

## **Press Statement**

## FIRE INCIDENT INVOLVING ROAD TANK VEHICLE

## Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

The Energy Regulation Board (ERB) has instituted investigations into the fire incident that occurred on 19th May, 2024 in Woodlands area of Lusaka District involving a road tank vehicle.

Preliminary findings have revealed that a fire broke out on Sunday 19th May 2024, around 13:00 hours at Uno Filling Station, located on Stand No. 2967 along Lake Road in Woodlands area of Lusaka District, in the process of offloading petrol from a road tank vehicle registration No. BAV 8492ZM/BAV 8493ZM belonging to Atosh Tranport Limited.

Fortunately, the fire was promptly controlled and extinguished by quick intervention of the Lusaka Fire Brigade. No serious damage to property nor injuries to the public were recorded.

The ERB takes safety standards at Filling stations seriously and has therefore, subsequently **DIRECTED** both Licensed transporter and the licensed retailer to submit comprehensive incident reports detailing the cause of the accident and measures undertaken to ensure accidents of similar nature do not reoccur in-line with their standard licence conditions.

Further, the ERB has **DIRECTED** the Licensees to discontinue offloading and retailing of all petroleum products at the site until the cause of the fire is established. Thereafter, offloading will only be done in the presence of the Fire Brigade and the ERB.

The ERB, expects all licensed petroleum transporters to adhere to the safety guidelines which govern the transportation of petroleum products as stipulated in the Zambian Standard ZS 372: Operational Requirements for Road Tank Vehicles – Code of Practice. These standards outline the safety measures that should be observed by tanker drivers not only while on the road, but also guides the safe parking and offloading of petroleum products.

Furthermore, the ERB expects all retailers of petroleum products to adhere to the requirements of the Zambian Standard ZS 385 Part 5: Petroleum Industry - Code of Practice: Operational Requirements at Service Stations. The standard outlines among others safety measures to be observed at Filling stations.

The ERB will conduct full investigations into the matter and institute due enforcement action against any licensed enterprise found wanting. In the event of petroleum safety concerns, members of the public should contact the ERB on the Toll-Free Line, 8484 or email: erb@erb.org.zm.

mene

Namukolo Kasumpa (Mrs) Manager Public Relations ENERGY REGULATION BOARD