10 – 15 April 2026

Dear Subscribers,

This edition of the Gazette is less about headline-grabbing reform and more about signals — subtle, but important ones — around where regulatory attention is moving next. The notices published this week reflect a push toward procedural tightening, clearer oversight and increased stakeholder engagement, particularly in areas where infrastructure, safety and transport intersect with public interest.

Rather than broad legislative shifts, the **focus here is on *process*: pre-approvals, competency standards and licence conditions.** Each of these developments may look incremental in isolation, but together they point to more formalised scrutiny and fewer grey areas going forward.

Three developments are worth flagging upfront:

- **Coastal development** oversight takes centre stage with Transnet's application for pre-approval to reclaim land from coastal waters at the Port of Durban — a reminder of the heightened expectations around environmental authorisations and public participation in strategic infrastructure projects.
- **Workplace safety regulation** enters a transitional phase with the publication of the proposed 2026 Certificate of Competency Regulations under the OHS Act, inviting industry comment while signalling a more standardised, professionalised regime.
- **In the transport sector**, the Western Cape Provincial Regulatory Entity has opened the door to revisiting and amending operating licence conditions, with potential downstream implications for passenger operators and compliance frameworks.

Some of these notices simply require awareness. Others may call for engagement, commentary or preparatory planning — particularly where future operational or licensing conditions may change.

Below, we set out a clear, high-level snapshot of what's changed, who's affected, and what action (if any) is required. The Gazette also includes a selection of topical articles highlighting emerging regulatory, commercial and enforcement trends shaping the broader operating environment.

As always, The Legal Team is available to assist in interpreting how any of these developments apply to your organisation or sector.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:

INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT ACT

APPLICATION FOR PRE-APPROVAL FOR RECLAMATION OF LAND FROM COASTAL WATERS – TRANSNET, PORT OF DURBAN

G 54470 | GoN 7357 | 10 April 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

An application has been submitted for pre-approval to reclaim land from coastal waters at the Port of Durban. The notice initiates a formal process in terms of the Integrated Coastal Management

Act, triggering environmental assessment and public participation requirements for proposed coastal land reclamation.

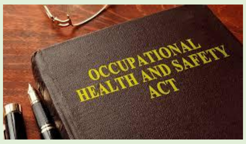
WHO IS AFFECTED:

Transnet and associated port operations, coastal developers, logistics and shipping stakeholders, environmental authorities, and interested or affected parties with an interest in coastal management and marine impacts.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Interested and affected parties should review the proposal and submit comments or representations within the prescribed 60-day period. Organisations operating in or adjacent to the port environment should assess potential environmental, operational and permitting implications.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT



REGULATIONS: CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY, 2026 AND DRAFT REGULATIONS – COMMENTS INVITED

G 54468 | *RG 11981* | *GoN 7353* | *Comment by 25 June 2026*

WHAT CHANGED:

Draft Regulations Concerning the Certificate of Competency, 2026 have been published, proposing a comprehensive overhaul of the existing framework governing certificated mechanical and electrical engineers. The draft modernises qualification pathways, examination requirements, governance of the Commission of Examiners and disciplinary processes, aligning them with the current OHS Act.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Certificated engineers, engineering professionals, employers operating machinery-intensive workplaces, training institutions, industry bodies and regulators under the OHS Act.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Affected stakeholders should review the draft regulations and consider submitting written comments before the closing date. Employers may also wish to assess potential impacts on succession planning, skills pipelines and compliance obligations should the regulations be finalised in their current form.

NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORT ACT

Western Cape Government

WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL REGULATORY ENTITY – INTENTION TO REVIEW AND AMEND OPERATING LICENCE CONDITIONS

G 54466 | GeN 3873 | 8 April 2026

WHAT CHANGED:

The Western Cape Provincial Regulatory Entity (PRE) has published a notice of intention to review and amend conditions imposed on operating licences for passenger transport services. The process aims to improve clarity, enforceability and safety outcomes across licensed operations.

WHO IS AFFECTED:

Passenger transport operators, bus and taxi associations, inter- and intraprovincial operators, municipal and provincial transport authorities, and enforcement agencies operating within or through the Western Cape.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Operators should map affected operating licences, evaluate existing conditions and identify potential compliance risks. Stakeholders may submit representations during the consultation process and should prepare operationally for revised or amended licence conditions.

BEYOND THE GAZETTE

Alongside the formal regulatory notices, several developments in the broader regulatory and commercial landscape are worth noting:

- South African citrus exports received a boost as China eased cold-treatment requirements, opening new opportunities for exporters.
- The Information Regulator has confirmed it will probe Standard Bank following a significant data breach, reinforcing increased scrutiny under POPIA.
- A Middle Eastern energy company is reportedly set to acquire around 600 South African petrol stations in a R16.3 billion deal, signalling continued restructuring in the fuel retail market.
- Airlines are introducing fuel surcharges amid ongoing supply-chain pressures and jet fuel insecurity.
- Vitol, through its Vivo Energy unit, has announced a $130 million investment in fuel storage expansion in Durban, aimed at strengthening supply resilience.

- SARS has reiterated that leaving South Africa does not automatically end tax obligations, highlighting rising enforcement through international data-sharing mechanisms.
- Government has moved to clamp down on cheap Chinese imports through a new pre-export verification regime, targeting a wide range of consumer and industrial products.

Together, these stories underscore an environment of tightening enforcement, heightened regulatory coordination and increasing emphasis on data, safety and compliance preparedness across sectors.

Having wrapped up the key headlines, the attached document provides a fuller unpacking of each development.

Alison and The Legal Team

10 – 15 April 2026

CONTENTS

AGRICULTURAL

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

ANIMAL DISEASES ACT:

Draft Scheme relating to Foot and Mouth Disease Routine Vaccination: Comments invited

G 54476 GoN 7361

- Comment by 17 Apr 2026

10 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

Owners who voluntarily enrol their cloven-hoofed animals, those animals themselves, the veterinarians and technicians who vaccinate and oversee them, the traceability systems and laboratories used, and the national Committee governing the scheme.

FULL TEXT

SUMMARY

1. What this notice is about

To establish a Routine Vaccination Scheme for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). The scheme sets out how voluntary FMD vaccination may be lawfully conducted across South Africa.

Stakeholders are invited to submit comments within 7 calendar days from publication.

2. Purpose of the scheme

The RVS-FMD aims to:

- Enable lawful, standardised vaccination against FMD
- Reduce the risk of FMD outbreaks
- Support business continuity for livestock producers
- Improve traceability, surveillance, and data integrity
- Ensure vaccines used are effective against circulating strains
- Create clear roles, responsibilities, and oversight structures

3. Scope and participation

- Applies to domesticated cloven-hoofed animals (e.g. cattle, sheep, goats, pigs)
- Voluntary participation, available nationwide
- Applies only to owners who enrol and comply with the scheme requirements
- Non-participants remain fully subject to normal FMD controls under the Act

4. Governance: the RVS-FMD Committee

A national committee is established by the Minister to oversee the scheme. It includes:

- National and provincial state veterinarians
- Private veterinarians (livestock and wildlife sectors)
- Onderstepoort (OVR-TAD) representation
- Agricultural industry representatives
- Academic experts in virology and vaccinology

Key functions of the Committee:

- Oversee enrolment, certification, compliance, and traceability
- Approve vaccines and testing protocols
- Issue SOPs and an FMD manual
- Monitor surveillance, data quality, and vaccine performance
- Issue compliance and non-compliance notices
- Grant exemptions where justified
- Submit quarterly reports to the Minister

5. Requirements for owners to enrol

To participate, an owner must:

- Ensure all animals are traceable and recorded on an approved traceability system
- Register the farm/property location with defined boundaries
- Appoint an authorised veterinarian or animal health technician
- Maintain biosecurity measures and submit to audits and inspections
- Keep detailed vaccination, movement, morbidity and mortality records
- Comply with SOPs and inspection checklists issued by the Committee

6. Vaccination and veterinary control

Vaccination must be performed under controlled conditions, including:

- Cold-chain monitoring
- Proper vaccine storage and batch recording
- Supervision of vaccination technique
- Post-vaccination surveillance

- Immediate reporting of suspect FMD cases
- Investigation of vaccine failures, mortality and morbidity

Only authorised persons may oversee or perform controlled veterinary acts.

7. Traceability, identification and records

Participants must:

- Permanently identify animals (branding/tattoo + tags)
- Record all vaccinations, movements, births, deaths, sales and inspections
- Maintain records for at least 5 years
- Use approved traceability systems
- Ensure animals can be certified as validly vaccinated based on recorded data

8. Compliance and enforcement

- The Committee may issue non-compliance notices with a 14-day correction period
- Failure to comply can result in withdrawal from the scheme
- Participation is suspended if FMD is suspected or confirmed
- On termination, quarantine obligations still apply under the Act

9. Legal status and commencement

- The scheme comes into effect on publication of the final notice
- It remains in force until amended or withdrawn by the Minister
- Although participation is voluntary, mandatory control measures may still be imposed by the Minister in specific circumstances

10. Key implications

- This scheme provides a formal legal framework for routine FMD vaccination
- Strong emphasis on traceability and data systems
- Increased role for public–private cooperation
- Significant compliance obligations for participating livestock owners
- Likely to affect livestock movement, certification, and market access going forward

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NO. 7361 10 April 2026

ANIMAL DISEASES ACT, 1984
(ACT NO. 35 OF 1984)

DRAFT SCHEME RELATING TO FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE ROUTINE VACCINATION

I, John Henry Steenhuisen, Minister of Agriculture, acting under Section 10 of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) hereby make known that I intend to publish a scheme to be known as the Routine Vaccination Scheme for Foot and Mouth Disease ("RVS-FMD").

