

# Beyond the Pipeline





A Newsletter for our Pipeline Communities

July 2015

# Introduction

For 40 years, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) has been a key player in the local energy sector. The Company's operations span the entire natural gas value chain.

This ranges from the purchase, transportation, distribution and sale of natural gas to offshore compression and the engineering, construction and maintenance of gas pipeline infrastructure. The Company has also diversified into NGLs processing and marketing; port infrastructure development and services; industrial estate development and management; investment in Upstream Oil and Gas Exploration and Production, LNG shipping and marketing and CNG vehicular fuel promotion and facilitation. NGC's customers are the power generation, petrochemical and iron and steel plants located at the Point Lisas Industrial Estate, and a wide range of light manufacturing and commercial enterprises located throughout the country.

The Company's financial and business performance has consistently earned admirable international credit ratings, such as A- from Standard and Poor's and AAA from CariCris.

NGC is one of the largest companies in the Caribbean and Latin America, when measured by assets. It has an asset base of over US\$ 7 billion.

The contribution the Company makes to the national economy is substantial. NGC is also deeply involved in community development through its Corporate Social Investment programme. Through this programme, NGC has contributed significantly to the people of Trinidad and Tobago in the areas of Sport, Empowerment and Civic Life. We keep our communities informed of our CSI activities via publications such as Beyond the Pipeline.



## **Highlights:**











#### **Human Resources**

It is in the interest of the energy sector that there be a pool of qualified young persons who are passionate about honing their skills and ready to be absorbed into the world of work.

Insupport of this goal, in 2015 NGC conducted its Business Upstream Development (BUD) Graduate Trainee Programme, in which twenty-two university graduates were introduced to its operations through a two-year programme.

At the start of the programme, which began in February, participants were introduced to key NGC partners, sites and subsidiaries, such as National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (National Energy), Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL), La Brea Industrial Development Corporation (LABIDCO), NGC CNG Company Limited, and its facilities located at Union Estate and Beachfield in South Trinidad.

The BUD Programme provided training programmes to equip the graduates for corporate life, from business etiquette to interpersonal relationships and stress management. In order to fully appreciate the vital and dynamic workings of NGC, participants were initially placed on a two-week rotation within different work units throughout the Company, following which they were placed in key areas that corresponded to their educational qualifications.

NGC also supported these qualified and enthusiastic young people by providing close personal interaction with more mature and experienced staff. Each participant therefore works closely with a designated mentor, in a relationship that is certain to be of mutual benefit, even after the programme has ended.

According to Carla Phillip, a current trainee who has chosen the field of mechanical

engineering, "The programme is exposing us to a lot of areas within the Company. The relationship with my mentor is going very well. We know what we expect from each other. NGC is a great Company, being the sole enterprise that purchases, transports and sells natural gas. My hopes for the next two years are to gain a lot of experience and knowledge in my core area."

# Exposing Young Professionals to the Energy Sector

Business Upstream Development (BUD)
Graduate Trainee Programme



#### Community Relations

# NGC's Capacity Building Workshops take Steel Pan to Greater Heights

As a Company created by Trinis, for Trinis, and staffed by Trinis, we at NGC love all that is local, especially our culture.

We have supported our national instrument, the steelpan, for more than two decades, building relationships with talented pan men and pan women in communities across the nation. Currently, we sponsor three steelbands: NGC La Brea Nightingales, NGC Couva Joylanders, NGC Steel Xplosion, and partner with Gonzales Sheikers.

This year, the practical and financial support we offered contributed to strong showings by our sponsored bands at the Panorama Competition. NGC Couva Joylanders made it to the Finals in the medium band category, placing 7th and winning People's Choice Award for the second consecutive year. The NGC La Brea Nightingales placed 14th in the Prelims. NGC Steel Xplosion participated in the medium band category and placed 3rd; they also copped the Tobago Pan Champs title, making it an excellent year for the band. Gonzalez Sheikers placed 6th at the Panorama Finals in the small band category.

While we offer our financial support with a alad heart, NGC is of the view that the best



way to help someone is to guide him or her towards becoming self-sufficient. Over the past several months, therefore, NGC has offered Capacity Building Workshops to the executive of the NGC sponsored and partnered bands.

The workshops, both basic and advanced, introduced the group leaders to management and organisational skills, including human resource management, conflict resolution, and finance and

accounting. Other topics were offered such as marketing, social media, etiquette and protocol, and team building.

In short, these workshops have provided our sponsored bands with everything they need to take their groups to greater heights, maybe even to the international level, resulting in greater career opportunities for our talented musicians, and a worldwide audience for our pan instrument.



