



MEDIA RELEASE

UPDATE: CLEAN UP OF LA BREA BEACHES COMPLETE

January 23, 2017

The Environmental Management Authority (EMA) was notified on Saturday 21, January 2017 by community representative Mr. Alvin La Borde, of reports of an oily substance washing ashore beaches in the La Brea area.

Upon receiving the report, the EMA immediately notified oil and gas operators in the vicinity, with checks of existing oil and gas facilities being carried out to identify potential sources of the oily substance. No upset conditions were identified that could have led to the situation.

The EMA team also visited the affected beaches to assess the situation and collect samples for laboratory analysis in order to determine potential sources of the substance.

Clean-up of the affected beaches commenced on Saturday 21, January 2017 by a private contractor, with support from local community labour. This exercise was completed on Sunday 22, January 2017, with affected beaches restored to normal conditions.

The EMA also enlisted the support of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard (TTCG) and Trinidad and Tobago Air Guard (TTAG) to conduct joint aerial/sea surveys to assist in identifying potential sources of the oily substance. No sources were identified.

Members of the public with any information pertaining to this incident or any other environmental emergency are kindly asked to contact the EMA's Emergency numbers as follows to make a report:

- 680-9588 and 285-4362, or
- Via email: complaints@ema.co.tt

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