Chatham/Cap-de-Ville Industrial Estate. Reply to Town and Country Planning Div. April 2006.

5th April 2006

The Acting Director, Town and Country Planning Division, Level 17, Eric Williams Finance Building, Port of Spain.

Dear Madam,

Ref: CEC Application CEC0851/2004 Industrial Estate at Chatham/Cap-de-Ville

Thank you for your letter dated 16th March 2006, which replied to ours dated 2nd February 2006. Your information is of particular interest to us on this matter.

You stated that no decision will be taken on the approval of this development until "all the environmental and social issues" have been addressed via the EMA processes.

Our original letter was indeed addressed to the EMA since we are participating in the consultation process for the Environmental Impact Assessment for this project. However our letter deals with the change of use of this land from the previously designated 'agricultural' classification, to 'industrial', as is required for the project to proceed. We understand that this change of use process is a matter dealt with by your department within the Ministry of Planning and Development as a completely separate approval to the Certificate of Environmental Clearance, which is dealt with by the EMA under the Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment. Since several branches of government are involved we thought it appropriate to copy your parent Ministry.

We further understand that the change of use for the large areas now contemplated for industrial development in the south western peninsula, constitutes a significant alteration to the National Physical Development Plan within the Town and Country Planning Act, and consequently should involve wide public consultation.

Our enquiries however indicate that the change of use may already have been decided and notified to your Division by Cabinet Note.

I would be grateful if would clarify whether or not such instruction has been passed to your Division, and clarify exactly how these two separate approval processes coordinate.

Yours sincerely,

I.R. Potter President, TTFNC