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PRESS RELEASE

CLARIFICATION ON CURRENT PUMP PRICES

Following the publication of Government Gazette No. 51 of 2026, the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA) wishes to inform the public that the suspension of the Fuel Levy (FL), Road Fund Levy (RFL), and Security of Supply Margin (SSM) does not affect current retail pump prices. **Therefore, no change to pump prices will occur in the immediate term.**

The benefit of this intervention will be realised through the fuel pricing adjustment system, which manages the difference between the actual cost of fuel and the regulated price over time. This is done to mitigate steep prices at the pump. While global fuel costs remain elevated, the suspension of levies will help to prevent a further increase in pump prices at this time. Following the adjustment of prices on 28 March 2026, by 31 March 2026 under recoveries stood at 32 thebe per litre for petrol, P1.41 per litre for diesel, and 83 thebe per litre for illuminating paraffin.

Ideally, there should have been an additional increase of pump prices by the same figures. However, the consumer has been cushioned from the pump price increase by the suspension of the three levies.

This approach is consistent with established regulatory principles, where cost pressures are managed through a structured recovery mechanism rather than immediate changes to pump prices.

BERA continues to closely monitor global fuel market developments and will, in consultation with Government, implement appropriate regulatory measures to mitigate extreme price shocks as the country navigates ongoing global economic pressures. The Authority continues to ensure fair, transparent, and efficient regulation of the petroleum sector, with due consideration for both consumer protection and the sustainability of fuel supply.

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