

# COMPETITION TRIBUNAL REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Case No: CR098Oct12/SA245Nov17

In the matter between:

The Competition Commission

**Applicant** 

And

Chevron South Africa (Pty) Ltd
Engen Petroleum Limited
Shell Downstream South Africa (Pty) Ltd
Total South Africa (Pty) Ltd
BP Southern Africa (Pty) Limited
Sasol Limited
South African Petroleum Industry Association

First Respondent
Second Respondent
Third Respondent
Fourth Respondent
Fifth Respondent
Sixth Respondent
Seventh Respondent

Panel

Y Carrim (Presiding Member)

A Ndoni (Tribunal Member)

M Mokuena (Tribunal Member)

Heard on

08 February 2018

Addendum received on

29 March 2018

Decided on

03 May 2018

# Settlement Agreement

The Tribunal hereby confirms the settlement agreement as agreed to and proposed by the Competition Commission and the above-mentioned respondents annexed hereto marked "A", together with addendum market "A1".

**Presiding Member** 

Ms Y Carrim

03 May 2018

Date

Concurring: Ms A Ndoni and Mrs M Mokuena

## in the competition tribunal of south africa (HELD IN PRETORIA)

CT Case No. CR088Oct12 CC Case No. 2009Jan4223

in the matter between

COMPETITION COMMISSION

Applicant

And

CHEVRON SOUTH AFRICA (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED

First Respondent

ENGEN PETROLEUM LIMITED

Second Respondent

SHELL DOWNSTREAM SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Third Respondent

TOTAL SOUTH AFRIGA (PTY) LTD

Fourth Respondent

Fifth Respondent

BP BOUTHERN APRICA (PTY) LIMITED

Sixth Respondent

SASOL LIMITED SOUTH AFRICAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Seventh Respondent

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMPETITION COMMISSION AND THE RESPONDENTS IN RESPECT OF AN ALLEGED CONTRAVENTION OF SECTION 4(1)(b)(i) AND (ii) OF THE COMPETITION ACT 88 OF 1988, AS AMENDED

The Composition Commission and the Respondents hereby agree that application be made to the Competition Tribunal for the confirmation of this Settlement Agroement as an order of the Competition Tribunal in terms of section 49D of the Competition Act as read with section 27(1)(d) of the Competition Act, on the terms set out below;

- 1 For the purposes of this Settlement Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:
  - 1.1 "BP" means BP Southern Africa (Pty) Limited and its subsidiaries and any entity controlled by BP Southern Africa (Pty) Limited and/or any of its subsidiaries;
  - 1,2 "Ghevron" means Chevron South Africa (Pty) Ltd and its subsidiaries and any entity controlled by Chevron South Africa (Pty) Ltd and/or any of its subsidiaries;
  - 1.3 "CLP" means the Corporate Leniency Policy prepared and issued by the Commission as a guideline, to clarify the Commission's policy approach on matters failing within its jurisdiction in terms of the Competition Act and published as Government Notice No. 628 of 23 May 2008, published in Government Gazette No. 31084 of 23 May 2008;
  - 1.4 "Commercial Diesel" means diesel fuel products supplied to commercial customers (as alleged in the Complaint Referral; i.e. sales to all customers other than retail customers via service station forecourts);
- 1.5 "Gommission" means the Competition Commission of South Africa, a statutory body established in terms of section 18 of the Competition Act, with its principal place of business at Mulayo Building (Block O), the DTI Cempus, -77 Meintlies Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria, Gauteng;
- 1.6 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Commission, appointed in terms of eaction 22 of the Competition Act;
- 1.7 "Competition Act" means the Competition Act 89 of 1998, as amended;
- 1.8 "Complaint" means the complaint initiated by the Commissioner in terms of section 498 of the Competition Act under case number 2009JAN4223 on 12 January 2009;