All interested parties are invited to submit comments or make representations concerning the proposed Scheme set out in the Schedule hereto within seven (7) calendar days from the date of publication of this notice to the following address:

Dr EM Mogajane:

FMD Command Centre - FMDcommandcent@nda.gov.za

MR JH STEENHUISEN, MP
Minister of Agriculture

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1.
In this Scheme any word or phrase to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act and the Regulations, shall have that meaning, unless the context indicates otherwise -

"**the Act**" means the Animal Diseases Act, No. 35 of 1984;

"**agricultural associations**" mean official associations or organisations of farmers of cloven-hoofed animals affected or potentially affected by FMD;

"**authorised animal health technician**" means any person who is registered or deemed to be registered in terms of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act No. 19 of 1982), to practice the veterinary para-profession of animal health technician, and is authorised by the National Director: Animal Health and appointed by a participant;

"**animals**" means, for the purposes of this scheme, domesticated cloven-hoofed animals;

"**authorised veterinarian**" means a veterinarian authorised by the National Director: Animal Health and appointed by a participant, which veterinarian is duly registered at the South African Veterinary Council;

"**committee**" means the Committee established in paragraph 7;

"**controlled veterinary act**" has the meaning assigned in the Act;

"**department**" means the National Department of Agriculture;

"**Director-General**" means the Director-General: Agriculture;

"**FMD**" or "**Foot and Mouth Disease**" means the disease as specified in column 1 of Table 2 of the Animal Diseases Regulations GNR.2026 of 26 September 1986;

"ICAR" means International Committee for Animal Recording;
"Minister" means the Minister of Agriculture;

"National Director" means the officer in the department referred to in section 2 (1) of the Act, also referred to as the National Director: Animal Health.

"**officer**" means any employee as defined in section 1(1) of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation R103 of 1994), acting under delegation from or control of a Provincial or National director;

"**OVR-TAD**" means the Transboundary Animal Diseases Laboratory, Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Institute or its successor in title;

"**owner**" for the purposes of this scheme, includes any person who owns or exercises control over animals or a person authorised as such;

"**participant(s)**" mean owner(s) of animals enrolled in the scheme;

"**Scheme"** means this vaccination scheme, as mentioned in paragraph 2;

"**State Veterinarian**" means a veterinarian who is an employee of government;

"**traceable animal**" means any animal marked with a permanent identification mark (branded or tattooed) and, in the case of cattle, adult pigs and small stock, uniquely identified with an eartag. In the case of slaughter pigs, a batch number identifying the week of birth, and in the case of sheep and goats, a batch number recorded on the traceability system;

"Traceability System" means a system that enables the identification and tracking of animals (and animal products) throughout their entire life cycle—from birth, through movements and ownership changes, to slaughter or export.

"**veterinarian**" means a person as defined in section 1 of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, No. 19 of 1982.

Name
2.
(1) This scheme will be referred to as the Routine Vaccination Scheme for Foot and Mouth Disease ("RVS-FMD").

Objects (s10(2)(a))
3.
The objects of this scheme shall be to –

(1) Facilitate the vaccination against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) by state veterinarians or state animal health technicians, or authorised veterinarians or authorised animal health technicians, or animal owners or their employees, under the direction of the afore-mentioned authorised persons, to administer vaccinations within the requirements of the scheme.
(2) Recommend the use of effective vaccine(s) against circulating strains and any other strain that may be identified during the duration of the scheme;
(3) Ensure the establishment of Standard Operating Procedures to implement the scheme, including for -
    (a) Compiling a schedule of vaccine quantity requirements and type of vaccine;
    (b) Traceability and record-keeping relating to the scheme;
    (c) Where applicable, monitoring and surveillance;
    (d) Identification of animals at time of primary vaccination;
    (e) Clear delineation of roles, responsibilities, and reporting requirements to avoid duplication, gaps in oversight, and regulatory confusion.
(4) Mitigate against the risk of FMD and ensure the allowance of continued business operations to participants; and

(5) Inform owners and the public of the measures relating to the scheme.
(6) Establish a committee in terms of paragraph 7.

Application and Scope of the Scheme

4.
(1) The scheme applies to participating owners of cloven-hoofed animals, their animals, and the vaccination of those animals against Foot-and-Mouth Disease.
(2) Voluntary enrolment in the Scheme shall be available nationwide

Duration of the Scheme

5.
(1) The scheme will be in force until amended, or revoked by the Minister by notice in the *Gazette*.

Determinations in terms of s10(3) and additional powers (s10(7))

6.
(1) Any state or private laboratory registered in terms of regulation 12B of the Animal Diseases Regulations, 1986 shall undertake the tests determined by the Committee.
(2) The Committee shall, in consultation with the National Director of Animal Health, issue a peer-reviewed FMD manual to educate and empower owners of animals.

Establishment of the Committee in terms of section 10(6)

7.
(1) The Minister hereby establishes a body called the Committee for the Routine Vaccination Scheme for cloven-hoofed animals. All members of the committee shall be appointed by the Minister.
(2) The Committee shall consist of -
  (a) A veterinary representative of the National Directorate of Animal Health from the Department of Agriculture, *ex officio*;
  (b) two State Veterinarians who have experience in the control of Foot and Mouth Disease and the Epidemiology of the disease.
  (c) two private sector veterinarians who have experience in the control of Foot and Mouth Disease, one of whom is primarily involved in the livestock industry and one who is involved in the wildlife industry.
  (d) the OVR-TAD laboratory manager, *ex officio*;
  (e) one representative each, nominated by the agricultural associations, representing cattle/stud, dairy, feedlot, small stock, and pigs .
  (f) two experts in FMD from academia, one of whom must be a virologist and another a vaccinologist, both with voting rights.
(3) Any Committee member may, when unable to attend, nominate an alternate to represent that Committee member and such an alternate shall have the same rights as the Committee member. The alternate member must have the same skills and understanding of the member that is being represented and must be an employee or person under the control, of the member or the body.
(4) A quorum of the Committee shall be 50% plus 1 of its members as set out in subparagraph (2).
(5) The Committee shall elect a chairperson and deputy-chairperson from amongst its members.
(6) The Committee shall endeavour to make decisions by consensus, failing which a majority vote shall determine any matter.
(7) The Chairperson shall have the casting vote on any matter for which the votes are equally distributed.
(8) The Committee shall determine and control its internal arrangements, proceedings and procedures.
(9) The Department, in partnership with industry, shall provide the necessary secretarial and logistical support to the Committee.
(10) The members of the committee who are not in the full-time employment of the State shall be paid such remuneration and allowances as the Minister may determine in terms of section 10(8) of the Act.
(11) In line with principles of Public Private Partnership consideration should be given to:
  (a) subsidies or public funding support;
  (b) cost sharing mechanisms; and
  (c) phased implementation approaches to promote equitable participation and national coverage.
(12) All members and alternate members shall sign non-disclosure agreements.

Powers and obligations of the Committee (section 10(2)(t), section 10(3) and 10(7))
8.

The Committee shall -
(1) Oversee and coordinate the scheme;
(2) Oversee the processes for enrolment in the scheme;
(3) Oversee the processes of issuing of all certificates by the traceability system;
(4) Establish minimum requirements for interoperability, data standards, system governance, and oversight of the traceability system/s;
(5) Determine the tests, -and examinations, consider positive- and negative results and the determination of the interpretation thereof, as well as any additional tests and examinations required, to ensure the effectiveness of the scheme;
(6) The National Director of Animal Health may be requested to share with the Committee, any results pertaining to participants;
(7) Provide oversight and issue compliance notices to traceability systems, authorised veterinarians, or recommend the issuance of notices to importers and distributors of vaccines by entities competent to do so;
(8) Oversee the cancellation of enrolment by withdrawing certificates issued in terms of paragraph 15 (3);
(9) Conduct inspections if necessary relating to the obligations of the authorised veterinarians in relation to this Scheme;
(10) Report to the National Director and the Provincial Director/s where the participant is located, in line with the activities of the Scheme;
(11) Provide oversight and liaison in relation to vaccine demand and distribution;
(12) Monitor the framework of traceability data;
(13) Provide oversight of and reporting of surveillance feedback, including the central system in place;
(14) Grant exemption from any aspect of the scheme to any owner or any group or category of owners and/or animals, and subject such an exemption to any condition; and
(15) Receive information from the Minister, the Department and the National Director so as to inform the development and responsiveness of the scheme.

Reporting by Committee
9.
(1) The Committee shall submit a quarterly report to the Minister and the National Director, containing statistics, trends, risks and recommendations.
(2) The Committee shall ensure compliance with the laws of the country and specifically the Protection of Personal Information Act, No. 4 of 2013 and have due regard to commercially sensitive information, unless such information is available in the public domain.

Objections against decisions of the Committee
10.
Objections will be managed as per section 23 of the Act.

(1)
Animals and disease (s10(2)(b) and(c))
11.
(1) The scheme pertains to Foot-and-Mouth Disease, a highly contagious viral illness in animals that causes fever, blisters in the mouth and the hooves, leading to morbidity, mortality in some cases, and a significant economic impact.
(2) Cloven-hoofed animals are susceptible to Foot-and-Mouth Disease and can spread the disease.

Controlled veterinary acts (s10(2)(d))
12.
Controlled veterinary acts relating to the scheme include –
(1) Monitoring the receipt of the vaccines from a licensed manufacturer, importer or distributor;
(2) Auditing cold chain management of FMD vaccines after receiving the vaccines;
(3) Keeping of a vaccination register with batch numbers and the number of animals vaccinated, per site and owner.
(4) Oversight over correct vaccination technique by the vaccinator;

(5) Post-vaccination surveillance to investigate key factors associated with the different vaccines used, including the lack of efficiency during the prescribed immunity period, the closure of outbreaks and reporting back to the Committee;
(6) Investigations into mortality and morbidity in vaccinated herds to determine the association thereof with FMD- and vaccination status and post vaccination intervals and reporting back to the Committee;
(7) Immediately report suspect cases to local provincial state veterinarian;
(8) Receipt of results of laboratory tests, analysis thereof and communicating results to the Committee;
(9) Provision of a tailored biosecurity plan for every site where animals are vaccinated, of which the owner remains responsible for implementation; and
(10) Record-keeping and reconciliation of all vaccinations administered and reporting thereof.

Prevention of Infection/Re-infection (s10(2)(j))

13.
Notwithstanding other control measures as may be published from time to time, infection or reinfection of cloven-hoofed animals for the purposes of this scheme shall be mitigated by -
(1) vaccination according to the manufacturer's package insert and instructions;
(2) traceability and movement control; and
(3) implementation of the biosecurity plan.

