



# Press Statement

## ERB introduces filling station scoring criteria

**Date of Issue: Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2014**

The Energy Regulation Board (ERB) has introduced a grading system for filling stations to alert consumers about the state of infrastructure at retail sites.

At its 8<sup>th</sup> Regulatory Board Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014, the Board of the ERB approved the Criteria for Service Station Infrastructure Grading which is also expected to motivate utilities to improve the state of infrastructure at their respective sites.

However, the new system exempts retail sites that fall under the category of rural filling stations as defined in the Zambian technical standard **ZS 703: Rural Filling Station Specification**.

Grading of the filling stations will be communicated through stickers prominently displayed to inform all stakeholders about the state of infrastructure from sites where consumers purchase fuel. Sites scoring 90 to 100% will be graded **A** (Very good); 80 to 89% grade **B** (Good); 70 to 79% grade **C** (Fair) and 41 to 69% grade **D** (Poor).

While grading retail sites, the ERB will focus its attention on aspects relating to tanks installed and leak detection, dispensers, safety, fire, environment and infrastructure and ancillary services such as compressor, tyre inflator, functioning pressure gauge and toilet to grade the filling stations.

The grading criteria will be applied by ERB inspectors only after verifying that a station is compliant since some operational issues hinging on safety and product quality have immediate and devastating impact.

Service stations found to be non-compliant to safety and quality issues shall immediately be closed pending rectification of the anomaly. Consequently, a sticker depicting a person running away from danger shall be placed by the ERB in a conspicuous spot.

Sanctions shall only be lifted after the ERB has ascertained beyond reasonable doubt that the integrity of the quality of the product at a station has been restored.

**Langiwe H. Lungu (Ms)**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**\* NOTES TO THE EDITOR:**

1. The ERB issues retail licences to a business entity to sell petroleum products on condition that the applicant secures a technically sound facility from where dispensing of petroleum products to consumers is undertaken in a manner that guarantees safety, environmental protection, health and product quality.
2. Construction and operation of a service station in Zambia is governed by the Zambian technical standard **ZS 385 Part 3: THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY : The installation of underground storage tanks, pumps/dispensers and pipework at service stations and consumer installations – Code of Practice** and other relevant technical standards.
3. The ERB conducts regular compliance and licensing inspections of service stations using a checklist drawn from **ZS 385 Part 3**.
4. **TABLE 1: THE PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE GRADING CRITERIA FOR SERVICE STATIONS**

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>CRITERIA SCORE</b>	<b>INTERPRETATION</b>
<b>A</b>	90 – 100%	Very good – Infrastructure technically compliant with <b>ZS 385 Part 3</b>
<b>B</b>	80 – 89%	Good – Minor <sup>1</sup> rehabilitation required in one or more areas to reach technical compliance with <b>ZS 385 Part 3</b>
<b>C</b>	70 – 79%	Fair – Major <sup>2</sup> rehabilitation required in one or more areas to reach technical compliance with <b>ZS 385 Part 3</b>
<b>D</b>	41 – 69%	Poor – Critical <sup>3</sup> rehabilitation required in one or more areas to reach technical compliance with <b>ZS 385 Part 3</b>

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