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- 1.9 "Complaint Referral" means the complaint referred by the Commission to the Tribunel under Tribunal case number GROSSOcti2 on 24 October 2012;
- 1.10 "DoE" means the Department of Energy;
- 1.11 "Engen" means Engen Petroleum Limited and its subsidiaries and any entity controlled by Engen Petroleum Limited and/or any of its subsidiaries;
- 1.12 "Parties" means the Commission and the Respondents;
- 1.13 "Regulatory Stakoholders" means the DoE, the Department of Trade and Industry, the National Energy Regulator of South Africa, the Railway Safety Regulator of South Africa, Transnet National Ports Authority, Local Port Managere, Statistics South Africa, National Treasury, and any other regulator, State institution and/or government department;
- 1.14 "Respondents" means all the firms that are alted as the respondents in the Dompiaint Referral namely, Chevron, Engen, Shell Downstream South Africa (Pty) Ltd ("Shell"), Total South Africa (Pty) Ltd ("Total"), BP, Sasol Limited ("Sasol") and South African Petroleum Industry Association ("SAPIA");
- 1.15 "Respondent oil companies" means Chevron, Engen, Shell, Total, BP and Sasol;
- 1.18 "SAPIA" means a petroleum industry association representing the collective interests of its members, including the respondent oil companies;
- 1.17 "Sasof" means Sasoi Limited and its subsidiaries and any entity controlled by Sasoi Limited and/or any of its subsidiaries:
- 1.18 "SIC codes" means the codes assigned to economic solivities in the seventh edition of the "Standard Industrial Olassification of all Economic Adiivities" report

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issued by Stalistics South Africa in Optober 2012 (Report no. 09-90-02), as derived from the fourth revision of the international Standard Industrial Classification issued in 2008;

- 1.19 "the Subject Information" meens, as set out in the Complaint Rolerral, the Information of the Respondent oil companies relating to Commercial Diesel sales volumes, disseminated on a monthly basis to all the Respondent oil companies, comprising sales information -
- 1.19.1 per all company;
- 1.19.2 per specific grade of product:
- 1.10.3 per province and per magisterial district where the sales were made; and
- 1,19,4 per trade category;
- 1.20 "Settlement Agreement" means this agreement duly signed and concluded between the Commission and the Respondents;
- 1,21 "Shell" means Shell Downetream South Africe (Ply) Ltd and its subsidiaries and any entity controlled by Shell Downstream South Africa (Pty) Ltd and/or lie aubsklieries;
- 1,22 "Total" means Total South Africa (Ply) Ltd and its subsidiaries and any onlity controlled by Total South Africa (Ply) Ltd and/or any of its subsidiaries;
- 1.23 "Tribunal" means the Competition Tribunal of South Africa, a statutory body established in terms of section 26 of the Competition Act, with its principal place of business at the Mulayo building (Block C), the DTI Campue, 77 Melnijles Street, Sunnyelde, Pretoria, Gauteng; and

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1.24 "WLSP" means Wholesale List Selling Price, being the wholesale price for diesel as published by or on behalf of the DoE from time to time.

### COMPLAINT AND INITIATION

- 2 In December 2008 Sasol submitted a teniency application to the Commission's GLP ("the teniency application").
- 3 The leniency application covered a number of practices in the white fuels sector and was supplemented by various further submissions and documents provided by Sasol to the Commission.
- 4 The Commission rejected Sesol's Jeniency application in relation to Commercial Diesel.
- Following receipt of the tentency application and the further submissions and documents, on 12 January 2009 the Commissioner initiated the Complaint in terms of section 498(1) of the Competition Act in order for the Commission to investigate the possible contravention of the Competition Act. The initiation was amended on 15 September 2011.

# THE COMMISSION'S INVESTIGATION AND THE COMPLAINT REFERRAL

- 6 The Commission investigated the Complaint.
- 7 The Commission referred the Complaint to the Tribunal in October 2012 alleging that the Respondents had contravened section 4(1)(b)(i) and 4(1)(b)(ii) of the Competition Act on the basis that—
  - 7.1 the Respondents exchanged the Subject Information both in an aggregated and disaggregated formation a monthly basis; and

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7.2 the Respondent oil companies have been involved in the process of regularly reviewing the WLSP with the DoE. This review process included discussions on and determination of the elements that form part of the price build-up of diesel.

