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General Notice No. 1407 of 2020.



NOTICE TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION

ISSUED TO PAMOJA ENERGY LIMITED FOR THE OPERATION OF THE 50KW BIOMASS POWER PLANT AND ISOLATED POWER SYSTEM IN BUKURUNGO, KITAGWENDA DISTRICT SHOULD NOT BE REVOKED

(Under Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 1999, Chapter 145
of the Laws of Uganda)

On 29th November 2017, the Electricity Regulatory Authority ('the Authority') at its 287th Meeting approved the award of Certificate of **Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/197** to **Pamoja Energy Limited ("PEL")** to operate a 50 kW biomass gasification plant in Bukurungo, Kitagwenda District (Kamwenge District by then) and supply electricity to the community in Bukurungo Trading Center, for a period of ten (10) years.

On 28th August 2020, Statutory Instrument No. 106 of 2020 was issued to PEL by which PEL was exempted from the requirement to hold a License under sections 51, 57 and 59 of

the Electricity Act, Cap. 145 for the Generation, Distribution or Sale of Electricity to promote rural electrification from the 50 kW biomass gasification plant in Bukurungo, Kitagwenda District (Bukurungo mini grid).

The Authority at its 342nd Meeting held on 28th October 2020, assessed **PEL's** ability to continue with the operations of the Bukurungo Mini Grid. The Authority noted that PEL had failed to undertake the operations of the Bukurungo Mini Grid and was thus unlikely to fulfill its obligations under the Certificate of **Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/197 and Statutory Instrument No. 106 of 2020** for the following reasons-

1. Lack of Technical and Financial capacity to continue operations

- The network inspection of the Bukurungo Mini Grid conducted by ERA and REA in August 2020 and January 2020 respectively, established that PEL lacked the technical and financial capacity to operate the Bukurungo Mini Grid specifically relating to last mile connections, internal wiring and the defunct biomass plant.
- The Inspection further established that the power plant was in a poor state of maintenance. The plant had not run for 2 years and dust and cobwebs were observed on the engine, standby generator and cables. The equipment at the power plant was observed to be worn out.
- In its letter dated 5th October, 2020, PEL indicated that it no longer had the technical and financial capacity to undertake any mini grid operations in Uganda including the Bukurungo network.

2. Failure to comply with Environmental Obligations

PEL failed to comply with provisions under the NEMA certificate number NEMA/ESIA/12579, dated 23rd August 2019, specifically-

- Conditions of approval under part 4.3 with respect to acquisition of approval for auxiliary structures and technical specification;
- Part 5.3 with respect to occupational health and safety; and



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iii) Part 5.4 with respect to waste management.

From the inspections conducted, meetings held with PEL, Rural Electrification Agency, Uganda Electricity Distribution Company Limited and the local community of Bukurungo, it was apparent that PEL was not in position to operate the Bukurungo Mini Grid.

PEL is unable to conduct the activity of Generation, Distribution or Sale of Electricity from the Bukurungo Mini Grid contrary to the Certificate of Exemption and Statutory Instrument issued.

The Authority resolved to issue a Notice to show cause why Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/197 granted to PEL to operate the Bukurungo Mini Grid should not be revoked.

NOTICE TO PAMOJA ENERGY LIMITED

ACCORDINGLY, **PEL** is HEREBY DIRECTED to show cause why Statutory Instrument No. 106 of 2020 and Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/197 should not be revoked, within **45 (Forty Five) days** from the date of this notice, failure of which the Authority shall without any further notice revoke the Instruments.

PEL or directly affected parties may make representations and objections in respect of this notice not later than **28 (Twenty Eight) days** from the date of publication of this Notice at the following address

The Secretary,
Electricity Regulatory Authority,
ERA House, Plot 15, Shimoni Road, Nakasero,
P.O. Box 10332,
Kampala.
Email: era.registry@era.or.ug / secretary@era.go.ug

ENG. ZIRIA TIBALWA WAAKO,
Chief Executive Officer.

General Notice No. 1408 of 2020.



NOTICE TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION ISSUED TO PAMOJA ENERGY LIMITED FOR THE OPERATION OF THE 50 KW BIOMASS POWER PLANT AND ISOLATED POWER SYSTEM IN BUKURUNGO, KITAGWENDA DISTRICT SHOULD NOT BE REVOKED

(Under Section 42 (2) of the Electricity Act, 1999, Chapter 145 of the Laws of Uganda)

In pursuance of its powers under Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 1999, the Electricity Regulatory Authority assessed **Pamoja Energy Limited's ("PEL")** ability to continue with the operations of the Bukurungo Mini Grid under **Statutory Instrument No. 106 of 2020 and Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/197**. The Authority noted that **PEL** was unlikely to fulfil its obligations thereunder.

