reported that Joe Rohde, Disney's chief designer for the project, was retiring because he could not wait until the project proceeded. Our on-island partners have not observed any recent evidence of continuing preparatory site work at the Point or more generally of Disney's continuing engagement on Eleuthera.

Meanwhile the people of Eleuthera are suffering from high unemployment and food insecurity. They need to know whether this project is still even feasible in light of the new realities and challenges the world is facing. The people of The Bahamas need to know whether Disney is serious about helping The Bahamas to build back better by being transparent and committed to meaningful public engagement. A growing number of people worldwide — reflected in our more than 432,000 supporters — are eager to see Disney live up to its environmental commitments at Lighthouse Point.

The Bahamas and nations across the globe are struggling to determine the best strategies to move forward in recovery. Now is not the time to rush ahead with decisions on investments that do not include consideration of the new normal. As we have said before, we are eager to work with you

on the environmental review of the proposed project so that all the involved stakeholders can make a fully informed decision about the future of Lighthouse Point.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Sam Duncombe  
Executive Director  
reEarth



Casuarina McKinney-Lambert  
Executive Director  
Bahamas Reef Environment  
Educational Foundation



Rashema Ingraham  
Executive Director  
Waterkeepers Bahamas



Joseph Darville  
Chairman  
Save the Bays



Marc Yaggi  
Executive Director  
Waterkeeper Alliance

cc: Rochelle Newbold, Director, Department of Environmental Planning and Protection  
Kim Prunty, Vice President, Communications & Public Affairs