



**The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited**

**Long Service Awards | May 18, 2018**

**President's Welcome**

***Salutations***

*Mr. Gerry C. Brooks, Chairman of NGC and National Energy*

*Board of Directors, NGC, National Energy*

*Dr. Vernon Paltoo, President, National Energy*

*Executive Management of NGC and National Energy*

*Ms Sharon Christopher, Consultant and Motivational speaker*

*Recipients*

*Specially invited guests*

*Ladies and gentlemen*

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to our awardees - our guests of honour at this celebratory event. As the speaker that stands between you and lunch, I know I need to be brief. However, please permit me a minute or two to reflect on why we are here this afternoon.

This is my first Awards Ceremony since assuming office, and I must admit, I am humbled by the experience gathered in this room. Seated among us are men and women who have spent decades serving The NGC Group and by extension, Trinidad and Tobago. Men and women who have helped forge the companies that are responsible for making this country a leading exporter of petrochemicals and LNG, attracting world class players to our shores. NGC and National Energy – these are brands. They were borne out of the imagination of people coming together and creating a new gas based industry. The people behind these organisations brought the idea of a gas based industry to life which has grown to become the engine for our economy.

This year's marking of our long service awards is a bit different from what you would have experienced in the past, and that is so for several reasons. Firstly, it is the combination of two years' service recognition, as there was not an awards ceremony in 2017 and does not include performance awards. The NGC Spirit Awards have been stopped as a cross company team has been working on a Group recognition and reward framework and policy, which will include a performance-based segment grounded in our core values. This function then is being held to celebrate those employees who have achieved long service milestones of the past two years and to close the old programme. We thank you for your patience with this process and for coming out today to celebrate.

As we turn towards today's event, permit me to say that it is through committed service and tireless effort, successive Presidents and Boards have been able to implement the mandate given to us by Government – to extract value for Trinidad and Tobago from natural gas, for national development. It is our people who have engineered an extensive pipeline network and industrialised the estates now known as Pt Lisas, La Brea, Union and Cove Industrial Estates.

It is going to be important that we build on the solid foundation of knowledge and experience that we have at this point to take us through the journey of global expansion into other jurisdictions and to showcase the talent and skill of not only NGC Group, but of Trinidad and Tobago.

The NGC Group Mission Statement reads:

To create **exceptional value** from natural gas and related energy businesses **through our people** and strategic partnerships. Our past and present employees are the reason we have become a successful state enterprise. In order to become a global organization it is going to be the knowledge transfer from the experience of many of the people in this room that will ensure the sustainability of NGC and our energy sector.

As a group of companies we recognise that we must be aligned to achieve the new direction and transformation, and we will need a greater level of employee engagement. We find ourselves in a more uncertain and changing environment and despite this uncertainty, we are continuing as an organisation to chart our way forward through difficult waters. We are working more as a synergistic group of companies, rather than individual entities with several cross-company teams in place, diligently working on several initiatives and processes identified.

Today, we want to thank you sincerely for your many years of committed service. Although it may seem a thankless job at times, take pride in knowing that your company can weather the storms of today only because of the solid foundation laid by you and those that came before. Moreover, because of the importance of our company to the country, your hard work supports the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago in more ways than you may realise.

Today, we celebrate and honour your individual and collective contributions to the NGC Group. Whether you have been here 35 years, 25, 20, 15 or 10, your impact was felt, and appreciated and your experience will be needed to grow the company from strength to strength in the next phase of our company's history.

Thank you, and enjoy the event we are hosting for you today.

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