



19<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

## PRESS RELEASE

### ISSUANCE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IMPORT LICENSES

1. In terms of section 34 (1) of the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority Act, service providers under the regulated sectors should be licensed. The regulated sectors include electricity, petroleum and gas. In terms of the petroleum sector, the activities to be licensed are provided under Section 37 of the Act and these include the following:
  - i. Construction and operation of petroleum pipeline
  - ii. Transporting petroleum products over a pipeline
  - iii. Construction and operation of storage facilities
  - iv. Construction and operation of loading or discharge facilities
  - v. Construction and operation of retail service station
  - vi. Manufacturing of petroleum products
  - vii. Import and export of petroleum products.
2. Section 9 (2) (d) of the Act mandates the Authority to monitor performance of the regulated entities in relation to the distribution and supply of services, amongst other parameters. The Authority monitors the supply of petroleum products into the country through the analysis of import volumes received from the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) on monthly basis. Furthermore, Regulations 9 and 10 of the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (Petroleum Products) Regulations of 2024, compels importers to report on projected annual consumption requirements and the sourcing of petroleum products, and to submit volume reconciliations to the Authority.
3. Performance monitoring of licensed importers has revealed that only a few companies are actively involved in the importation of petroleum products despite the many import licences issued by the Authority since it started operating on 1st September 2017. The Authority has also received disturbing allegations that these dormant licences may be misused in the market.
4. Owing to the above, the Authority has decided to revoke all petroleum products import licences that have remained unused from the time they were issued. The revocation shall be done in accordance with Section 46 of the Act which requires amongst other things, that the licensee is given the opportunity by the Authority to show cause why the licence should not be revoked. To commence this process, all licensed importers of petroleum products are directed to contact the Authority to schedule for a meeting. The following officers are appointed to assist with scheduling of meetings:

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5. The Authority also informs the public of its decision to impose further conditions on the requirements for the issuance of an import licence. An application for an import licence must demonstrate ownership or rental of a storage facility that has been duly licensed by the Authority.
6. Thank you.



Dr. Never Tshabang  
Chief Executive Officer