

February 9, 2020

Dr. Mark Penning  
Vice President of Animals Science and Environment  
The Walt Disney Company  
500 South Buena Vista Street  
Burbank, CA 91521-9722

Dear Dr. Penning,

**Re The Lighthouse Point EIA and Disney's 2030 Sustainability Goals**

We are writing to follow up on your December 16th letter and to address Disney's new sustainability goals issued just before the holidays.

We appreciate the affirmation in your December 16th letter of your commitment to proceed with the project only if it can be done so in a "responsible manner" and to undertake a public consultation on the EIA pursuant to Bahamian law and regulations. That said, we are very disappointed in the lack of a response from Disney and the Ministry of the Environment to our proposed timeline for the environmental review in our letter of October 27th.

The Ministry's regulations are quite vague; and we hope that we could agree in advance to a process that would assure an opportunity for a full technical review of the document and meaningful public discussion about the inter-twined environmental, economic, and social, environmental costs and benefits of the project.

We view the EIA for Disney's proposed port at Lighthouse Point as a litmus test of your new sustainability goals for "protecting the planet and delivering a positive environmental legacy for future generations as we operate and grow our business."

Your guiding principles include being grounded in science, benefiting local communities, and working with local partners including NGOs. Yet at Lighthouse Point, we have not seen the transparency and engagement essential to meeting those goals. Disney has refused to release its economic studies that support the claim that the project is a good deal for Eleuthera and the Bahamas. Disney has failed to engage with our campaign partners in a meaningful way. Disney's agents and allies have short-circuited open discussion of the project and alternatives. Disney has not made public any details about the scope of its environmental review or discussed the EIA with a number of experts and environmentalists who have many decades of experience in Eleuthera.

We have written to you repeatedly to request that the EIA take into account the critical issue of climate change and its impacts. Your new goals acknowledge that “complete decarbonization of the economy is required to avoid the worst impacts of climate change” and that “business has an integral role to play in the transition to a low-carbon future.” You have committed to reaching net zero emissions and investing in low carbon fuels, but Disney must do more to assure that climate change adaptation and mitigation are considered in every investment decision. Disney’s new ships will be powered with LNG, a greenhouse gas - some of which will be released into the atmosphere. “In the first two decades after its release, methane is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. We must address both types of emissions if we want to reduce the impact of climate change.” From its extraction to combustion, LNG is not a climate-friendly fuel.

In this regard, we are disappointed in the failure of Disney to respond to our repeated calls for you to evaluate climate change impacts in the LHP EIA. Climate change is not a “political” issue, but a scientific one that affects the viability of the project. This is particularly true in The Bahamas, which has been identified as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to sea-level rise and more intense storms resulting from climate change. In order to effectively address climate change, it is essential that Disney look at climate change with regard to all of its assessments and investments. The EIA at Lighthouse Point must fully examine the impact of climate issues (sea level rise, increasing storm frequency and intensity, etc.) on the project, as well as the project’s associated emissions.

Disney has said they are committed to investing in certified natural climate solutions, such as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). However, your planned cruise ship port would in fact endanger a proposed MPA surrounding Lighthouse Point. We have a very difficult time seeing how building and operating a major cruise port facility is compatible with this kind of protected status. The EIA for Lighthouse Point must include the scientific analysis supporting this conclusion.

There is nothing in your updated sustainability goals to indicate that Disney will follow the same standard of science and environmental review in The Bahamas as it would in the United States and the EU. We believe Disney must maintain consistent standards regardless of the location of their endeavors, even in countries where there are weaker environmental laws. The future of Lighthouse Point is a decision of great consequence as it becomes more clear than ever that business as usual will no longer suffice to deal with a changing climate. The world will be watching Disney’s decision on Lighthouse Point, as is evidenced by the more than 440,000 people who supported the change.org petition seeking a more sustainable alternative for South Eleuthera.

We would welcome an opportunity to set up a virtual meeting to discuss the application of your sustainability goals to Lighthouse Point, specifically a timeline to assure a meaningful

environmental review of the project before you or The Bahamas makes a decision about the project.

Thank you again and we look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,



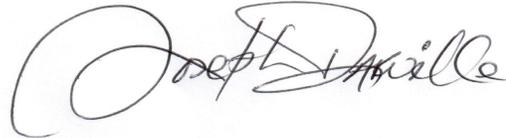
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cc: Rochelle Newbold, Director, Department of Environmental Planning and Protection  
Kim Prunty, Vice President, Communications & Public Affairs