NGC's close ties with communities of the Southland were further strengthened with the deepening of our relationship with the National Junior Arts Festival.

The Festival, now called NGC Sanfest, targets children from primary and secondary schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago, and focuses on visual, literary, and performing arts.

The Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA), University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, partnered with the San Fernando Arts Council and NGC to produce the 2014 version of NGC Sanfest. DCFA also supplied a venue, provided volunteers and assistance with refining and delivering the syllabus.

# NGC's Sponsorship of Sanfest brings about Positive Changes

Our 2013-2014 sponsorship agreement with NGC Sanfest has resulted in changes geared toward building public interest, encouraging attendance and increasing student participation. After collaboration with the San Fernando Arts Council, organisers of the event, new initiatives were implemented.

Some of them were

- Attendance incentives, such as "best posse" prizes based on attendance and support by schools. Fuller audiences also helped to motivate performers.
- Teacher recognition, acknowledging the selfless and untiring contributions teachers make in being the driving force behind student participation and performance. Winning teachers received Kindles.

- Improved prizes for participants twenty seven outstanding students received iPods.
- Stronger media presence, thanks to heavy campaigning in print and electronic media, including the introduction for a second year of an NGC Sanfest jingle used in the promotional campaign.

There is no doubt that NGC Sanfest 2014 was one to remember, not just for the thrilled audiences and winning schools, but for every child who, through their participation, discovered something new inside themselves: greater strength, talent, purpose, drive, and self-assurance. And NGC is happy to have played a role in the ultimate purpose of NGC Sanfest: to foster happier, more confident children who believe in themselves and an empowered Trinidad and Tobago.

# Reforestation

During and after pipeline construction, NGC holds itself to a high standard of environmental responsibility. For the most part, we design our pipeline routes to avoid sensitive areas.

When we can't, we use a method called Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to pass under areas that are ecologically sensitive such as wildlife habitats and rivers. This way we avoid destroying natural habitats.

In other contexts, when cutting down trees is unavoidable, we adopt the "No Net Loss Principle", in which we replant the equivalent acreage of trees lost during our pipeline construction activities. We have tended to focus on forested areas that are under threat, in order to restore them to their former glory.

NGC's Reforestation programme is now in Phase V. We are currently rehabilitating 50 hectares of land in Grant's Trace, Edward Trace and Guapo/Parrylands. This phase is the maintenance phase, in which members of neighbouring communities who have related training and experience are provided with all the equipment necessary to watch over these rehabilitated delicate areas during the risky dry season.

The trees being tended are indigenous to the area, and include crappo, balata, apamate, mahogany, yellow poui, local cedar, olivier, maho, chennette, pommerac and cajuca.

Phase VI will begin in the third quarter of 2015.

Spotlight on ... the Balata Tree

Community Relations

Many of us remember enjoying balata fruit in our childhood: the sticky juice running down our fingers and staining our clothes.

They may be harder to come by these days, but they are just as delicious. Here are a few facts about this beloved tree.

Balata is a large evergreen forest tree often used for timber. It may reach the age of 400 years, and is extremely tolerant of shade. In some countries, the tree is tapped for its milky latex (chicle), which is used for chewing gum. Although growth is slow, it is planted for shade and timber.

It bears white flowers at the beginning of the dry season. Fruits ripen by April and May. The fruit is treasured for its delicious flesh and contains a single, shiny, black seed. Birds and small animals like agoutis eat the fruit and thus disperse the seeds.



One of the main areas of focus of NGC's Corporate Social Investment has been the youth, and one of the youth programmes that has been dearest to our hearts is the sponsorship of five Police Youth Clubs (PYCs), namely Beetham Gardens, Laventille Road, La Brea, Couva, and Penal.

Along with our partners in the various PYCs, we have begun to implement many plans for 2015 to help make the service they provide even more valuable for the

community. Our investment helps support much-needed tutoring and homework assistance in a variety of core subjects.

The social and creative development of the members is also supported, with classes that range from chess and art to dance, drama, martial arts, sport and music. The groups also celebrate religious festivals and family observances such as Mothers' and

Fathers' Day. NGC was especially delighted that some young club members were even part of NGC-sponsored and other steelbands that participated in the 2015 Panorama.

Teens are also catered for holistically, with carefully prepared programmes dealing with the stresses and answering the many questions of adolescence. Topics covered include self-actualisation, conflict resolution and communication and etiquette skills.

The Club executive/leadership have not been forgotten, and have been exposed to Capacity Building Workshops to develop

their leadership and administrative skills.

It is clear that our relationships with these five Police Youth Clubs have been making steady contributions to the communities to which they belong, helping to raise up a generation of young people that can be more socially and emotionally intelligent, healthy and self-assured.