Requirements for Enrolment in the Scheme (s10(2)(k))

14.
Any owner of animals may enrol in the scheme, provided that -
(1) All animals owned by the owner shall be traceable as per definition.
(2) All animals need to comply with the requirements defined by "traceable animal".
(3) All animals owned by the owner must be recorded on the traceability system.
(4) The farm/property's location with defined boundary fencing where the animals are, must have Location coordinates and be registered on a traceability system.
(5) The owner undertakes to comply with the requirements of the scheme, including an inspection checklist as issued by the Committee as part of the SOPs.
(6) The owner has appointed an Authorised Veterinarian or authorised animal health technician who (if required) are remunerated by the owner.
(7) The owner undertakes to submit to audits and inspections under the scheme.

Application, Refusal and Cancellation (s10(2)(l) s10(2)(m))

15.
(1) A person intending to participate in the scheme shall partake in a traceability system. Previously infected herds that have been vaccinated and are no longer under quarantine are eligible to participate.
(2) Participation will be terminated when the following minimum standards are not met -
   (a) The objectives of the Act are not met or adhered to;
   (b) The owner of the herd no longer complies with paragraph 14(2);
   (c) The criteria set by the scheme, applicable to the type of operation, are not met;
   (d) There is no appointed Authorised Veterinarian or Authorised animal health technician;
   (e) The necessary undertakings in terms of the scheme are not given; and/or
   (f) Animals of the owner are not individually recorded on the traceability system.
(3) Enrolment shall commence by issuance of a Certificate of Participation by the Committee that attests to the owner being a participant in the scheme upon meeting the requirements set by the scheme.
(4) A participant's animal's record will determine whether the animal is covered by the scheme.
(5) Enrolment shall lapse or be cancelled on expiry thereof or material non-compliance.
(6) Enrolment shall be cancelled after failure to comply with a compliance notice issued by the committee, within 14 days of delivery of such notice.
(7) Participation in the Scheme will be suspended should the farm/entity be under suspicion of or positive for FMD and placed under quarantine. Re-enrolment is possible once a herd is no longer under quarantine.
(8) Should the participation be terminated for whatever reason, the establishment shall remain under quarantine in full compliance with all measures in terms of the Act.

Control Periods and surveillance (s10(2)(n))

16.
(1) For the duration of participation in the scheme, on-farm clinical surveillance must continue, and any suspicious FMD signs must be reported to the Director
(2) Observed incidents shall be reported to the Director and then included in the traceability system. and included in the traceability system.

Information to be Recorded (s10(2)(o))

17.
(1) An owner of animals in the scheme must keep the following records updated on his/her traceability system -
   (a) Certificate of Participation;
   (b) Tags and tagging system;
   (c) FMD vaccine and vaccination registers;
   (d) Records of temperature of vaccine storage fridge for maintenance of the cold chain;
   (e) FMD vaccine records in terms of the Medicines and Related Substances Act, No. 101 of 1965;
   (f) Morbidity;
   (g) Mortality, sales, purchases, births, and/or movement;
   (h) Audit reports.
   (i) Any other information that shall assist in determining the FMD status of the animals and effectiveness of the vaccine and other control measures
(2) All records shall be retained for at least 5 years.
(3) Where not electronically possible, records shall be submitted to a relevant traceability system for recording.

Facilities to be Provided (s10(2)(p))

18.
(1) Facilities required for purposes of the performance of any controlled veterinary act, or any other tending, detention, tests, treatments or examinations of the animals shall be provided by the owner of the animals to be vaccinated. Such facilities must be fit for human entry and occupancy for lengthy periods and should ensure that all safety and biosecurity control measures are complied with in such a facility.

Marks and Identification (s10(2)(q))

19.
(1) Animals intended for slaughter must be marked using a unique identification method.
(2) All animals other than those referred to in subparagraph (1) shall have a permanent mark, either branded or tattooed, as a Herd Designation Mark according to the Animal Improvement Act, No. 62 of 1998 or a registered brand mark as registered in terms of the Animal Identification Act, No. 6 of 2002, followed by an owner-unique number.
(3) Animals must be tagged as provided for in paragraph 14(2), and in cases where electronic tagging is not feasible, the Committee may approve alternative mechanisms of marking and identification.
(4) Tags and permanent identification marks must be recorded in the owner's traceability system.

Certification of Animals (s10(2)(r))

20.
(1) An animal shall be certified as being vaccinated and having a valid vaccination status, for as long as the animal's FMD vaccination record is recorded on the traceability system, indicating that the animal's vaccinations are completed and up to date according to the prescripts of the vaccine manufacturer.

Area-wide Applicability (s10(2)(u))

21.
(1) Notwithstanding the voluntary nature of the scheme, the Minister may publish control measures, which may require mandatory action by owners and responsible persons.

Non-compliance 22. (1) The Committee shall, upon notification of the failure to comply with requirements, issue a non-compliance notice, setting out the nature of the non-compliance and a timeframe of 14 days, within which corrective measures must be implemented. (2) A failure to adhere to the conditions of a non-compliance notice within the stipulated timelines will result in the withdrawal of enrolment as a participant in the scheme. ***Non- participation*** 23. (1) Non participants of the Scheme shall continue to be governed in terms of the Act and must ensure full and strict compliance thereto. ***Commencement*** 24. (1) The scheme shall come into operation on the date of publication thereof in the Government *Gazette*.
LINK TO FULL NOTICE **Animal Diseases Act: Draft Scheme relating to Foot and Mouth Disease Routine Vaccination: Comments invited** G 54476 GoN 7361 - Comment by 17 Apr 2026 10 April 2026 54476gon7361.pdf
ACTION Ensure that you submit your comments before 17 April 2026.

END

COMPETITION

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

Competition Act

Complaint Referrals, Decisions and Reports.

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

Competition Act: Notification of complaint referral
G 54470 GeN 3877
10 April 2026

54470gen3877.pdf

Statement on the latest decisions by the Competition Commission
Date: 10 April 2026
Read more

Statement on the latest decisions by the Competition Commission
Date: 02 April 2026
Read more

Commission releases second cost of living report
Date: 01 April 2026
Read more

END

ENERGY AND PETROLEUM

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

NATIONAL ENERGY ACT:

Draft Regulations on the Mandatory Provision of Energy Data: Comments invited

G 54470 GeN 3876

- Comment by 07 Jun 2026

10 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

1. Industrial, Mining & Manufacturing Entities
2. Household Appliance Manufacturers and Importers

FULL TEXT

SUMMARY

This draft introduces updated regulations and detailed reporting requirements for mandatory energy data submission in South Africa, covering industrial, mining, manufacturing, and household appliance sectors. Its core objective is to standardise national energy-use data collection, support energy efficiency policy, and enable monitoring, planning, and compliance across the economy.

Purpose of the Draft

The draft gives effect to the Regulations on the Mandatory Provision of Energy Data by:

- Defining who must submit energy data
- Prescribing what data must be submitted
- Setting deadlines, frequency, and submission mechanisms
- Providing sector-specific questionnaires aligned to SIC codes
- Supporting energy efficiency initiatives, including Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for appliances

Who Is Required to Comply

1. Industrial, Mining & Manufacturing Entities

- All legal entities that consume energy above prescribed thresholds

- Entities operating within listed Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes, including:
  - Mining (coal, gold, platinum, diamonds, iron ore, manganese, chromite, vanadium)
  - Cement, lime and plaster
  - Iron and steel
  - Basic and other chemicals
  - Pulp and paper
  - Ferroalloys and non-ferrous metals
  - Other energy-intensive industrial activities

2. Household Appliance Manufacturers and Importers

- Legal entities operating under SIC Code 36 (Industry Group 363)

- Entities that manufacture or import household appliances, such as:
  - Refrigerators and freezers
  - Washing machines and dryers
  - Dishwashers
  - Air conditioners (≤5 kW)
  - Electric ovens
  - Water heaters (geysers)
  - Lamps and selected electronic equipment

Key Compliance Obligations

Energy Management Plans and Data Submission

- Entities must develop and maintain an Energy Management Plan
- Energy-use data must be submitted for the preceding financial year

Submission Deadlines

- Initial submission: Within 90 days of the regulations coming into operation
- Ongoing submissions: Within 60 days after the end of each financial year

Frequency and Period Covered

- Frequency: Annual
- Reporting period: 1 January – 31 December

Submission Platform

- Data must be submitted via the Energy Efficiency Monitoring System (EEMS):
  - http://www.eems.gov.za (effective upon commencement)

Types of Data Required (Industrial & Mining)

Across the various sector-specific questionnaires, entities must report:

1. Entity and facility details
2. Reporting period
3. Annual energy consumption, per energy carrier:
   - Electricity
   - Coal
   - Natural gas
   - Petroleum products
   - Off-grid renewables
4. Physical production output
   - e.g. tonnes produced, ore mined, metal smelted
5. Energy-consuming activities
   - e.g. surface vs deep mining, smelting, casting, blending
6. In some cases:
   - Economic output (gross output in Rand)

Each facility exceeding the threshold must submit its own questionnaire.

Household Appliance Reporting (Annexure C)

Objective

To support the Standards and Labelling (S&L) Project, ensuring:

- Improved appliance efficiency
- Reduced national energy consumption
- Measurement of energy savings from MEPS-compliant products

Data Required

Manufacturers/importers must report, per appliance model:

- Brand and model details
- Energy consumption (kWh/year)
- Operating and standby power
- Capacity and dimensions (where applicable)
- Verified energy class
- Annual units introduced into the SA market
- Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price (MSRP)

Separate tables are provided for each appliance category (TVs, fridges, ovens, geysers, air conditioners, etc.).

Annexures Overview

- Annexure A: SIC codes covered by the regulations
- Annexure B: General framework for energy-use and consumption data reporting
- Annexure C: Household appliance reporting requirements and questionnaires
- Annexure D: Categorisation of national energy data variables across sectors
-

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY

NOTICE 3876 OF 2026

NATIONAL ENERGY ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 34 OF 2008)

DRAFT REGULATIONS ON THE MANDATORY PROVISION OF ENERGY DATA

I, **Dr. Kgosientsho David Ramokgopa**, the Minister of Electricity and Energy, in terms of section 19(1) of the National Energy Act, 2008 (Act No. 34 of 2008), and after consultation with the Cabinet Ministers whose areas of responsibility will be affected by these Regulations, intend to make the Regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit, within 60 days of the date of publication of this Notice, any written comments or representations on the proposed Regulations to the Director-General of the Department of Electricity and Energy, for the attention of Ms Violet Olifant by:

(a) Post to: Department of Electricity and Energy, Private Bag x 96, Pretoria, 0001;

(b) Hand to: Matimba House 192 Visagie Street Pretoria 0001 or

(c) Email to: Violet.Olifant@dee.gov.za.

