Media Alert





15 FEBRUARY 2024

MEDIA ALERT: STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON THE UPSTREAM PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT BILL IN CAPE TOWN

The Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism will conduct a public hearing on the Upstream Petroleum Resources Development Bill [B 13B – 2021], tomorrow, 16 February, at 17:00 in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament Chamber, 6th Floor, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town.

The purpose of the bill is to provide for the orderly development of petroleum resources; to provide for equitable access to and sustainable development of the nation's petroleum resources; to provide for active state and black persons' participation in the development of the nation's petroleum resources; to provide for a petroleum right that integrates the right to explore and to produce; to provide for the facilitation of the acquisition of petroleum geotechnical data; to provide for a controlled application system through licensing rounds; to create an enabling environment for the acceleration of exploration and production of the nation's petroleum resources; to provide for third-party access to upstream petroleum infrastructure; to provide for a petroleum right holder to sell a percentage of petroleum to the state for strategic stock requirements; to designate a state-owned company as an entity responsible for managing the state's carried interest in petroleum rights; to provide for the advancement of national developmental imperatives by the state-owned company through the development of petroleum resources; to provide for the holder of a petroleum right to retain its empowerment status after the exit of black persons under circumscribed circumstances; to provide for local content as a development strategy to enable skills development, local recruitment and national participation through the supply of goods and services; to designate the Petroleum Agency of South Africa as the regulatory authority for the upstream petroleum sector; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

Interested persons and organisations are invited to submit written or oral comments on the bill via email (zadams@wcpp.gov.za) or WhatsApp voice notes and messages (Cell number: 072 993 4631). Please include your full name and email address and/or contact number, when submitting comments to the Committee. Submissions must be addressed to the Procedural Officer, Ms Zaheedah Adams. Requests to make verbal presentations at the public hearing must be submitted to the Procedural Officer at least one day before the scheduled public hearing. If you are attending the public hearing at the Cape Town venue, please bring along proof of identification. The deadline for written submissions is 14:00 on Friday 16 February 2024.

A copy of the bill can be downloaded from the WCPP website at:

https://www.wcpp.gov.za/sites/default/files/B13B-2021-upstream-2023.pdf

Attached voice clip: Hon Cayla Murray, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism

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