Enjoy reading this edition of "Beyond The Pipeline"? Let's test your knowledge by asking a few questions. All answers can be found in the articles - and on page 8.

## Ready? Let's go!

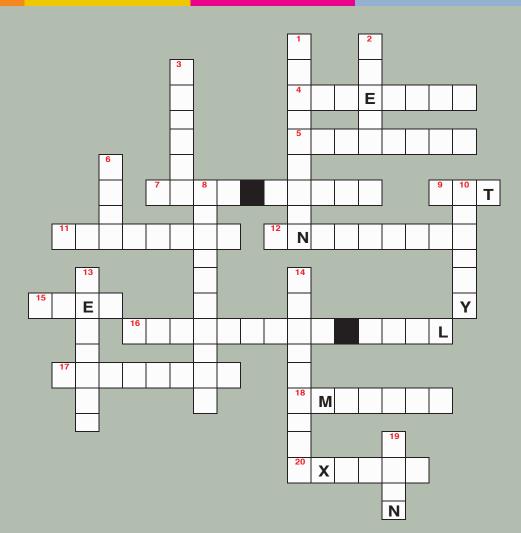
1.	NGC's public education mascots are called Monkey and Iguana.	True	False
2.	CNG costs about a sixth of the price of premium gasoline.	True	False
3.	NGC helped introduce new incentives into NGC Sanfest to help increase the popularity of the Festival.	True	False
4.	Balata is one of the trees being planted in NGC's reforestation project.	True	False
5.	NGC is currently sponsoring three Police Youth Clubs in Trinidad.	True	False
6.	NGC Sanfest supports the artistic and creative development of students in schools within the Southern Education Districts only.	True	False
7.	NGC's CAER Programme helps train and equip firefighters to respond to a natural gas emergency.	True	False
8.	NGC has a credit rating of A— from Standard and Poor's.	True	False
9.	NGC's BUD Graduate Trainee Programme exposes young graduates to the energy sector.	True	False
10.	NGC will be 40 years old in 2015.	True	False

#### Down

- NGC takes care to ensure this doesn't damage the pipelines
- 2. Natural gas, gasoline and diesel are examples of this
- Pipelines that cross the ocean floor are said to be this
- 6. Beautiful pink or yellow flowers; the name of one of NGC's platforms
- 8. These happen in heavy rain, and may threaten pipelines
- 10. The strength to get things done, and the basis of T&T's economy
- 13. A method for joining lengths of steel pipe
- 14. Catches fire easily
- 19. A metal made using natural gas for heat

#### Across

- The amount of oil and gas believed to be contained underground
- Gas and oil platforms are here, out in the sea
- 7. What you must ALWAYS do before digging near a pipeline
- 9. Gas found with oil is called this
- 11. Digging deep for oil or gas
- 12. Impossible to see, like natural gas
- 15. A white, grainy fertiliser made from natural gas
- 16. CNG is becoming more popular as this
- 17. An element found in natural gas, used to make ammonia and urea
- 18. This smelly household cleaner is made using natural gas
- 20. Sending valuable goods overseas





## NGC Rolls Out New Primary Schools Natural Gas Lesson Plan

Since 2000, NGC's loveable children's mascots, Monkey and Iguana, have been romping through primary school classrooms across the country, through school visits, exhibitions, awareness programmes, games, booklets, and, of course, NGC's online education centre at www.nqc.co.tt.

In March of this year, NGC launched yet another element of its ongoing primary schools education programme, in the form of a comprehensive Lesson Plan Package that the Company has made available to every primary school in the country. The package includes an instructional booklet, lesson plan, evaluation exercise, natural gas value chain poster, and two adorable felt puppets of Monkey and Iguana, that are certain to hold any child's attention. Teachers were also advised to visit NGC's website for more resources, such as interactive games and experiments.

Topics covered by the Plan include: who is NGC and what it does; what is natural gas; where it can be found; why natural gas is needed to supply electricity; its importance to T&T's economy; and what products are made using natural gas. It targets students in Standards II and III.

In order to ensure that the teachers of all schools had a clear understanding of the Lesson Plan's contents, as well as the material they were expected to teach, NGC held a series of presentations, one within each Education District, including Tobago. The presentation was accompanied by a colourful puppet show, which no doubt ignited the enthusiasm of the teachers to take the performance back to their young charges.

The presentations were well received, and NGC is certain that this addition to its suite of public education products will be extremely successful.