Kindly provide the name, address, telephone number, fax number and email address of the person or organisation submitting the comments.

Dr K.D. RAMAKGOPA, MP
MINISTER OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
DATE: 16/10/25

SCHEDULE

Arrangement of Regulations

Please click on the link provided below to view the full draft Regulation.

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

National Energy Act: Draft Regulations on the Mandatory Provinsion of Energy Data: Comments invited
G 54470 GeN 3876
- Comment by 07 Jun 2026
10 April 2026

54470gen3876.pdf

ACTION

Ensure that you submit your comments before 07 June 2026.

END

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT:

Draft Policy Direction on matters relevant to Electronic Communications Network Deployment pursuant: Comments invited

G 54473 GoN 7360

- Comment by 25 Apr 2026

09 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

- Electronic Communications Network Service (ECNS) Licensees
- Infrastructure owners
- Municipalities & organs of state
- ICASA

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

NO. 7360 **9 April 2026**

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT, 2005 (ACT NO. 36 OF 2005)

EXTENSION OF DUE DATE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS ON DRAFT POLICY DIRECTION ON MATTERS RELEVANT TO ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK DEPLOYMENT PURSUANT TO THE NATIONAL POLICY ON RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS AND FACILITIES, 2023

1.1 The Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies published an invitation to provide written comments on the 'Draft policy direction on matters relevant to electronic communications network deployment pursuant to the national policy on rapid deployment of electronic communications networks and facilities, 2023' on 12 March 2026 (Government *Gazette* 54314, Government Notice No. 7216).

1.2 Notice is hereby given that the due date for the submission of comment is extended to 25 April 2026.

MR. SOLLY MALATSI, MP
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES
DATE: 08 April 2026

Original Draft policy can be found here - National Policy on Rapid Deployment, 2023

LINK TO FULL NOTICE **Electronic Communications Act: Draft Policy Direction on matters relevant to Electronic Communications Network Deployment pursuant: Comments invited** G 54473 GoN 7360 - Comment by 25 Apr 2026 09 April 2026 54473gon7360.pdf
ACTION Ensure that you submit your comments before 25 April 2026.

END

ENVIRONMENTAL

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:

Integrated Coastal Management Act: Application for Pre-Approval for Reclamation of Land from Coastal Waters: Transnet, Port of Durban

G 54470 GoN 7357

10 April 2026

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 7357 **10 April 2026**

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 24 OF 2008)

APPLICATION FOR PRE-APPROVAL FOR RECLAMATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 7B (1) OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 24 OF 2008) AND REGULATIONS 2 AND 3 OF THE RECLAMATION OF LAND FROM COASTAL WATERS REGULATIONS, 2018:
PROPOSED RECLAMATION BY TRANSNET NATIONAL PORTS AUTHORITY – PORT OF DURBAN

I, Willem Abraham Stephanus Aucamp, the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby invite the public to comment on the pre-approval application for the reclamation of land from coastal waters in terms of section 7B(3)(c) of the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008), (ICM Act) and regulations 2 and 3 of the Reclamation of Land from Coastal Waters Regulations, 2018 (GN R206 of 9 March 2018).

Reclamation of land from the sea involves the creation of new land in the sea. The ICM Act defines it as *"the process of artificially creating new land within coastal waters, and includes the creation of an island or peninsula, but excludes beach replenishment by sand pumping for maintenance purposes"*. The Act requires that, as the responsible Minister, I undertake a public consultation process to obtain the public's comments on the proposed reclamation. As part of that process, I am required to follow the public participation consultation and public participation process described in section 7B(3)(c) of the ICM Act. The reclamation application and approval process in the ICM Act does not remove the need for an environmental authorisation in terms of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has submitted a pre-approval for the reclamation of land from the coastal waters of the Port of Durban. As part of the proposed development, land will be reclaimed between the existing Point multi-purpose terminal quay wall and the new Point Container Terminal quay wall, providing the expanded footprint required for the increased container capacity. The infill area will require 4 million m^3 of infill material covering an area of 22.4 hectares (ha). Infill material will be sourced from the authorised sandwinning site located offshore, near the entrance to the Port. Should additional material be required, either the existing authorised site will be extended, or a new, alternative site will be used.

Figure 1: Map depicting Durban Port expansion in the proposed area for reclamation

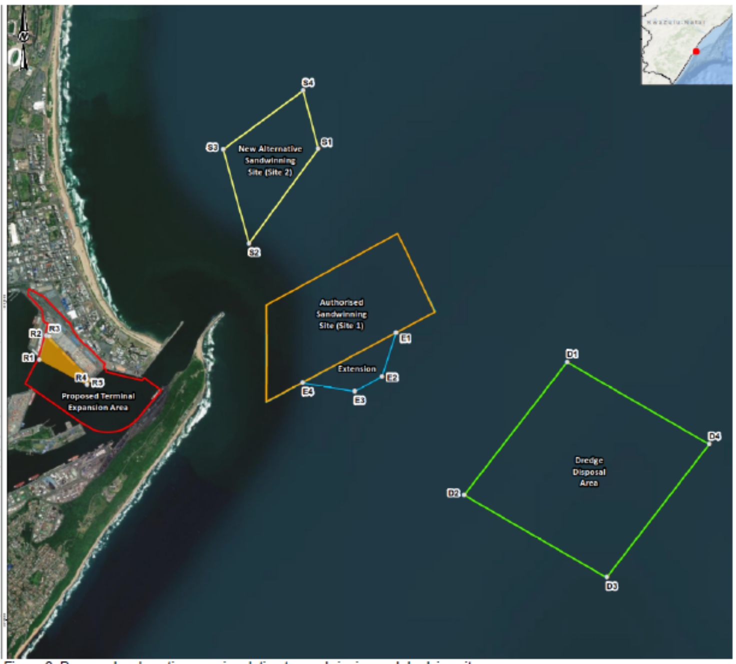


Figure 2: Proposed reclamation area in relation to sandwinning and dredging sites

TNPA operates eight ports across South Africa, playing a vital role in the country's logistics. TNPA aims to expand port capacity ahead of demand and reduce business costs to keep South Africa's economy competitive. To facilitate this, TNPA has developed the KZN Ports Master Plan. The plan focuses on reconfiguring the Port of Durban and the Port of Richards Bay to establish the Port of Durban as a Container Hub Port for international container traffic, benefiting both South Africa and Southern Africa. As part of this plan, TNPA proposes to convert areas D-G in the Port of Durban's Point Precinct into a single container terminal referred to as Point Container Terminal.

TNPA wishes to expand the Durban Port and position it as a premier container hub port in the region with the aim of increasing capacity to between 10 and 11 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU). The TNPA aim to upgrade the existing Port of Durban infrastructure, including deepening berths, expanding container terminals, and improving the rail links to the Port. The land reclamation process would involve dredging and infilling activities, which may affect benthic sediments and increase turbidity. Fish stocks entering the harbour may be temporarily impacted.

If successful, the reclaimed land will be used for developing the following:

- a new quay wall, berthing for container vessels;

- infrastructure that accommodates ultra-large container ships (ULCS);
- operating harbour cranes;
- stacking containers (meaning more land for stacking containers on top of each other in blocks grouped by imports, exports etc); and
- the availability of land and water areas for future expansion.

This would, in turn, improve container handling capacity at the Port of Durban, reducing logistical costs and creating new economic opportunities for the country while also boosting trade competitiveness. The upgrades will increase port capacity and efficiency without the need for developing a new port.

As opposed to the EIA process undertaken in terms of NEMA, the primary purpose of the reclamation authorisations process under the ICM Act is to assess and to provide in-principle approval for the reclamation. In this assessment, the application will be assessed to ensure that the sea, which is coastal public property, is not utilised in a manner that undermines the objectives of the ICM Act, which is to ensure integrated and sustainable coastal development and to secure equitable access to the opportunities and benefits of coastal public property.

TNPA is therefore requesting my in-principle approval for the reclamation of land from the coastal waters in the Port of Durban in terms of section 7B(1) and section 7B(3)(b) of the ICM Act. A copy of the pre-approval application can be accessed and downloaded from the following webpage: **www.dffe.gov.za/gazetted_notices_transnet.durbanharbour_landreclamation** or can be obtained electronically upon request by email to **reclamation@dffe.gov.za**. A hard copy can also be obtained from the Department's offices at the address indicated below by prior arrangement with the person indicated for enquiries.

Members of the public are invited to submit written representations on the pre-approval application within 60 days after publication of this notice in the Gazette or publication of a notification in the newspaper, whichever is the later date. Written representations received after 60 days may be disregarded.

All representations must be submitted in writing to the Department.
By hand: The Deputy Director-General
Attention: Mr Ryan Peter
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Branch: Oceans and Coasts
East Pier Building No. 1, East Pier Road, V&A Waterfront
CAPE TOWN
8000
By email: reclamation@dffe.gov.za
Enquiries: Mr Ryan Peter on 079 501 8709

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act: Application for Pre-Approval for Reclamation of Land from Coastal Waters: Transnet, Port of Durban
G 54470 GoN 7357
10 April 2026

54470gon7357.pdf

ACTION

Ensure that you submit your comments within 60 days.

END

HEALTH AND SAFETY

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT:

Regulations: Certificate of Competency, 2026 and draft Regulations Concerning the Certificate of Competency, 2026: Comments invited

G 54468 RG 11981 GoN 7353

- Comment by 25 Jun 2026

10 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

Certificated engineers, engineering professionals, employers operating machinery-intensive workplaces, training institutions, industry bodies and regulators under the OHS Act

FULL TEXT

SUMMARY

1. Enabling legislation and legal framework

What changed

Aspect	**1990 Regulations**	**2026 Draft Regulations**
Parent Act	Machinery and Occupational Safety Act, 1983 (Act 6 of 1983)	Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993)
Regulatory alignment	Pre-OHS Act framework	Fully aligned with post-1993 OHS Act

Practical effect

- The 2026 draft modernises the regulatory foundation, removing references to repealed legislation and integrating the certificate regime into the current OHS enforcement system, including the authority of the Chief Inspector under the OHS Act.

