

CHALILLO DEMONSTRATION NOTICE

Please note that there will be a legal and peaceful Demonstration, sponsored by the Belize Alliance of Conservation NGOs, BACONGO, against the proposed hydro project, Chalillo Dam on Monday, 15 October 2001, 10-12 pm in Belmopan. People will organize at Independence Park, and will continue on from there to the main government buildings in Belmopan, offices of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

Buses will be coming from Corozal, Orange Walk, Maya Centre, San Antonio, Cristo Rey and San Ignacio.

The buses leave San Antonio 7:45 am Corozal 6:00 am - Orange Walk
Cristo Rey 8:00 am Maya Centre: 6:30 am
San Ignacio 8:00 am

There will be handouts, signs, and the healthy spirit of Democracy.

Please, as this date draws closer, keep in mind:

Proposed Height of Chalillo Dam: 150 feet. This is 3 times the height from the bottom of the Macal River to the top of the Hawksworth Bridge. It is 30 feet higher than the main temple at Xunantunich.

Flood Danger: During a rainy season, should the Mollejon and Chalillo reservoirs both be full, and Belize is suddenly faced with a major storm, enormous amounts of water would head downstream to San Ignacio. As pointed out in comments by professional ecologists, submitted to the National Environmental Appraisal Committee, NEAC, on the EIA, major flooding and fatalities could occur.

Water Quality Predictions: The factors involving stratification and eutrophication which would occur in the reservoir, Chalillo, have been addressed by a professional engineer in Belize. These changes, and the close distance the Chalillo reservoir is to San Ignacio, would render the water in the Macal River unuseable, due to these negative changes in water quality.

The Time to Unite and Speak Out against this Unsound Development Project is Now.

Monday, the 15th of October, will be one of the most important days in Belizean history. Be part of it. Show your concern. Let your concerns be heard, seen and noted by the Decision-Makers in Belmopan who have, up until now, agreed with the Canadian Company, Fortis, that this project is a good one.

We know it is not. The facts are in. And the facts clearly show that Chalillo is bad news for Belize. Chalillo needs to be stopped. And we CAN stop it.

"The Greatest Danger of All is to Do Nothing"
- John F. Kennedy November 1962

Thank you. Come to Belmopan on Monday, the 15th of October, 10 am -12 noon and be part of this important event. Please pass this around to as many people as possible.