



PRESS RELEASE

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JCRA CHAIRMAN COMMENTS ON JEC'S MANNING REDUCTIONS AT LA COLLETTE

The JCRA notes the drive towards efficiency at the La Collette power station. The manning reductions announced by Mike Liston today are a response to Jersey's obligations under the International Climate Change Treaties, with JEC signalling its intention to move away from a reliance on heavy fuel oil to produce electricity to a more environmentally friendly production method such as gas turbines.

Dr Patrick McNutt, the Chairman of the JCRA had publicly commented during his address to the Chamber of Commerce earlier in the year, that the Jersey electricity market is a good example of a market that could be regulated under a competition law. Under such a law the JCRA would be able to ensure that the lower *economic cost of providing electricity to the island of Jersey would be matched with lower real prices for all end users*, residential as well as industrial users of electricity.

Dr McNutt commented that 'with these announcements today, the JEC's task going forward over next year or so will be to judiciously balance their response to environmental obligations with their obligation to offer Jersey electricity users a cheaper and more secure supply of electricity'.

Dr McNutt commented that '*the sooner Jersey has a competition law*, the sooner the JCRA can meet with the JEC to determine whether or not sustained real reductions in electricity prices will follow as a direct consequence of the cost efficiencies achieved from the manning reductions at La Collette power station'. Such a dialogue would become an integral part of Mike Liston's drive for improved efficiency and lower electricity prices for Jersey consumers.

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For further information, please contact:

Dr Patrick McNutt, Chairman of the JCRA
Telephone: 514990