



**MINISTRY OF MINERAL RESOURCES, GREEN TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY SECURITY**

**PRESS RELEASE**

*(To be read on Wednesday 14 November 2018)*

**INCREASE IN THE RETAIL PUMP PRICES FOR PETROL DIESEL AND ILLUMINATING PARAFFIN**

The Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security in collaboration with the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA) informs the general public and other consumers that the retail pump prices for petrol, diesel and illuminating paraffin will be adjusted from 00:01hrs Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The price adjustments will be as follows: -

1. Retail prices for petrol grades will increase by 33 thebe per litre
2. Retail prices for all diesel grades will increase by 36 thebe per litre
3. Retail prices for illuminating paraffin will increase by 31 thebe per litre

The increase in retail pump prices is necessitated by the growing under recoveries since September 2017. The actual cost of importing petroleum products into Botswana has been higher than the regulated price. Hence there is need to align the local retail pump prices with international trends. The volatility of the crude oil price is mainly influenced by the following five key factors;

- Changes in the global supply and demand of oil
- Crude oil production levels and refining capacities
- OPEC strategies for maintaining certain levels of production quotas to limit supply
- Geopolitics – especially the Middle East
- Oil being used as a financial commodity by Speculators

Retail pump prices of petroleum products were last increased on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The Government will continue to closely monitor the prices of petroleum products in both regional and international markets and make price adjustments as necessary.

For further information please contact Public Relations on 3656600/6698.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nchidzi C. Mmolawa'.

Nchidzi C. Mmolawa

**ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY**