

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

No.9	28
TUESDAY 10) th MAY, 2022
PRA	YERS

ORDERS OF THE DAY

(Government Orders are marked thus*)

<u>MOTIONS</u>

1. Motion on Concerning Opposition to the Development and Operation of a quarry at Richmond in North Leeward.

Moved by Dr the Honourable Godwin Friday and seconded by Major the Honourable St. Clair Leacock

Continuation of debate

Concerning Opposition to the Development and Operation of a quarry at Richmond in North Leeward

WHEREAS the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines has entered into an agreement with Rayneau Construction and Industrial Equipment Ltd ("Rayneau Construction") for the development and operation by Rayneau Construction of a quarry at Richmond in North Leeward and for that purpose has leased 58.8 acres of land to Rayneau Construction for a period of thirty years;

AND WHEREAS in January 2022, without warning to farmers, heavy equipment drove through farmlands in Richmond to gain access to the quarry site, and Rayneau Construction began work developing the quarry;

AND WHEREAS the quarry will cause significant changes to the landscape and other environmental changes that may seriously affect people, fauna and flora in the surrounding areas and, accordingly, it is necessary and in keeping with generally accepted standards that, prior to the commencement of such a project, an assessment of its impact on the environment and people be done;

AND WHEREAS no Environmental Impact Assessment was conducted in relation to the quarry project in Richmond being developed by Rayneau Construction;

AND WHEREAS under the agreement, lands for the quarry operations have been leased by the Government to Rayneau Construction for \$12,000 per year and Rayneau Construction will pay the Government a fee of only \$2 per tonne of aggregate sold by the quarry;

No.9 29

AND WHEREAS the failure to have any consultation with the people living in the surrounding areas prior to the commencement of the project, the absence of an Environmental Impact Assessment of the project, and the nature of the financial arrangements agreed to by the government for the operation of the quarry have all led to a public outcry and widespread opposition to the project and in calls from many, including villagers from the surrounding areas to stop the quarry, to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment, and to review the financial terms of the agreement;

AND WHEREAS the Government and Rayneau Construction have not halted the project and, notwithstanding the public outcry against it, work on the development of the quarry continues at a rapid pace;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the development of the quarry at Richmond by Rayneau Construction be halted immediately pending satisfactory consultation with residents including farmers, business people, fisherfolk and public sector workers, a satisfactory Environmental Impact Assessment of the project, and a satisfactory review of the financial arrangements between the Government and Rayneau Construction concerning the project.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2022

Seconded by Major the Hon. St. Clair Leaeock

RESOLUTIONS

VALUE ADDED TAX (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2022

To be moved by the Honourable Minister of Finance.

WHEREAS under section 58 of the Value Added Tax Act, Chapter 445, the Minister may make regulations for any matter that in the Act requires or allows to be prescribed by regulations or for any matter that is necessary or convenient to be prescribed in order to better carry out or give effect to the purpose of the Act;

AND WHEREAS under section 58 (3) of the Act regulations made under the Act are subject to an affirmative resolution of the House of Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly approve the draft Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 2022.

No.9 30

BILLS

1.* Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2022 1st Reading (Honourable Minister of Finance) 2.* Customs Duties (Amendment) Bill, 2022 1st Reading (Honourable Minister of Finance) 3.* Excise Tax Amendment Bill, 2022 1st Reading (Honourable Minister of Finance) 4.* Electronic Communications Bill, 2022 Select (Honourable Minister of Information) Committee 5.* Virtual Asset Business Bill, 2022 1st Reading (Honourable Minister of Finance) 6.* Proceeds of Crime (Amendment) Bill, 2022 Select (Honourable Minister of Finance) Committee

ADJOURNMENT