

Press Statement

ERB fines 6 Licensees for breaching license conditions

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The Energy Regulation Board (ERB) has fined six energy companies a total of **K108, 000** for breaching various license conditions including the unauthorised sale of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG).

Following enforcement hearings, the Board of ERB at its 6th Special meeting on 18th July 2017 directed that the erring licensees be fined for disregarding license conditions.

The ERB has fined Mount Meru Petroleum Zambia K36,000; Ogaz Zambia Limited K18, 000; Refuel Petroleum Corporation Limited K18, 000; Kobil Zambia Limited, Sabot Limited and Alpha Enterprise Limited K12,000 each for various breaches of ERB license conditions.

Kobil Zambia Limited was charged for selling contaminated fuel at two of its Kitwe filling stations contrary to guidelines and license conditions which demand that product quality should be assessed before being off-loaded for sale to the public. A licensee is expected to maintain and regularly update its record of quality checks conducted for each consignment received. Regrettably, Kobil failed to adhere to both requirements resulting in contamination at its Zambia Way and Oxford Filling Stations in Kitwe. Investigations conducted following complaints by motorists revealed that petrol at the site was adulterated with diesel and kerosene.

In addition, Mount Meru and Ogaz were both fined K24,000 and K18,000 respectively for selling LPG without a duly issued license. Mount Meru was also charged an additional K12,000 for not complying to license conditions.

Refuel Petroleum was cited for selling fuel at Vuma Filling Station in Sesheke using an expired license issued to another company. Refuel has not been licensed by ERB to operate a filling station.

Sabot and Alpha Enterprises were fined K12,000 each for failing to attain the compliance benchmark score of 85%. Sabot sites in Mpika and Kasama scored 74% and 84% respectively, while the Alpha site in Chinsali was also below the set target.

The ERB regularly conducts scheduled and random audit inspections to ensure licensees adhere to standards. In addition to ensuring quality of petroleum products, inspections are largely intended to safeguard life and property by ensuring players strictly comply with safety regulations.

Stakeholders and the public are encouraged to report energy related accidents, incidents and complaints to the ERB on the Toll Free Line **8484**.



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