



# K. A. RAMES, P.C.

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March 3, 2023

Honorable Donna Frett Gregory  
Chair  
Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance  
Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands  
Capitol Building  
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas  
U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

Re: Bill No. 35-0017  
Lease Agreement between GVI DPP and Suntech Group, Inc.  
*d/b/a* St. Thomas Gas (OLC 3341-2022)

Dear Senator Frett-Gregory:

Please be informed that the undersigned, as counsel for St. Thomas Gas, will be appearing at the March 6, 2023 Legislative Hearing concerning Bill No. 35-0017, the proposed Lease Agreement between GVI DPP and St. Thomas Gas (OLC 3341-2022). Ms. Amanda Peguero regrets that she will not be able to be present, as she is attending to a family matter that requires her presence off-island.

St. Thomas Gas, the proposed Lessee, has been operating since 1968. The current owners have owned the company since 1990. The formal name of the company is Suntech Group, Inc. The company provides services to St. Thomas customers under the tradename St. Thomas Gas and provides services on St. Croix customers under the tradename St. Croix Gas. The Lease under consideration today is for its St. Thomas location at Sub Base.

The company has only one line of business, which is the retail sales of Liquefied petroleum Gas (LNG) for governmental, commercial and residential customers throughout the Virgin Islands.

St. Thomas Gas has been at the current location since its formation in 1968. This Lease will extend the existing term of its tenancy at the same site. Suntech has a similar site near the former Hess Refinery on the South Shore, St. Croix. The company has nine employees on St. Croix and six employees on St. Thomas. The company is the main provider of LNG for several Government entities, including the Department of Education, the Bureau of Corrections, and the Department of Human Services, among others. The company is also very competitive in the local commercial and residential LNG market.

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Page 2

In the future, the ownership and management of Suntech sees itself benefitting from continuing economic growth in the Territory, while increasing its market share across its entire customer base.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Kevin Rames*

Kevin A. Rames, Esq.

cc: Suntech Inc.