This is a foundational legal update, not merely cosmetic.

2. Definitions and terminology

What changed

- Definitions are largely carried over, but updated for consistency with the OHS Act.
- Gender-neutral language introduced (*"he/she"* instead of *"he"*).
- References to obsolete departments (e.g. Department of Manpower; Department of Education and Culture) removed.

New alignment

- References now match:
  - Department of Employment and Labour
  - Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET)

3. Issuing of certificates (Regulation 2)

Key changes

Mandatory qualifying examination

1990	2026
Commission could issue a certificate without examination if satisfied about	Passing the qualifying examination is compulsory

The discretionary alternative route is removed.

Updated equivalence clause

- 1990: Linked to General Machinery Regulations of 1988
- 2026: Linked to General Machinery Regulations, GN R.6352 of 22 August 2025

This ties certificated engineers to the new GMR framework, affecting legal recognition and site authority.

4. Suspension and cancellation of certificates (Regulation 3)

What changed

Aspect	**1990**	**2026**
Audi alteram partem	Implied	Explicit right to be heard before action
Referral to Commission	Optional	Still optional
Language	Immediate action possible	Investigation + opportunity to state case

Procedural fairness is strengthened and aligned with modern administrative-law standards.

5. Replacement of lost or damaged certificates (Regulation 4)

Key changes

Aspect	**1990**	**2026**
Fee	Fixed (R130, revenue stamps)	Fee set by Chief Inspector
Proof	"To satisfaction of Chief Inspector"	Affidavit required
Payment method	Revenue stamps	Modern flexible payment

The system moves from fixed, outdated administrative practices to delegated fee-setting and affidavit-based proof.

6. Commission of Examiners (Regulation 5)

Major structural changes

Composition of the Commission

1990	2026
Inspectors + mining officials	Broader professional representation
Mining-centric	Cross-sector engineering focus
No ECSA role	ECSA nominee included

Membership expanded

- Inclusion of:
    - Certificated engineers under the Mine Health and Safety Act
    - Separate mechanical and electrical practitioner quotas
    - Engineering Council of South Africa nomination

This shifts the Commission from an administrative body to a professionally representative, peer-driven structure.

7. Governance and procedure of the Commission

What changed

Issue	1990	2026
Quorum	Chair + 2 members	Chair + 4 members
Removal of members	At discretion	"Reasonable grounds" + due process
Directives	Internal consultation	Published on official platforms

Transparency, accountability and legitimacy are significantly strengthened.

8. Appeals process

What stayed the same

- Right of appeal to the Chief Inspector
- 60-day appeal period
- Decision of Chief Inspector is final

What improved

- Clearer drafting
- Explicit consultation with the Commission before decision
- More structured appeal grounds

9. Qualifying examination (Regulation 6)

Major changes

Aspect	**1990**	**2026**
Administered by	Dept of Education and Culture	Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET)
Exemptions	Allowed	No exemptions permitted
Role of Commission	Limited	Gatekeeper for exam admission
Venues	Unilateral	Agreed between DHET & DEL

This raises the standard and uniformity of certification, removing discretionary exemptions entirely.

10. Acceptance as a candidate (Regulation 7)

Key changes

Requirement	**1990**	**2026**
Minimum age	23 years	25 years
Academic requirement	Not explicit	Explicit academic + practical requirements
Fees	Fixed	Set by Chief Inspector

Candidate eligibility is tightened and professionalised.

11. Repeal and transition (Regulation 8)

What changed

- 1990: Withdraws older pre-1990 machinery regulations
- 2026: Explicitly repeals the 1990 Regulations once promulgated

This ensures:

- No dual legal regime
- Clean legislative handover

12. Certificates (Annexures)

What changed

Aspect	**1990**	**2026**
Issuing department	Department of Manpower	Department of Employment and Labour
Act referenced	Act 6 of 1983	Act 85 of 1993
Format	Older statutory style	Updated statutory references

13. Overall policy intent shift

From → To

- Administrative discretion → Standardised competency
- Mining-centric oversight → Cross-sector engineering governance
- Legacy procedural law → Constitutionally compliant administration
- Informal exemption routes → Exam-based professional assurance

Bottom line

The 2026 draft Regulations are not incremental amendments—they are a substantive overhaul that:

- Raises the professional threshold for certificated engineers
- Strengthens governance, fairness, and transparency
- Aligns the system with modern OHS enforcement, DHET oversight, and ECSA participation
- Removes historical exemptions and informal pathways

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

NO. R. 7353 10 April 2026

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT (ACT NO. 85 OF 1993)

DRAFT REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY: 2026

INVITATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DRAFT REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY ,2026

I, Nomakhosana Meth, Minister of Employment and Labour, hereby give notice that, I, intend in terms of section 43 (1) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, (no. 85 of 1993) give an approval to receive public comment on the schedule of these Regulations.

The electronic copy of the draft Regulations Concerning the Certificate of Competency is available on the website at www.labour.gov.za.

Affected and interested parties or persons are invited to submit comments on the draft regulations in writing (Annexure 1) within 90 days from the date of the publication of this notice.

All representations and comments must be sent to the Director-General of the Department of Employment and Labour:

• By hand: The Department of Employment and Labour, Laboria House 215 Francis Baard Street, Pretoria CBD, 0001

• By post: The Director-General
The Department of Employment and Labour - Attention: Matlala Sathekge/Mphakanyana Moloto
Private Bag X117, Pretoria, 0001

• By mail: DraftComments.GCC@LABOUR.gov.za

Proposed representations and comments format for DRAFT Regulations Concerning the Certificate of Competency as proposed.

1. Contact Details of the person or an organization submitting a comment:

Name and Surname			Phone Number			
Company Name			Email			
Mark with an X						
Government	Affected Party	Users	Interested Party	Local Authority	Manufacturer	Supplier
Importer	Other		Indicate the sector:			

2. Representation or comment:

No.	Regulation	Sub regulation	Comment	Proposal	Motivation	Does this proposal affect other Regulation (s) If yes which one(s)	How ?
e.g.,							

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

Government Notice. R xxx xxxx 2026

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, 1993 (ACT NO. 85 OF 1993)

Draft Regulations Concerning the Certificate of Competency: 2026

The Minister of Employment and Labour, under section 43 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993), made the regulations contained in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

In these regulations, "the Act" means Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993), and unless the context otherwise indicates any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have the meaning so assigned, and -

"certificate of competency" or "certificate" means a certificate of competency as a mechanical or an electrical engineer, as the case may be, issued in terms of regulation 2(1);

"Commission of Examiners" or "Commission" means the commission established in terms of regulation 5(1);

2. Issue of certificates

(1) Certificates of competency shall be issued by the chief inspector in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission of Examiners.

(2) A person to whom a certificate of competency has been issued in terms of subregulation (1) shall be deemed to be a certificated engineer as contemplated in regulation 1 of the General Machinery Regulations promulgated by Government Notice R. 6352 of 22 August 2025.

(3) Any person wishing to obtain a certificate of competency shall apply therefor to the Commission of Examiners.

(4) The Commission of Examiners shall not recommend the issuing of a certificate of competency unless the candidate has passed the qualifying examination based on knowledge of the design, assembly, erection, operation and maintenance of machinery, apparatus and installations, and of the Act and regulations promulgated thereunder.

(5) A certificate of competency as mechanical engineer shall be in the form of Annexure 1 and a certificate of competency as electrical engineer shall be in the form of Annexure 2.

(6) Any certificate issued in terms of subregulation (1) on which anyone other than the chief inspector has made any amendment or erasure shall be rendered null and void.

3. Suspension or cancellation of certificates

(1) If the chief inspector at any time, by virtue of information submitted to him/her by anyone, and after investigation having afforded the holder of the certificate a reasonable opportunity to state their case, is of the opinion that the holder of a certificate of competency was guilty of gross negligence or misconduct in the execution of the duties of the holder of such certificate, the chief inspector may as he/she may deem fit-

(a) suspend or cancel such certificate or
(b) refer the matter to the Commission of Examiners for investigation and on the recommendation of the Commission suspend or cancel such certificate.

(2) The chief inspector shall forthwith advise the holder of a certificate of competency of the chief inspector's decision in terms of subregulation (1).

(3) A suspended or cancelled certificate shall be returned by the holder thereof to the chief inspector within one month of the date upon which the chief inspector advised the holder of the suspension or cancellation thereof.

4. Substitution of lost, damaged or destroyed certificates

(1) If a certificate issued in terms of regulation 2(1) has been lost, damaged or destroyed, the person to whom the certificate had been issued may apply to the chief inspector for a duplicate certificate.

(2) Every application in terms of subregulation (1) shall be accompanied by proof of payment of an amount determined by the chief inspector

(3) After proof that a certificate has been lost, damaged or destroyed has been submitted, in the affidavit form, to the satisfaction of the chief inspector, a duplicate certificate shall be issued.

(4) The chief inspector shall ensure that the words 'duplicate' appear on every duplicate certificate issued in terms of subregulation (3).

5. Commission of examiners

(1) The chief inspector shall appoint a Commission of Examiners.

(2) A member of the Commission of Examiners shall be appointed for the period laid down by the chief inspector on his/her appointment and a member whose term of office has expired may be reappointed.

(3) The chief inspector may on reasonable grounds discharge any member of the Commission after following due process.

(4) The functions of the Commission of Examiners are -

(a) to evaluate a candidate's suitability for a certificate of competency as contemplated in regulation 2(4);
(b) to make recommendations to the chief inspector regarding the matters referred to in regulation 3(1);
(c) to set and moderate the examination papers contemplated in regulation 6
(d) to make recommendations to the chief inspector regarding the curricula referred to in subregulation (9) for the qualifying examinations;
(e) to report to the chief inspector on its activities; and
(f) to perform the other functions which are prescribed.

(5) The Commission of Examiners shall be constituted as follows:

(a) Two officers from the department holding a certificate of competency as mechanical or electrical engineers designated by the chief inspector;
(b) at least one person holding a certificate of competency as mechanical engineer or electrical engineer issued under the Mine Health and Safety Act 29 of 1996;
(c) at least three persons holding certificates of competency as electrical engineers issued in terms of these regulations
(d) at least three persons holding certificates of competency as mechanical engineers issued in terms of these regulations
(e) at least one person holding a certificate of competency as mechanical or electrical engineer in terms of these regulations nominated by the Engineering Council of South Africa.