Caring Enough to Keep You Safe



With a network of over 1,000 km of natural gas pipelines, it is safe to say that NGC's "neighbourhood" encompasses a vast number of communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

As such, our primary objective is to ensure the safety of every citizen affected by our gas infrastructure, be it pipeline or installation. We do this through stringent adherence to safety guidelines in all of our operations, but we also believe in empowering communities to assure their own safety.

The NGC Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) programme has been in action since 2008. It focuses on communities close to NGC's critical natural gas infrastructure, and aims to educate NGC's fence-line communities on the natural gas industry, and the risks, mitigation measures and appropriate responses in the event of an unforeseen natural gas emergency. Regional Corporations and Disaster Management Teams have been included to foster 'first responders' in the event of an emergency.

Through this programme, NGC promotes the training and certification of Community Emergency Response Trained (CERT) volunteers who reside in the neighbourhoods, and are therefore always ready to respond through their knowledge acquired in Firefighting, First Aid, CPR and Search and Rescue.

Schools close to the pipeline also benefit from school emergency response assessments conducted by NGC staff, emergency drill training, and the provision of safety equipment such as fire extinguishers, muster signs and air horns.

Some of the communities that have participated in the CAER programme include Bamboo Settlement #2, Valsayn; Seecharan Trace, Farnum Village; and Cachipe Village, St. Mary's, Moruga.

NGC has also brought the programme to schools in Gasparillo, Barrackpore, Debe, Vessigny, St. Augustine, Penal, Carapichaima, Claxton Bay, Phoenix Park, Fyzabad, Charlieville and Point Fortin.

The CAER programme will once again be implemented in 2015.



**Business** 

## **CNG** Update

### **NGC CNG Company**

# Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Steadily and Surely Making its Presence Felt in the Local Market

Have you seen the beautiful new OEM CNG buses on the roads of T&T? They're all part of making good on our intentions to popularise compressed natural gas (CNG) as a cheap, clean, and safe vehicular fuel.

The ultimate goal of the NGC CNG Company is to make CNG a preferred fuel, not just for public transport vehicles such as buses, but for major Company fleets, other mass transport vehicles such as maxi taxis, and the private driving public.

The Company has also been focusing heavily on facilitating the supply of natural gas to existing and new service stations, as well as helping to revamp old equipment in the stations where CNG equipment has become outdated.

How has this been working out? Well, you've seen the buses for yourselves, 35 of them are on the road courtesy of the Public Transport Service Corporation (PTSC), and 2 new stations for CNG vehicle fleets were opened this year. In January, NGC opened its own CNG fuelling station in Point Lisas to support its fleet, which has been substantially converted to CNG, and the PTSC's OEM CNG buses are fuelled at a new CNG station on the PTSC compound in Port of Spain. This new CNG station was opened in a launch held on 15th April 2015 to announce the partnership with the NGC CNG Company Limited (NGC CNG), Trinidad & Tobago National Petroleum Marketing Company Limited (NP) and the Public Transport Service Corporation (PTSC) on a National CNG initiative.

Anyone switching to CNG can get a tax rebate of up to \$2,500 on a \$10,000 conversion, plus there are other incentives for fleet owners. Also, motor vehicle tax and VAT are exempted on all OEM CNG vehicles coming into the country — a provision that has been on the books for the last four years and which is only now being utilized.

## NGC CNG is also demonstrating its worth as a good corporate neighbour:

- o In January the Company was a major sponsor in the hugely popular Trinidad & Tobago International Marathon.
- The Company has also engaged four popular athletes as Brand Ambassadors: 400-metre Hurdles world champion, Jehue Gordon; West Indies spinner, Anisa Mohammed; West Indies Test Captain Denesh Ramdin; and West Indies middle order batsman Darren Bravo.

#### Some Quick Facts on CNG

- o One litre of CNG will take you as far as one litre of gasoline ... and yet it costs a sixth of the price of premium gasoline (CNG \$1.00/litre, Super \$2.70/litre, Premium \$5.75/litre).
- New technology has made CNG pumps faster, so you can fill up in less than three minutes.
- o CNG fuel systems are also sealed to prevent any leaks, which makes them very safe to use. CNG is also now being odorized to further guarantee leak detection.
- o Natural gas (CNG) has a higher octane rating than premium gasoline, giving you superior vehicle performance and a quieter engine.
- o Natural gas is the cleanest burning of all fossil fuels. This isn't only good for the environment, but you'll see the difference in your engine cleaner oil and less wear and tear.
- o Using CNG gives you the option of 2 fuels, so your driving range is extended.
- o Using CNG reduces our dependence on liquid fuel and so reduces the overall Government subsidy.



## Answers: NGC's Energy Brain Buster



## True & False Game

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. T 5. F 6. F 7. F 8. T 9. T 10. T