

Press Statement

Mount Meru LPG Fire accident

Thursday 14th September, 2017

The Energy Regulation Board (ERB) has as a matter of urgency, instituted investigations to conclusively ascertain the cause of the fire that occurred at Mount Meru Filling Station in Emmasdale township of Lusaka at the weekend.

The ERB regrets the loss of life in the inferno and will ensure public safety in the aftermath of the fire.

Our preliminary findings indicate no evidence of an explosion of LPG cylinders as purported in the print media on 11th September, 2017. However, further investigations in collaboration with other relevant authorities are still underway. We would like to assure the public that enforcement action shall be taken against Mount Meru Petroleum Limited if our conclusion points to any violation of set standards.

We wish to emphasise that safety is cardinal in the handling of energy products hence the stringent conditions spelt out in the licences for those handling and storing such products.

It is regrettable that the fire incident that occurred at one of our licensee's premises resulted in the tragic loss of life. The ERB extends its profound condolences to the bereaved families and will continue to sensitize the public to safe guard against such tragic incidents by any of our licensees going forward. However, we wish to reiterate that LPG is a good alternative energy source provided safety guidelines are adhered to.

Members of the public will in due course be informed of the final ERB findings on this matter. Meanwhile, energy consumers are encouraged to contact the ERB Toll Free Line 8484 if in need of further clarification on the safe use of LPG.



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