(6) A meeting of the Commission of Examiners shall be held at a time and place fixed by the chief inspector.

(7) A meeting of the Commission of Examiners shall take place under the chairpersonship of one of the members of the Commission appointed for that purpose by the chief inspector.

(8)(a) A quorum of the Commission of Examiners shall consist of the chairperson and four members.
(b) In the event of a difference of opinion arising in respect of any matter before the Commission, it shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members of the Commission present at such meeting: Provided that if there is a tie of votes, the chairperson has a casting as well as an ordinary vote.

(9) An officer of the Department, designated by the chief inspector, shall serve as secretary to the Commission of Examiners and keep minutes of the proceedings of the Commission.

(10) Directives for the guidance of the Commission of Examiners, rules regarding the acceptance for the qualifying examinations and the curricula for such examinations shall be drawn up and, if necessary, amended by the chief inspector and published on the Department of Employment and Labour 's official communication platforms.

(11) (a) A candidate may appeal to the chief inspector against any decision of the Commission of Examiners.
(b) Any person who wishes to appeal to the chief inspector in terms of paragraph (a) shall lodge such appeal in writing with the chief inspector within 60 calendar days after the decision of the Commission of Examiners against which the appeal is being lodged.
(c) In an appeal in terms of paragraph (a) the grounds of appeal shall be set out clearly and in full, together with any representations which the appellant wishes to lodge as to why the chief inspector should set aside or amend the decision of the Commission of Examiners.
(d) The chief inspector shall after consultation with the Commission of Examiners confirm, set aside or amend the decision, or substitute for it such other decision as the Commission of Examiners, in the opinion of the chief inspector should have made.
(e) The decision of the chief inspector in such an appeal is final.

6 Qualifying examination

(1)The qualifying examination will be administered by the Department of Higher Education and Training at dates set by that Department, and at venues mutually agreed upon with the Department of Employment and Labour.

(2) The rules for the conducting of qualifying examinations shall be determined by the Department of Higher Education and Training.

(3) The qualifying examination shall be conducted in respect of the following two subjects:

(a) Plant engineering; and
(b) the Act and regulations issued thereunder or deemed to have been issued thereunder:

(4) No person may lodge with the Department of Higher Education and Training an application to be examined in the qualifying subjects unless he/she has been accepted as a candidate by the Commission of Examiners.

(5) Any person who wishes to enter for the qualifying examination shall do so through the Department of Higher Education and Training to which the examination fees, as fixed by that Department from time to time, shall be paid.

(7) Acceptance as candidate

(1) A person who applies in terms of regulation 2(3) to be accepted as a candidate for the qualifying examination shall not be accepted as a candidate unless he/she has provided satisfactory proof to the Commission of Examiners-

(a) that he/she is at least 25 years of age; and
(b) that he/she has the required practical experience and academic requirement, as provided for in the rules drafted under regulation 5(10).

(2) Every application for acceptance as a candidate in terms of regulation 2. (3) shall be accompanied by proof of payment of the fee determined by the chief inspector.

8. Repeal of Regulation

The regulations published by Government Notice No. R.533 of 16 March 1990 as amended shall be repealed as soon as the new set of Regulations Concerning Certificate of Competency are promulgated.

9. Short title

These regulations shall be called the draft Regulations concerning the Certificate of Competency, 2026.

Annexure 1

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR MECHANICAL

ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY

(Issued in accordance with the provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993, and the Regulations framed thereunder)

This is to certify that
....
having passed the prescribed examinations and having been recommended by the Commission of Examiners, is qualified in accordance with the Regulations concerning certificate of competency 2(1) framed under the above Act, as a Certificated Engineer.
....
Chief Inspector
Date .... 20xx......

Annexure 2

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR ELECTRICAL

ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY

(Issued in accordance with the provisions of the Machinery and Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993, and the Regulations framed thereunder)

This is to certify that
....

having passed the prescribed examinations and having been recommended by the Commission of Examiners, is qualified in accordance with the Regulations concerning certificate of competency 2(1) framed under the above Act, as a Certificated Engineer.

....   Chief Inspector   Date ....20xx....
LINK TO FULL NOTICE   **Occupational Health and Safety Act: Regulations: Certificate of Competency, 2026 and draft Regulations Concerning the Certificate of Competency, 2026: Comments invited**   G 54468 RG 11981 GoN 7353   - Comment by 25 Jun 2026   10 April 2026   54468rg11981gon7353.pdf
ACTION   Ensure that you submit your comments before 25 June 2026.

END

LABOUR

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

LABOUR RELATIONS ACT: AMENDMENT

G 54470 GoN 7355

10 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

- The Oyster Box Hotel
- The Bargaining Council for the Hairdressing, Cosmetology, Beauty and Skincare Industry

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

NO. 7355 **10 April 2026**

NOTICE IN TERMS OF SECTION 62 (7) OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT 66 OF 1995 AS AMENDED (THE LRA)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT: -

1. THE OYSTER BOX HOTEL has applied to the CCMA in terms of section 62(1) of the Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995 as amended (the LRA) for a demarcation order to the effect that the activities of the applicant do not fall within the registered scope and jurisdiction of the Bargaining Council for the HAIRDRESSING, COSMETOLOGY, BEAUTY and SKINCARE INDUSTRY (the respondent).
2. The applicant's business is involved in the hospitality industry.
3. The respondent has served a compliance order on the applicant, necessitating this application for demarcation in terms of which the applicant shall argue that its activities and scope do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Bargaining Council.
4. The CCMA believes that the question raised by this demarcation application is potentially of substantial importance. Of relevance is the fact that the applicant believes there are other similar businesses that perform the same activities as it and which have not had compliance orders served on it by the respondent.
5. It is therefore apparent that there may be other businesses or entities that could potentially be affected by the outcome of this application. Such entities should have the right to make representations to the CCMA.
6. Written representations may be made within 21 calendar days of the date of publication of this notice, and should be clearly marked with reference number KNDB9848-25 and directed to: -

Contact: **Ms Kirsty Payne**
Email: KirstyP@ccma.org.za
Hand delivery: 3rd Floor, Aqua Sky Towers, 275 Anton Lembede Street, CBD, Durban

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

Labour Relations Act: Amendment
G 54470 GoN 7355
10 April 2026

54470gon7355.pdf

END

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

LABOUR RELATIONS ACT: AMENDMENT

G 54470 GoN 7356

10 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

- Grand Palace (Pty) Ltd T/A Sala Beach Hotel
- Hairdressing, Cosmetology, Beauty And Skincare Industry

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

NO. 7356 **10 April 2026**

NOTICE IN TERMS OF SECTION 62 (7) OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT 66 OF 1995 AS AMENDED (THE LRA)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT: -

1. GRAND PALACE (PTY) LTD t/a SALA BEACH HOTEL has applied to the CCMA in terms of section 62(1) of the Labour
Relations Act 66 of 1995 as amended (the LRA) for a demarcation order to the effect that the activities of the applicant do not fall within the registered scope and jurisdiction of the Bargaining Council for the HAIRDRESSING, COSMETOLOGY, BEAUTY and SKINCARE INDUSTRY (the respondent).
2. The applicant's business is involved in the hospitality industry.
3. The respondent has served a compliance order on the applicant, necessitating this application for demarcation in terms of which the applicant shall argue that its activities and scope do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Bargaining Council.
4. The CCMA believes that the question raised by this demarcation application is potentially of substantial importance. Of relevance is the fact that the applicant believes there are other similar businesses that perform the same activities as it and which have not had compliance orders served on it by the respondent.
5. It is therefore apparent that there may be other businesses or entities that could potentially be affected by the outcome of this application. Such entities should have the right to make representations to the CCMA.
6. Written representations may be made within 21 calendar days of the date of publication of this notice, and should be clearly marked with reference number KNDB14033-25 and directed to: -

Contact: **Ms Kirsty Payne**
Email: KirstyP@ccma.org.za
Hand delivery: 3rd Floor, Aqua Sky Towers, 275 Anton Lembede Street, CBD, Durban

LINK TO FULL NOTICE **Labour Relations Act: Amendment** G 54470 GoN 7356 10 April 2026 54470gon7356.pdf

END

MINING

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES IN MINES AND WORKS ACT:

Removal from register Controlled Mines and Controlled Works: Eedeswold Quarry

G 54470 GoN 7358

10 April 2026

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO. 7358 10 April 2026

REQUEST THE MINISTER TO APPROVE THE DECLARATION OF CESSATION OF CONTROL FOR MINES AND WORKS IN TERMS OF SECTION 11 OF THE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES IN MINES AND WORKS ACT, 78 OF 1973

ANNEXURE A

REMOVAL FROM REGISTER CONTROLLED MINES AND CONTROLLED WORKS

I, Dr PA Motsoaledi, Minister of Health, hereby in terms of section 11 of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act, 1973 (Act No. 78 of 1973), hereby declare that the following mine shall cease to be a controlled mine with effect from 1 December 2025:

a) The quarry known as **Eedeswold Quarry** on Subdivision 9 of the farm Eedeswold 5129, near Port Shepstone in the province of KwaZulu-Natal

DR PA MOTSOALEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH
DATE: 27/3/2026

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

[Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act: Removal from register Controlled Mines and Controlled Works: Eedeswold Quarry]
G 54470 GoN 7358
10 April 2026

54470gon7358.pdf

TRANSPORTATION

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE

NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORT ACT:

Western Cape Provincial Regulatory Entity: Notice of intention to review and amend Conditions imposed on Operating Licences

G 54466 GeN 3873

08 April 2026

APPLIES TO:

Any organisation that operates licensed passenger transport services in or through the Western Cape.

FULL TEXT

DETAILS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

NOTICE 3873 OF 2026

WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL REGULATORY ENTITY

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REVIEW AND AMEND CONDITIONS IMPOSED ON OPERATING LICENCES IN TERMS OF SECTION 57(5) OF THE NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORT ACT (NO.5 OF 2009)(AS AMENDED).

