

## Negril Chamber of Commerce

## West End Road, Negril P.O. Box 3055 Westmoreland, Jamaica Tel.: 957-4067 | Email: info@negrilchamber.org

May 22, 2018

Sandals International Kent Avenue Montego Bay St. James

Dear Mr. Cummings,

We are sorry for the delay in responding to you regarding our meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018. After a long and intense meeting of the board this is our conclusion, while we are not looking forward for such a huge extraction of sand on the Negril Beach, we are also cognisant of the urgent need of Sandals to take action to prevent further erosion of their beach. Therefore if NEPA gives permission for such then we would voice no objection of that particular operation.

On the subject of constructing hard engineering structures as described in the presentation, we have to voice our objection to that aspect of the operation. Reason, we have just strongly objected to the proposed breakwaters that where suggested in 2014-2017 by PIOJ, NEPA and NWA. Sandals proposed solution to the problem would bring about the same negative impact.

Our objective is that we want to nourish the entire 7 mile beach with sand from the sand bank identified offshore but **without** putting in any breakwaters and to undertake this re-nourishment exercise every 15 years or so as necessary (it took 30 years for us to be

in this position). The cost to do this would be covered by a new "environment tax" levied on all visitors implemented by the government along with funds from the TEF.

We believe that there are other actions that could be considered, one that is more in tune with an environmentally friendlier development such as Sandals is known for. We would urge you to give consideration to some of the more modern and environmentally friendly options that are available. We wish Sandals a quick solution, one that we can fully support, this one we cannot.

Yours respectfully,

Daniel Grizzle (Mr.)

President

**Negril Chamber of Commerce**