

## PRESS RELEASE

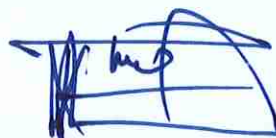
### MISINFORMATION ON THE DRAFT ENERGY (SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS) REGULATIONS, 2020

**Nairobi, 30th November 2020** ... Our attention has been drawn to the ongoing public discourse on the Draft Energy (Solar Photovoltaic Systems) Regulations 2020. The debate emanates from articles published in both mainstream and social media circles suggesting that the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) has introduced a raft of punitive rules that aim at curtailing growth in the solar industry.

The ensuing debate is centered on proposed licensee fees, penalties, educational and professional qualifications of proposed licensee clusters, contained in the Draft Regulations. EPRA wishes to state that the proposed laws are a revision of the Energy (Solar Photovoltaic Systems) Regulations, 2012 and that the laws aim to consolidate and improve on existing gains in the Solar Photovoltaic industry. Further, the review has been necessitated by the need to align the Regulations to the 2010 Constitution, the Energy Act 2019 and to address emerging trends in the dynamic Solar Photovoltaic Industry.

The review of the 2012 Regulations has been a rigorous process that began in 2018 where the Authority conducted a Regulatory Impact Study in line with the Statutory Instruments Act 2013. This study involved collection of views from stakeholders with the stakeholder recommendations culminating into the Draft Energy (Solar Photovoltaic Systems) Regulations, 2020. Further, the draft regulations were published in the Kenya Gazette on 31st January, 2020; GAZETTE NOTICE NO. 758.

Accordingly, the purpose of the Draft Energy (Solar Photovoltaic Systems) Regulations, 2020 is to enforce quality standards of solar photovoltaic systems and components getting into the Kenyan market and solar installation works with a view to protecting the Kenyan consumer against substandard solar systems -The end result being ensuring value for money to the Kenyan consumer.



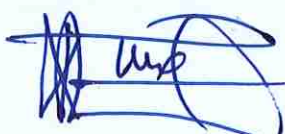
The academic and professional qualification requirements of the proposed licensee clusters in the draft regulations have been in existence under the 2012 regulations where a single academic certificate from a recognized educational institution is eligible for licensing. The sole purpose of the requirements is to ensure that only qualified personnel are engaged in the design and installations of the systems.

Further, the proposed applicable license fees are based on the proposed license validity period of three years from the current one year. This is aimed at enhancing efficiency in the license processing and issuance process.

The Authority will hold a public hearing on the proposed regulations on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 with a view to receiving further comments on the regulations from the public. The comments received in this public hearing will be taken into account in the final regulations. Details on the Draft Regulations, the associated Draft Regulatory Impact and participation in the public hearing can be accessed on the Authority's website at [www.epra.go.ke](http://www.epra.go.ke) or obtained from the Authority's head office in Nairobi and any of our satellite Offices listed below between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM during the business days.

<b>Nairobi Office</b>	<b>Coast Region Office- Mombasa</b>	<b>Nyanza &amp; Western Region - Kisumu</b>	<b>North Rift Region - Eldoret</b>	<b>South Rift Region - Nakuru</b>	<b>Central Region - Nyeri</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Eagle Africa Centre, Longonot Road, Upper Hill	3rd floor, Kilindini Plaza Building, Moi Avenue	2nd floor, Lake Basin Mall	7th Floor, Eldoret Daima Towers	3rd floor, Jeniffer Riria Hub	4th Floor, KDS Centre, Kimathi Way

We assure the public of our commitment to facilitate access to sustainable energy by applying leading energy regulatory practices.



**Robert Pavel Oimeke, EBS**  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL**



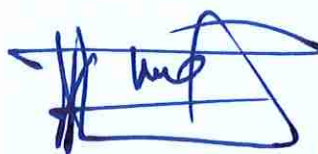
## Notes to the Editor

The Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) is established as the successor to the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) under the Energy Act, 2019 with an expanded mandate of regulation of upstream petroleum and coal. As the energy sector regulatory agency, EPRA has the responsibility for economic and technical regulation of electrical power, renewable energy, and petroleum sub sectors in Kenya. <https://www.epra.go.ke/>

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