ACCORDINGLY, the Authority at its 342nd Meeting held on 28th October 2020 resolved to give **PEL**, a 45 (Forty Five) days' notice to show cause why Statutory Instrument No. 106 of 2020 and Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/197 should not be revoked. The detailed notice can be accessed at www.era.or.ug.

PEL and directly affected parties may make representations and objections in respect of the notice not later than **28 (Twenty Eight) days** from the date of publication of this Notice at the following address:

The Secretary,
Electricity Regulatory Authority,
ERA House, Plot 15, Shimoni Road, Nakasero,
P.O. Box 10332, Kampala.
Email: era.registry@era.or.ug / secretary@era.go.ug

ENG. ZIRIA TIBALWA WAAKO,
Chief Executive Officer.

General Notice No. 1409 of 2020.



NOTICE TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION ISSUED TO WELIGHT LIMITED FOR THE OPERATION OF THE 449.2 kW SOLAR POWER PLANT AND ISOLATED POWER SYSTEM TO DISTRIBUTE ELECTRICITY IN 15 VILLAGES IN ISINGIRO AND RAKAI DISTRICTS SHOULD NOT BE REVOKED

(Under Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 1999, Chapter 145 of the Laws of Uganda)

On 18th December, 2019, the Electricity Regulatory Authority ('the Authority') approved the award of a **Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/190** to **WeLight Limited** to Generate, Distribute and Sale Electrical Energy from the proposed 15 (Fifteen) sites in Rakai and Isingiro Districts with a combined capacity of 449.2 KW, for a period of eleven (11) years and Three (3) months.



On 19th May, 2020, **Statutory Instrument No. 75 of 2020** was issued to **WeLight Limited** by which **WeLight Limited** was exempted from the requirement to hold a Licence under sections 51, 57 and 59 of the Electricity Act, Cap. 145 for the Generation, Distribution or Sale of Electricity to promote rural electrification from the 445.14 kWp solar powered decentralised mini-grid systems in 15 (Fifteen) villages in Rakai and Isingiro Districts as specified in the table below-

No.	Village/Project site	District	Sub-county	PV sizing in kWp
1.	Kayonza Parish	Rakai	Kachera	15.60
2.	Ntarure	Rakai	Lwamagwa	15.60
3.	Rwenshebasheba	Rakai	Kacheera	22.43
4.	Kyarwanshurashura	Isingiro	Masha	62.73
5.	Kyalugamba / Nyakagera / Kyarugaju parish	Isingiro	Kabingo	41.93
6.	Kikutsi / Rwengiri	Isingiro	Isingiro TC	15.60
7.	Katoogo TC / Kabasherwe	Isingiro	Kakamba	15.60
8.	Izo / Kabegaramire / Kasusano	Isingiro	Kakamba	62.73
9.	Kasusano TC / Rukandu	Isingiro	Kakamba	15.60
10.	Kakooma / Nyakibingo	Isingiro	Kakamba	22.43
11.	Kasese TC / Kamishwa	Isingiro	Kigaragara	41.93
12.	Karora A	Isingiro	Kashumba	31.53
13.	Burumba	Isingiro	Kakamba	31.53
14.	Rwampara Rubagano / Rubagano Isingiro	Isingiro	Mwizi	22.43
15.	Kagabagaba	Isingiro	Ruborogota	31.53

On 26th June, 2020, the Authority received a letter from WeLight Limited raising concerns in respect of the subsidized tariff of US\$ 0.29 and upon further engagement with WeLight Limited, it was established that WeLight Limited was unwilling and unable to implement the project in line with the terms and conditions of Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/190.

The Authority at its 342nd meeting held on 28th October 2020, assessed the representations of **WeLight Limited** as regards operation of the electricity projects in the 15 (Fifteen) villages. The Authority noted that **WeLight Limited** was unlikely to fulfill its obligations under the Certificate of Exemption to conduct the activity of Generation, Distribution or Sale of Electricity.

The Authority resolved to issue Notice to **WeLight Limited** to show cause why **Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/190 and Statutory Instrument No. 75 of 2020** for the implementation of electricity projects in 15 (Fifteen) villages should not be revoked.

ACCORDINGLY, **WeLight Limited** is HEREBY DIRECTED and ORDERED to show cause why Statutory Instrument No. 75 of 2020 and Certificate of Exemption No. ERA/COE/020/190 should not be revoked, within **45 (Forty Five) days** from the date of this notice, failure of which the Authority shall without any further notice revoke the Instruments.

WeLight Limited or directly affected parties may make representations and objections in respect of this notice not later than **28 (Twenty Eight) days** from the date of publication of this Notice at the following address:

The Secretary,
Electricity Regulatory Authority,
ERA House, Plot 15, Shimoni Road, Nakasero,
P.O. Box 10332,
Kampala.
Email: era.registry@era.or.ug / secretary@era.go.ug

ENG. ZIRIA TIBALWA WAAKO,
Chief Executive Officer

