



PR# 024

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Ministers Break Ground for Rural Electrification Project in Toledo District**

Belmopan. December 9, 2020. 10:15 a.m.

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Hon. Rodwell Ferguson, Minister of Public Utilities and Logistics and Hon. Oscar Requena, Minister of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government, broke ground for the installation of a solar plant in Indian Creek Village, Toledo District.

The groundbreaking ceremony followed a meeting convened with stakeholders to chart the way forward for the implementation of the emPOWERing Rural Electrification Project (emPOWER Project). The project is part of the Government of Belize's strategic plan to fulfil its national sustainable strategy of 100% access to modern and affordable electricity coverage in the country. It aims to provide renewable energy solutions to assist Belize in achieving universal energy access through the installation of 400kW of solar photovoltaic and battery storage that will serve the villages of Indian Creek, Medina Bank, and Golden Stream in the Toledo District.

The emPOWER project is being funded by the Government of the United Arab Emirates in partnership with the Government of Belize. The solar installation is scheduled to be commissioned in June 2021.

**Ends**