1. The Western Cape Provincial Regulatory Entity ("PRE") was established in terms of section 23 of the National Land Transport Act (Act no.5 of 2009) and has a number of statutory functions:

• To monitor and oversee public transport in the province;
• To receive and decide on applications relating to operating licences for intraprovincial public transport services. The PRE is also currently performing the functions of the National Public Transport Regulator ("NPTR") in terms of regulations 46 and 47 of the National Land Transport Regulations (2009)(as amended) insofar as interprovincial transport services are concerned;
• Obtain and keep up to date the prescribed information on the particulars of associations operating in the province, their members, vehicles and routes as well as information on non-members;

• To invite comments and complaints from interested parties, including the general public, and take appropriate action in response thereto; and
• Advise the MEC on the treatment of all passengers using public transport, including targeted categories of passengers.

2. In performing these statutory duties, the PRE exercises independent discretion. An entity granting an application for an operating licence as well as the renewal, amendment or transfer thereof may do so subject to any conditions determined by it, that are not inconsistent with the Act or with relevant provincial laws or transport plans and must do so where such conditions have been stipulated by the planning authority based on its Integrated Transport Plan.

3. While it is the sole purview of the PRE to impose conditions, the PRE wants to encourage, promote and facilitate public and stakeholder consultation and participation in this process given the importance of these service conditions to ensure a safe and dignified environment for passengers and other road users.

4. The operating licence conditions are reviewed and ameliorated by the PRE at regular intervals to promote safety in public transport. The last comprehensive review was done by the PRE during October/November 2023 and resulted in a generic set of operating licence conditions as well as standard municipal conditions being developed and imposed on all operating licences.

5. It is common cause that most operating licences issued by the Western Cape PRE confers authority to provide both local and long-distance services. This effectively means that the authorised services cut across municipal and provincial boundaries. Consequently, the conditions imposed on such licences will be used by various municipal and provincial law enforcement agencies.

6. The conditions imposed on operating licences should be explicit/unambiguous, relatively straightforward to interpret and allow for the rational exercise of discretion by authorised officers. Moreover, there should be a consolidated/uniform view within government on the intention of these conditions.

7. The objective of the review process is to analyse the practicality and enforceability of each condition, to develop conditions that can respond to the changing environment/dynamics within the public transport environment and most importantly to improve safety within this environment.

MARK SKRIKER
CHAIRPERSON – WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL REGULATORY ENTITY
Date: 2 April 2026

LINK TO FULL NOTICE

National Land Transport Act: Western Cape Provincial Regulatory Entity: Notice of intention to review and amend Conditions imposed on Operating Licences
G 54466 GeN 3873
08 April 2026

54466gen3873.pdf

ACTION

- ✓ Appoint accountable owner
- ✓ Map affected licences
- ✓ Review current conditions
- ✓ Assess compliance risk
- ✓ Engage associations
- ✓ Submit representations
- ✓ Monitor PRE updates
- ✓ Prepare operationally
- ✓ Update governance records
- ✓ Implement final conditions

END

LAW AND TYPE OF NOTICE ROAD CARRIER PERMITS
LINK TO FULL NOTICE Road Carrier Permits 54463 10-4-2026

END

AGRICULTURAL ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

SA citrus exports to China get boost as cold treatment rules ease

Agriculture minister John Steenhuisen has welcomed the successful amendment of the cold treatment requirements regulating the export of South African citrus to China.

Steenhuisen described the amendment as a big step forward in expanding trade opportunities and deepening an already strong partnership.

The key changes mainly relate to relaxation of temperature and duration of cold sterilisation, especially for lemons.

Before the amendment, cold treatment was to be at −0.6°C or below and maintained for no less than 24 days. The new protocol requires that cold treatment must be 3°C or below and maintained for not less than 18 consecutive days.

Steenhuisen said the new treatment options are expected to improve export efficiencies, reduce costs for producers and exporters and ensure that even higher-quality fruit reaches Chinese consumers.

He said this will help South African citrus continue to grow its presence in a market that is both dynamic and increasingly important to South Africa's agricultural sector.

"These agreements are the result of trust, respect and sustained co-operation, and they are helping open doors for our producers at a time when diversification has never been more important," Steenhuisen said.

The agriculture department said China was one of South Africa's most valued agricultural trading partners.

In 2025, exports of citrus to China and Hong Kong accounted for about 11.5-million cartons, representing about 6% of total citrus exports, with clear potential for further growth as demand continues to expand.

The department said the citrus industry remains a cornerstone of South Africa's agricultural performance. In 2025, Southern Africa exported about 204-million cartons of citrus, with South Africa contributing about 193-million cartons. Export earnings exceeded $2bn for the first time, reaching an estimated $2.47bn.

The sector supported about 140,000 direct jobs at farm and packhouse level, with broader employment across logistics, export services and international distribution.

This latest progress builds on a series of important trade gains, including the recent opening of the Chinese market to South African stone fruit; apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums and prunes.

Steenhuisen said the government will continue working closely with industry stakeholders, including the Citrus Growers' Association of Southern Africa, to strengthen trade relationships, uphold phytosanitary standards and support the long-term growth of the sector.

"This is the kind of progress we are working to replicate across the sector — strong partnerships, growing markets and real opportunities flowing back to farmers and rural communities," Steenhuisen said.

TimesLIVE

DATA BREACH ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

Information Regulator to probe Standard Bank over data breach

Standard Bank warned that affected clients are at risk of impersonation and phishing scams.

As the number of data breaches in the country grows, the Information Regulator has raised concerns and demanded greater transparency from Standard Bank regarding a data breach involving unauthorised access to client personal information.

This comes after Standard Bank identified unauthorised access to select client data in March 2026, impacting information such as names, ID numbers and company registration numbers.

Banking systems

Standard Bank said banking systems were not compromised, but warned that affected clients are at risk of impersonation and phishing scams.

While Standard Bank said it is actively investigating, notifying impacted customers directly, and increasing security monitoring, the IR wants answers.

Assessment

Advocate Tshepo Boikanyo, Executive: Protection of Personal Information (POPIA) at the IR, said they will be assessing the Standard Bank data breach.

“In this instance, we’ll be looking at the access controls measures that Standard Bank has, we’ll be looking at whether Standard Bank uses strong user authentication, we’ll be looking at their encryption, and whether they encrypt their personal information.

“We’ll be looking at their network system, security, we’ll be looking at their firewall and their intrusion detection system, and we were looking at their monitoring and logging,” Boikanyo told eNCA.

Security measures

Boikanyo said as part of their investigation, the IR will also probe whether Standard Bank has adequately and effectively protected customers’ information by having adequate measures in place, whether they are effective, the bank properly identified and mitigated against any foreseeable risks to the personal information that it is processing, and whether there are any weaknesses or in the controls and the system monitoring.

“Standard Bank has said to us that it is still conducting its own investigation. Standard Bank has not really come to a determination of how widespread this particular problem is, in other words, how many data subjects have been impacted.

"Standard Bank, as the responsible party, is going to conduct its own assessment, but we are also going to conduct a parallel process. We are also conducting our own fact finding over the view of to determine whether we are going to go the route of a formal investigation," Boikanyo said.

SA global hotspot for data breaches

Last year, The Citizen reported that South Africa continued to be a target of cybercriminals, ranking 27th globally among the most breached countries in the second quarter of 2025, highlighting persistent cybersecurity gaps.

The report by Surfshark revealed that, so far in 2025, a total of 369 600 accounts were leaked in the country.

Surfshark's report indicates that more than 21 000 South African accounts were breached between April and June, which translates to approximately three per 100 000 people.

In total, South Africa has had 124.2 million personal records exposed since 2004. On average, each email is breached with 2.9 additional data points.

By Faizel Patel
The Citizen

ENERGY AND PETROLEUM ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

Middle East company set to buy 600 South African petrol stations for R16.3 billion

Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) is reportedly in advanced talks with Shell to sell its retail fuel stations in South Africa.

Citing people with knowledge of the matter, Bloomberg reported that ADNOC has emerged as the preferred bidder.

This, after Shell's talks with Gunvor Group—one of the world's biggest independent oil traders—fell through.

The people who asked not to be identified as the discussions are private. However, they told Bloomberg that an agreement could be reached as early as this quarter.

Acquiring Shell's 600 retail fuel outlets will give ADNOC about 10% of the market in Africa's biggest economy.

The deal is likely to be valued at about $1 billion (R16.3 billion). The sale process started in 2024 and has advanced despite the conflict in the Middle East.

An ADNOC unit also told Bloomberg that the company continually reviews opportunities for growth and declined to comment further. Shell declined to comment.

While Shell declined to comment, it did confirm to BusinessTech in March that it is still in the process of selling those assets.

"Shell Downstream South Africa (SDSA) confirms that the divestment process remains underway," they said.

"As a matter of policy and principle, we do not disclose information related to confidential commercial processes."

If the sale is ever concluded, it would mark the end of well over a century of Shell petrol stations operating in South Africa.

In 1902, Shell opened its doors in South Africa. Back then, the company supplied oil to bring light and heat to the homes in the country.

Today, Shell has grown from being an oil company to being an energy and petrochemical giant.

The Outlier reported that Shell owns about 40,000 fuel service stations worldwide, half of which are in the Americas.

There are 591 retail outlets in South Africa, the thirteenth-most among the 61 countries where the petroleum giant has a presence.

Shell's departure will have little impact

Its refinery in Durban has been inactive since the end of March 2022, when it was decided to suspend operations and spending. A month later, floods severely damaged the plant.

South Africa is not unique. Shell's divestment from the country is part of a comprehensive review of its global operations.

Shell has sold downstream assets in Australia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Kenya, and Namibia.

The company has also been scaling down activity in Malaysia, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Colombia.

Following the announcement of their exit, Peter Morgan, CEO of the Liquid Fuels Wholesalers Association of South Africa, said that he believes Shell's departure will have little impact on the domestic fuel industry.

The expert expects that Shell will likely leave behind a smaller sub-brand in the country called Viva Energy and retain a minor stake in the fuel franchise while finding an outside investor to take on majority ownership.

Malcolm Libera
BusinessTech

Airlines resort to surcharges as they feel supply chain pressure

Airline Association of Southern Africa CEO Aaron Munetsi says South Africa's aviation sector is facing mounting pressure, with domestic airlines introducing fuel surcharges as operators move to offset rising costs.

The sector continues to be affected by a global aerospace supply chain crunch, now in its sixth year, which has limited the availability of new aircraft and parts.

"Aircraft and engine makers are still struggling to return to pre-Covid production levels," he told BDTV, adding that this has forced many airlines, particularly in Africa, to keep older, less fuel efficient aircraft in service for longer than planned.

