



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

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## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning,  
Environment and Infrastructure  
Mr. M.A. Lake  
c/o Administration Building  
**Philipsburg**

UV/160/2013-2014

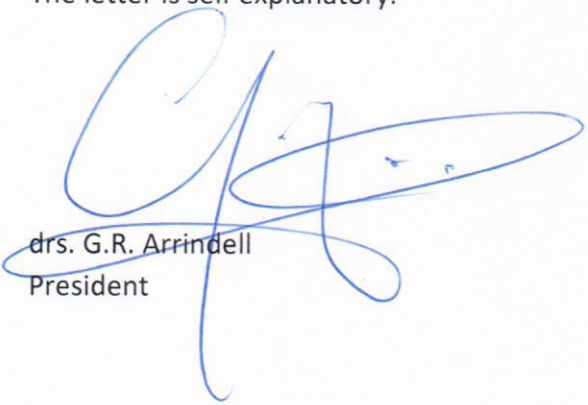
Philipsburg, February 14, 2014

Re: Letter MP Roy R. Marlin

Hon. Minister Lake,

Herewith I submit to you a letter by the Member of Parliament, Mr. Roy R. Marlin, pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution of Sint Maarten and article 63 of the Rules of Order of Parliament.

The letter is self explanatory.



drs. G.R. Arrindell  
President

Ingek. 14 FEB 2014

Volgnr. 15/359/13-14

Par. 

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To: The Chairperson of Parliament  
Drs. Gracita Arrindell  
Present.

February 14, 2014

Dear Chairlady,

The Parliament in its meeting of January 16, 2014 unanimously approved a motion with regard to a reduction of the direct cost charged to the consumer by GEBE NV. By use of Article 63 of the rules of order of Parliament The Democratic Party faction in Parliament request your attention for the following.

This motion came about due to the fact that as of January 1, 2014 the company GEBE was split into 3 separate entities whereby the yearly operational subsidy estimated at between Nafl 7 to Nafl 9 million guilders attributed to the operations of the utility company on Saba and St. Eustatius no longer need to be paid by the consumers on St. Maarten. The Parliament of St. Maarten in its motion decided the following "To request the Shareholder Representative that the operational loss subsidy that was paid by GEBE for the operations of Saba and St. Eustatius that this amount goes directly towards the decrease of the fixed cost charged for the residential consumers". While the Democratic Party faction in Parliament applauds the recent initiatives by GEBE NV to introduce alternative energy such as solar power and reduced electricity rates for our senior citizens, the Democratic Party faction believes that the motion accepted by Parliament gives the basis for an immediate initial relief on GEBE's direct electricity cost towards the consumers especially taking into consideration the hard economic times that the that our residents find themselves in. Any relief given to the consumer at this point and time will signify an expansion of the spending power of the consumer and will assist the neediest in our community.

The Democratic Party faction in Parliament through you, hereby request an update from the Minister of VROMI/Shareholder Representative of GEBE on the execution of the motion accepted by Parliament in its meeting of January 16, 2014 with a timeline within which this motion will be executed.

Looking forward to your response.

Roy R. Marlin

Member of Parliament  
Democratic Party Faction

c.c. Council of Ministers, Political Parliamentary Factions  
Independent Members of Parliament

DRAFT MOTION BY THE PARLIAMENT OF ST. MAARTEN

January 15, 2014

Considering:

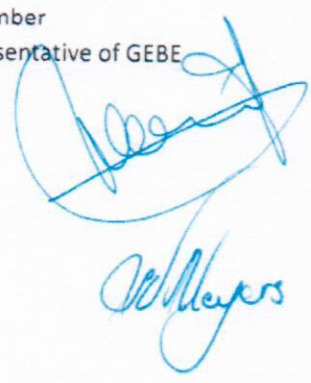
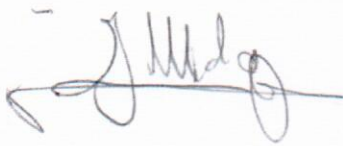
- That NVGEBE shares were owned by the Gebe Shareholding Foundation and that these shares have recently been transferred to the Government of St. Maarten;
- That the public entities Saba and St. Eustatius have recently established their own utility companies;
- That due to this process, GEBE no longer have an obligation to provide subsidies to the public entities of Saba and St. Eustatius for their operational losses;
- That this operational loss subsidy amounts to a combined amount of +/- Naf 5 million to Naf 7 million guilders on a yearly basis;
- That Parliament of St. Maarten is of the opinion that this savings should come directly to the benefit of the consumers on St. Maarten, moreover to the residential consumers;

Resolves:

To request the Shareholder Representative of GEBE to ensure that the operational loss subsidy that was paid by GEBE for the operations of Saba and St. Eustatius, that this amount goes directly towards the decrease of the fixed cost charged by GEBE for the residential consumers.

And goes over to the order of the day,

H.E. The Governor of St. Maarten  
The Government of St. Maarten  
The General Audit Chamber  
The Shareholder Representative of GEBE  
The Minister of VROMI



W. Meyers

