

## Residential Scale Renewables

Section 9(5)(i) of the *Electricity Regulatory Authority Law (2010 Revision)* states:

*"The ERA shall permit and promote the use of renewable or alternative forms of energy by consumers so as to reduce the load on any T&D system"*

### **Grand Cayman**

The Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC) Consumer-Owned Renewable Energy (CORE) Program allows customers on Grand Cayman to connect on site renewable energy generators (e.g. small scale solar or wind turbines) to the CUC distribution system. A customer can offset his/her monthly energy bill by selling renewable generated electricity to the CUC grid at a fixed unit price.

The CUC CORE Program was introduced to electricity customers in early 2009 utilizing an avoided cost of fuel reimbursement formula; however, this billing formula proved to be ineffective in creating consumer interest in the CORE program.

In 2011, CUC and the ERA agreed to adopt a feed-in-tariffs (FITs) structure on a one-year trial basis. A FITs structure provides significant incentives to consumers who generate energy from renewable resources and also reflects current practice throughout North America and Europe for the encouragement of consumer generated renewable energy. The FITs trial period on Grand Cayman runs from February 2011 through January 2012. CUC will evaluate the FITs structure in February 2012 and may, in consultation with and with the written approval of the ERA, make changes to further encourage the uptake of residential scale renewables on Grand Cayman.

Customers approved under the CORE Program Agreement are guaranteed to receive at least CI\$0.37 per kilowatt hour (kWh) for all renewable energy fed into the grid. The contract agreement, including those executed during the 2011 trial basis for FITs, will be for a term of 20 years to allow the owner of the renewable energy system to receive a reasonable return on the customer's capital investment.

The maximum permitted size for each individual renewable energy system will be the lesser of the CORE customer's peak demand for existing systems measured over a period of up to twelve months (where that information is available) or estimated peak demand for new connections with a maximum of 20 kilowatts (kW) for any residential system. In order to provide opportunity for residential customers under the FITs trial period, residential installations are allotted at least 30% of the 1 MW of capacity installed.

For additional information on the CUC CORE Program, visit the [LICENSING](#) page on this website.

### **Cayman Brac and Little Cayman**

The ERA is initiating discussions with the Ministry of DAWLA and Cayman Brac Power and Light Company Limited (CBP&L) for a residential scale renewables program on Cayman Brac and Little Cayman.