



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

298 Church Street, Queenstown, Georgetown

*Regulating utilities for efficient services
and protecting consumers' interests.*

PRESS RELEASE

The Public Utilities Commission has been in receipt of complaints from consumers who are cellular phone users indicating that they are receiving unsolicited mails and short messages on their hand-sets from companies /persons with whom they have not shared their telephone/mobile numbers. In the industry this type of practice is known as *Domestic Spam Attack*.

There seems to be the practice especially among some businesses that share consumers' mobile numbers among themselves, thereby seeking to facilitate any member of the group to push advertisements to consumer's mobile phones. It is not unknown that certain groups are set up to solicit advertisements for a fee and 'spam' them off to unsuspecting consumers.

The Commission wishes to advise that these business enterprises should immediately desist from this practice as it encroaches on the right of privacy of unsuspecting consumers, and it is a disgusting exercise by inconsiderate persons.

In other jurisdictions spamming is a criminal offence and involves conviction and condign punishment. If this practice continues we shall urge the authorities to enact the necessary legislation to deal with it.

August 21, 2014.