
GOVERNMENT NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS AND ENERGY

No. 962

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NATIONAL ENERGY REGULATOR

NOTICE

Rules in terms of Petroleum Pipelines Act, 2003 (Act no. 60 of 2003)

In terms of section 33(3) (j) of the Petroleum Pipelines Act, 2003 (Act no. 60 of 2003), the National Energy Regulator (NERSA) has prepared Rules which will affect inspections falling under this Act. The document, "**Petroleum Pipelines Act Rules, Part Two: Inspections 2006**", which contains these Rules is hereby promulgated. Electronic copies of the document may be downloaded from www.nersa.org.za/

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Chief Executive Officer

PETROLEUM PIPELINES ACT, 2003 (ACT No. 60 of 2003)**RULES MADE BY THE NATIONAL ENERGY REGULATOR (NERSA) IN
TERMS OF SECTION 33(3) OF THE ACT****PART TWO: ~~Entry~~, inspection and gathering of information by the Energy
Regulator****EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

The provisions of Section 33(3)(j) of the Petroleum Pipelines Act, 2003 (Act No. 60 of 2003) authorise the Energy Regulator to make Rules regarding the inspection of and enquiry into the construction and operation of any petroleum pipeline, loading facility or storage facility. Section 29 of that Act determines the powers of the Energy Regulator with regard to entry, inspection and gathering of information.

RULES**DEFINITIONS**

1. In these Rules any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have the meaning so assigned unless the context indicates otherwise.

“**Act**” means the Petroleum Pipelines Act, 2003 (Act No. 60 of 2003);

“**authorised person**” means a person contemplated in rule 2.

AUTHORISED PERSONS

2. A person becomes an authorised person when that person has been issued with a valid authorisation permit by the Energy Regulator reflecting the following -

- (a) the logo of the Energy Regulator;
- (b) the postal and physical addresses of the Energy Regulator;
- (c) the telephone and fax numbers of the Energy Regulator;
- (d) the full names of the person concerned;
- (e) a photograph of the face and head of the person concerned;
- (9) the identity number of the person concerned;

- (g) the NERSA personnel number of the person concerned;
- (h) the date of issue of the authorisation;
- (i) the date of the resolution by NERSA making the authorisation;
- (j) the date of expiry of the authorisation;
- (k) the words: “the person identified in this authorisation is duly authorised by the Energy Regulator of South Africa to -
 - i. at all reasonable times enter any property on which construction or operation of any petroleum pipeline, loading facility or storage facility is taking place and to inspect any facility, equipment, machinery, book, account or other document found thereat; and
 - ii. require any person to furnish the Energy Regulator with such information as may be necessary for the proper administration of the Petroleum Pipelines Act of 2003”;
- (l) the name of the Chief Executive Officer of the Energy Regulator;
- (m) the signature of the Chief Executive Officer of the Energy Regulator.

3. The period of validity of an authorisation contemplated in section 2 of these Rules must expire -

- (a) on the date specified therein; or
 - (b) within 12 months after the date of issue; or
 - (c) in the case of a NERSA employee, upon termination of service;
- whichever is the sooner.

AUTHORISATION PERMIT

4. An authorised person must, upon request by an owner or operator of the pipeline or facility being inspected, show his/her authorization permit to any person requesting it.

ENTRY, INSPECTION AND GATHERING OF INFORMATION

5. A licensee must in accordance with the Act permit any person duly authorized in writing by the NERSA to enter and inspect any property on which the licenced activity is taking place.

6. A licensee must furnish the NERSA with such information as may be necessary for the proper application of the Act.

- 7, A licensee may allow any authorized person to accompany it on any vehicular and airborne inspection of the licensee's property on which a licenced activity takes place.
8. The Licensee must provide appropriate health and safety equipment to an authorized person conducting an inspection.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

9. When an authorised person inspects any facility, equipment, machinery, book, account or other document the person present, if any, at such inspection representing the owner or operator of such facility, equipment, machinery, book, account or other document must inform the authorised person in writing of any information that the owner or operator regards as non-generic confidential, personal, commercially sensitive or of a proprietary nature and must clearly identify such information.
10. Any failure by the person present, if any, at such inspection representing the owner or operator of the facility being inspected to inform an authorised person in writing of any information that is non-generic confidential, personal, commercially sensitive or of a proprietary nature at the time the authorised person conducts an inspection, does not preclude the owner or operator of the facility that was inspected from subsequently informing the Energy Regulator that certain information that was inspected by an authorized person is regarded by the owner or operator as non-generic confidential, personal, commercially sensitive or of a proprietary nature provided that the information so regarded is clearly identified.
11. The Energy Regulator is not required to treat any information as non-generic confidential, personal, commercially sensitive or of a proprietary nature before it or an authorised person has been so informed of same by the owner or operator of the facility being inspected. Nothing in this rule shall affect the applicability of Chapter 5 of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No 2 of 2000).

12. When an authorised representative is informed in writing that information acquired during an inspection is non-generic confidential, personal, commercially sensitive or of a proprietary nature that authorised representative must convey such to the Energy Regulator and the provisions of Section 8(9)(a) of the National Energy Regulator Act, 2004 (Act No. 40 of 2004) apply.

SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

13. These Rules are called the Petroleum Pipelines Act Rules, Part Two: Inspections 2006 and come into operation on 01 October 2006.