

Parliament of the Cayman Islands

Parliamentary Question No. 11

<u>Answered on 15th December, 2022 -</u> Second Meeting 2022-2023 Session - Fifth Sitting

Parliamentary Question asked by Mr. Joseph Hew, Elected Member for George Town North

The Honourable Premier, G. Wayne Panton, Minister responsible for Sustainability and Climate Resiliency

QUESTION: Can the Honourable Premier update the House and the public on the progress

of the Regen Waste to Energy project, including whether he will meet his

planned timeline for financial close?

ANSWER: Significant progress continues to be made between the Cayman Islands Government and the Dart Consortium to complete project negotiations for the

development of ReGen.

As I have previously shared, the PACT Administration was not handed a fully negotiated contract to simply carry forward and execute. There were a staggering number of outstanding items to financial close - the vast majority of which were showing as "not yet agreed" and represented significant issues remaining to be addressed. In addition, there are significant, some might say critical, examples of issues that have come to light and these include, firstly, that the project plans did not have any space allocated for the DEH to continue their solid waste collection operations. Secondly, the project agreement signed in March 2021 a mere three weeks before the election did not include the Sister Islands. For ReGen to benefit everyone in the Cayman Islands, it's important to ensure plans are in place to provide sustainable waste management for our sister islands of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman.

As we have continued our negotiations, the projected timeline to financial close as agreed between the parties has necessarily continued to shift. I cannot go into too much detail as to the reason for the current delay due to the fact that negotiations are still very active. While negotiations continue in earnest to accomplish this as quickly as possible, I am informed that the parties now expect financial close for the project in early 2023.