



**Public Hearing Summary**  
Wednesday September 13, 2017

**Inquiry Subject:**

The Examination of the concerns raised in the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2016 with specific reference to the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.

**Committee Members:**

The following Committee Members were present for the meeting:

- Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie - Chairman
- Mr. Rodger Samuel - Vice- Chairman
- Ms. Jennifer Raffoul - Member
- Mrs. Ayanna Webster-Roy - Member
- Dr. Lester Henry - Member

**Witnesses who appeared:**

**Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI)**

- Mr. Selwyn Lashley - Permanent Secretary
- Mrs. Penelope Bradshaw- Niles - Deputy Permanent Secretary
- Ms. Marilyn Jamunar - Auditor II (Ag.)
- Ms. Kaisha Deene - Accountant II (Ag.)
- Ms. Grace Corneal - Audit Manager
- Mr. Marc Rudder - Senior Petroleum Engineer
- Mrs. Kevar Cummings-Williams - Director Human Resource Services

**Auditor General's Department (AGD)**

- Mr. Gary Peters - Assistant Auditor General
- Mr. Brian Caesar - Audit Executive II
- Mrs. Rajkoomari Mohammed - Audit Executive II
- Mr. Curtis Darbasie - Audit Supervisor (Ag.)



**PARLIAMENT**  
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**Public Accounts Committee**

## Key Issues Discussed

1. The measures in place to reduce the recurrence of errors in/ omissions from the Appropriation Account;
2. The lack of succession planning at the MEEI;
3. The challenges and structure of the Accounts Unit at the MEEI;
4. The challenges experienced by the MEEI in the recruitment of staff to fill the vacant positions;
5. The regularization of quarry operators in Trinidad and Tobago;
6. The impact of the shortage of manpower and lack of measurement training at the MEEI;
7. The status of the examination and review processes applied to the calculation, verification and management of revenue from royalties and share of profits from oil companies;
8. The accuracy of the production data received in the calculation of revenue and the methods used to resolve discrepancies by the MEEI;
9. The measures in place to improve the frequency of the verification of oil and gas production data;
10. The plans in place to rectify the challenges of illegal quarrying in Trinidad and Tobago;
11. The number of private sector companies, state enterprises and quarries under the purview of the MEEI;
12. The lack of regulatory controls in place at the MEEI for the verification of data by quarry operators;
13. The status of Petrotrin's Internal Audit report on alleged discrepancies in production data;
14. The need for a proactive approach to improve the Ministry's technological capabilities; and
15. The need for auditing on the calculation of royalties payments submitted from quarry operators and oil and gas producers.

## View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube Channel via the following link:

<https://youtu.be/8oWIInqBpEw>

**PAC Secretariat**  
**September 13, 2017**