



energy

Department:
Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Embargo – None

MEDIA STATEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY WARNS OF HEFTY PENALTIES ON LPGAS OVERPRICING

Pretoria, 06, July 2011 - Following the recent media reports about some retailers who are overcharging consumers on the price of LPGas countrywide, the Department of Energy wishes to express concerns over this kind of behaviour that contravenes the Petroleum Products Act, 1977 (Act No. 120 of 1977) as per amended.

In July 2010, the Minister of Energy, Ms Dipuo Peters approved the setting of maximum retail prices for LPGas supplied to residential consumers. From August 2010, LPGas prices are adjusted on the first Wednesday of each month together with petrol, diesel and illuminating paraffin (IP). The LPGas prices differ from one Magisterial District Zone (MDZ) to the next due to the application of different transport tariffs applicable to each MDZ. The Regulations and Working Rules to determine the maximum retail prices are available on the Department of Energy website: www.energy.gov.za. Currently the price of LPGas for July 2011 was reduced by 42 cents per kilogram. The reduction of price is effective from Wednesday, 06 July to 02 August 2011.

It must also be emphasised that the regulation of the maximum retail prices for LPGas supplied to residential consumers is (or) and regulated in terms of the Petroleum Products Act. Any violation of the Regulation amounts to the contravention of the above-mentioned Act, and will attract penalties as contemplated in Section 12 of the said Act.

[12. (1) Any person who contravenes a provision of this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding R1 000 000,00, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and such imprisonment...]

Consumers, who have complaints about retailers contravening the Act or overpricing them, should contact the Regional Inspectors in their respective provinces (**contact details below**).

For all LPGas complaints or non-compliance, please contact the relevant Regional Offices on the numbers below:

Region	Cell number	Office number	Email
Limpopo	079 8767 833	015 287 4732	Lawrence.ramukosi@energy.gov.za
KZN	079 876 7822	031 333 9449	Makhosini.mngomezulu@energy.gov.za
Gauteng	079 876 7793	011 358 9726	Nosizwe.kutumela@energy.gov.za
Mpumalanga	079 876 7829	013 656 1448	Phineas.mongane@energy.gov.za
Free State	082 303 7721	057 391 1333	Lindiwe.bitsang@energy.gov.za
Northern Cape	079 876 7844	053 807 1721	Gomolemo.molokele@energy.gov.za
Western Cape		021 427 1029	Pamela.jamjam@energy.gov.za
North west	079 876 7842	018 464 1631	Tumelo.pule@energy.gov.za
Eastern Cape	079 876 7807	041 396 3914 041 396 3910	Zethu.magobongo@energy.gov.za Earl.cloete@energy.gov.za

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Media Inquiries

Thandiwe Maimane

Department of Energy Spokesperson

W: 012 444 4335

Cell: 083 645 7837