Africa remains a marginal player in global aviation, accounting for just more than 2% of activity despite its large population.

"Our contribution as a continent to global aviation is about 2.2%," Munetsi said, noting that structural constraints, including fragmented markets and limited access to modern aircraft, continue to hinder growth.

Privately owned airlines in South Africa have shown a stronger performance.

"Privately owned airlines are performing very well; they have been able to be agile and move fast enough to confirm orders for new aircraft."

By contrast, many state-owned carriers on the continent are under strain. Of 52 national airlines in Africa, only a handful are fully operational and just one — Ethiopian Airlines — is financially sustainable. He attributed this to government interference in airline operations.

Weak growth

“An airline is a business like any other. If the aircraft is on the ground, you are losing valuable time, which should be used to generate income.”

Munetsi also linked aviation performance to broader economic conditions, stating that weak growth and low disposable income in parts of the continent suppress demand for air travel.

Sector faces immediate fuel supply risks due to geopolitical tension, particularly in the Middle East. “We do not have security of supply of Jet A-1 fuel,” he said, adding that disruptions to key supply routes have reduced the volume of fuel reaching Africa. “We are now exposed.”

Munetsi said the priority for airlines is to secure reliable access to conventional jet fuel to maintain operations. While there is a longer-term shift towards sustainable aviation fuel, current conditions make that transition difficult.

“We cannot move towards sustainable aviation fuel if we cannot sustain the supply of ordinary fuel now.”

By Tara Roos
BusinessDay

Vitol unit to invest $130m for South Africa fuel storage expansion

Vivo Energy to add 125,000 cubic metres of storage in Durban

Vivo Energy, a subsidiary of global trader Vitol, is investing around $130 million to bulk up its fuel storage capacity in South Africa's major port city Durban along the east coast, a senior company executive said on Tuesday.

The investment, planned before the US-Israeli war with Iran upended global energy markets and choked off the Strait of Hormuz transit route, could help South Africa better weather future supply crises, said George Roberts, chief executive officer of Vivo Energy's local unit Engen.

Southern and East African countries including South Africa, which is a net importer of crude and refined petroleum products, are vulnerable to Middle East supply disruptions, analysts said, a problem exacerbated by inadequate infrastructure and storage capacity

Roberts told *Reuters* the company was adding approximately 125,000 cubic metres storage capacity in Durban to increase its overall storage capacity in the area to 500,000 cubic metres, expecting it to come on stream from the third quarter of 2026 through to Q3 2027 and help act as a future buffer to unexpected supply shocks such as those emanating from the Middle East.

"This will allow you to increase the stock levels in-country and therefore if something like this happens again, it gives us more time to go and find product elsewhere to bring to South Africa given it takes on average 20, 25 days to ship product to South Africa depending on where it comes from," he said.

The additional capacity derives from converting old refinery tanks in Durban, and upgrading another receiving facility at Island View, part of ongoing efforts by Vivo Energy to convert the fire-damaged Engen refinery into a storage terminal for a range of products, including diesel, petrol and jet fuel.

Vivo Energy, which markets Shell - except in South Africa - and Engen brands, is a leading African fuel retailer with more than 4,000 service stations across the continent. The company is currently investing in LPG and refined petroleum storage facilities in Ivory Coast, Senegal and Morocco, said Roberts.

"Besides Uganda we have invested in our depot assets in Tanzania and Mozambique in recent years and if the right opportunity comes up in those countries, we could invest more," Roberts said.

(Reporting by Wendell Roelf, editing by Alexandra Hudson)

FINANCE ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

Leaving SA may not end your tax bill

South Africans are making what can only be termed a “silent exit”, a trend of relocating overseas while inadvertently retaining tax liabilities in South Africa.

For many, the assumption that physical emigration automatically severs tax obligations is proving not just incorrect, but also financially punishing. The consequences often surface only when expatriates receive unwelcome assessments from the South African Revenue Service (Sars).

South Africa's tax system operates on a residency-based model. As a result, if Sars deems you a South African tax resident, you are liable for tax on your worldwide income, regardless of where you currently live or earn. Just leaving the country does not automatically terminate that status.

According to John-Paul Fraser and Vivian Cox, of Tax Consulting South Africa, it requires a formal application not only to cease residency but also to provide supporting evidence to Sars. Those who neglect this process may find themselves unwittingly exposed to tax obligations.

Sars is shifting gears, moving from passive enforcement to a data-driven approach focused on risk profiling. With the rollout of the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) provisions, Sars will now share data with over 100 countries, gaining access to an extensive collection of information about taxpayers' offshore activities. In a document released on February 16, Sars confirmed its commitment to this global data-sharing initiative, utilising frameworks like the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) and the USA's Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).

Under these regulations, foreign financial institutions are required to report on account balances and earnings to their local tax authorities, which subsequently exchange this information with Sars. If a South African tax number or identity is linked to these accounts, Sars can effectively identify undeclared income or discrepancies in one's non-residency claims.

In essence, the potential indicators of tax liability for expatriates include:

- Offshore bank accounts and investment portfolios reported through AEOI.
- Establishments such as trusts and foundations as identified through ownership reporting. Ongoing South African banking relationships and activities. Local property ownership along with rental income.

Equity interests including shareholdings and directorships. Insurance policies and vehicle registrations. Extravagant lifestyles that contradict reported income and residency status.

When evaluated collectively, these data points paint a clear picture for Sars and increase awareness regarding the importance of full tax compliance.

Despite an estimated one million South Africans moving abroad over the last decade, the reality of tax compliance tells a starkly different story.

The 2025 Tax Statistics bulletin from Sars shows that only about 51,500 individuals formally declared the cessation of their South African tax residency between 2017 and 2024.

This disparity highlights the glaring gap between those physically leaving the country and those taking the formal steps required to sever tax residency. This oversight appears particularly prevalent among high-earning professionals and business owners, whose capabilities for earning globally simplify the process of relocation. Furthermore, reports indicate a 20% decline in South Africa's millionaire population within the past decade, underscoring that wealth is migrating faster than people.

For expatriates, the ramifications of failing to properly declare non-residency can be severe. Once SARS detects inconsistency regarding residency status, it may re-evaluate prior tax years, leading to repercussions that include:

- Tax liabilities on previously undisclosed foreign income.
- Compounded interest over several years.
- Punitive penalties for Extended periods of scrutiny due to alleged non-disclosure.
- Potential escalation to criminal investigations in extreme cases. While complex offshore structures may provide flexibility, they can also attract intensified examination, further complicating compliance efforts.

Ceasing South African tax residency is not merely a procedural requirement; it is a strategic imperative. When executed effectively, it aligns Sars records with reality and triggers the necessary exit tax treatments at an appropriate time. Conversely, neglecting this process can leave expatriates vulnerable to back taxes when offshore income and asset values increase markedly.

In today's regulatory landscape, ignorance is not bliss. SARS's reach now extends far beyond South African borders, and those wielding greater wealth face intensified scrutiny. Thus, the pressing question for high-net-worth expatriates is: will your financial position hold up under scrutiny? A well-documented, careful approach, particularly with guidance from cross-border tax specialists, is essential to ensure compliance and protect wealth from uncertain future repercussions.

Leaving quietly may cost you heavily. It is time to take control of your tax situation now. understatements.

The Independent

STANDARDS ARTICLES

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa clamping down on cheap Chinese imports – with a list of the products targeted

South Africa is clamping down on imported goods from China to protect consumers from unsafe and poor-quality products flooding the local market.

Last month, the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition gazetted a new directive under the Standards Act of 2008.

The directive introduced a mandatory Pre-Export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) programme.

The system will require certain goods shipped from China to be tested and certified before they enter the South African market.

Under the new rules, importers must obtain a Certificate of Conformity (CoC) that confirms their products meet South African National Standards for quality and safety.

The South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) will oversee the assessment process, while customs and border authorities will enforce compliance using existing legal frameworks.

The PVoC programme is specifically targeted at unregulated goods—products that are not currently subject to compulsory specifications or formal regulatory oversight.

In its first phase, the programme will apply only to these categories in order to close the gap that has allowed substandard goods to enter the country.

The department said the move is necessary to address the growing influx of unsafe products reaching South African consumers.

These include electrical appliances that can catch fire, toys that contain harmful chemicals, phone chargers that overheat or explode, and poorly manufactured furniture that fails prematurely.

By requiring verification before shipment, the programme seeks to intercept non-compliant goods before they arrive in the country, reducing risks to public safety.

The directive establishing the programme was published in the Government Gazette on 20 March 2026 and will come into effect around the end of September 2026.

Until then, a six-month transitional period will give businesses time to adjust their supply chains and compliance processes.

During this phase, the SABS said it would conduct risk-based and random inspections, verification exercises, and compliance checks to test systems and ensure operational readiness.

The types of products being targeted

The agency will also engage with stakeholders and run awareness initiatives to help both importers and exporters understand the new requirements.

A wide range of product categories has already been flagged for inspection and testing due to their potential impact on consumer health and safety.

Cosmetics and skincare products, including skin-lightening creams and hair relaxers, will be prioritised for laboratory testing to detect harmful substances such as mercury and hydroquinone.

Hygiene products like sanitary pads and baby diapers will also be assessed for absorbency and potential biological or toxicological risks.

Household items are another key focus area. Mattresses and foam products will be tested for flammability and emissions, while furniture such as bunk beds and office chairs will be evaluated for structural integrity to prevent accidents.

The programme also targets higher-risk technical and industrial goods. LPG accessories, including hoses and regulators, are classified as very high risk and will undergo intensive testing for leaks, pressure resistance and durability.

Building materials, such as solar panels, insulation, and underfloor membranes, and public safety products, such as pool covers, will be assessed to ensure they function properly in emergencies.

Despite the initial focus on China, the SABS stressed that the programme is not intended to single out any one country.

China has been chosen for the pilot phase because it is South Africa's largest import partner and a major source of consumer goods, including many high-risk items.

Over time, the PVoC programme is expected to expand to other countries in a non-discriminatory manner, in line with international trade rules.

A full list of the initial products being targeted by the programme for inspection and testing can be viewed below.

PVoC- LIST OF HIGH RISKS UNREGULATED PRODUCTS

Malcolm Libera
BusinessTech

END