



Press Statement

ERB Yet to Consider and Decide on ZESCO Tariff Application

30th March 2009

Reference is made to the news item broadcast on ZNBC Television 19:00hrs main evening news on Sunday 29th March 2009 and repeated on ZNBC Radio, 07:00hrs news on Monday 30th March 2009, in which it was reported that the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Water Development Mr. Peter Mumba, had stated that the Energy Regulation Board (ERB) had agreed to award ZESCO a 66% increase in electricity tariffs following ZESCO's application for a tariff review.

The ERB would like to set the record straight on the matter and, in that regard, wishes to state as follows:

1. The ERB has not agreed to award ZESCO a 66% increase in electricity tariffs as alleged by the report attributed to the Permanent Secretary.
2. The Law provides for a consultative process on adjustment of electricity tariffs and this process entails, among other things, that the public is consulted by submitting comments and participating at a public hearing where arguments 'for and against' the proposed increment are presented before the Board. The ERB is committed to adhering to the legal process as outlined in section 8 of the Electricity Act which provides for the said consultative process. Consequently, until the process has been exhausted or concluded, the ERB will not have made a decision on the matter.
3. The ERB has just recently called for public comments on ZESCO's application as evidenced by the invitation for public comments currently running in the print media. It would therefore be absurd and deceitful for the ERB to have already made a decision on the matter and then proceed to invite public comments on the same matter.
4. The ERB therefore categorically states that it has not yet made a decision on ZESCO's application to increase electricity tariffs. Further, in arriving at any decision on the matter, the ERB will proceed in accordance with procedures stipulated by law.
5. Members of the public are therefore hereby advised to disregard any reports to the contrary and are encouraged to submit any comments they

may have on the proposed tariff increase to the ERB at the following address:

The Executive Director
Energy Regulation Board
8th Floor, Premium House
Nasser Road
P.O. Box 37631
Lusaka

Or

Email comments to: tariffs@erb.org.zm

Sikota Wina (G.O.E.Z)
Chairman
ENERGY REGULATION BOARD



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