### THE RESPONDENTS' POSITION

- 6 Chevron, RP, Shell, Sasol, Total and Engen each filed exceptions alleging that the Complaint Referral does not contain the necessary everments to displace a cause of unition under section 4(1)(b) of the Competition Act.
- 9 Notwithstanding the Commission's allegations, the Respondents contend that they were not engaged in any unlawful conduct in contravention of section 4(1)(b)(i) and (ii) of the Competition Act.

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- Prior to the hearing of the exception applications, the Commission considered its position in proceeding with the Complaint Referral and the Complaint end the benefits to the public interest. The exchange of the Subject information alleged in the Complaint Referral had ceased by 2009, and thus the Commission's Complaint and Complaint Referral related to historic conduct. The Commission concluded that the interests of consumers and competitors in the relevant market would be better served by not proceeding any further with the Complaint Referral and by obtaining undertakings from the Respondents as to future conduct. The parties also acknowledge that the Commission is in the process of preparing information Exchange Guidelines, which guidelines will aid the respondents when assessing their conduct in future.
- 11 The purpose of this Saltiement Agreement is to settle the Complaint Referral and the Complaint and to provide clarity in relation to the Commission's views in respect of the

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exchange between the Respondents of the Subject Information which gave use to the Complaint and the Complaint Referral.

The Respondents do not make any admission of liability in relation to any prohibited conduct under the Competition Act arising from the conduct described in the Completed or the Completed Referral.

# AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE RESPONDENTS' FUTURE CONDUCT

- The Respondents undertake that they will not be party to any agreement, or practice, among the Respondents pursuant to which the Subject Information will be shared among the Respondent oil companies, save as provided for in this Settlement Agreement. Any exchange of the Subject Information will be permitted if it is made in accordance with the following conditions. For avoidance of doubt, these conditions must all be met at the time of sharing or disseminating the Subject Information
  - 13.1 the Respondents must provide data only to an independent third party, appointed by SAPIA, who will collect and aggregate the data provided by the Respondents; and
  - 13.2 the Subject Information that is disseminated by the designated (hird party to the Respondent oil companies and/or Commercial Diesel market participants and other stakeholders (other than to Regulatory Stakeholders) should be appreciated across all market participants who provided the Subject Information; and
  - 13,3 the Subject Information that is disseminated should be not less than 3 months in arrests; and
  - 13.4 the Subject Information that is disseminated by the designated third party should be aggregated no narrower than by province; and

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- 13.5 the Subject information that is disseminated by the designated third party should contain aggregated information relating to not less than four Commercial Diesel market participants; and
- 13.6 the Subject information that is disseminated by the designated third party to the Respondent oil companies (and/or other Commercial Diesel market participants and stakeholders) may be broken down by trade category provided that it should contain adgregated information per trade category for no less than four market participants per trade category per province and furthermore that all trade categories are aggregated to at least the double digit "Division" level of the relevant StC code, except that—
  - 13.6.1 total sales volumes partitioning to fuel diesel retailers may be reported separately, collated by the third party from such various levels of the SIO codes as represent all sales to fuel retailers;<sup>2</sup> and
  - 13.6.2 total sales to diesel wholesalers may be reported separately, collated by the third party from such various levels of the SIC codes as represent all sales to fuel wholesalers,<sup>9</sup>

In accordance with the schedule annexed to this agreement, reflecting the SIC codes for the trade categories currently reported to the DoE, provided that in the event that there is a material amendment to the SIC codes sol out in the aforesald schedule; the Commission may on good cause shown apply to the

Explanatory Note: It appears that the SIC codes under which these cales are currently reported to the DoE do not report under one SIC Division.

<sup>6</sup> Explanatory Note: At present the 170E requires these sales to be reported under SIC code 46910 and an aggregation above this level would render the data uninformative.

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<sup>1</sup> For example, in the case of the "Agheriture" hade category the date must be pyropaid to the SIC "Division of" toyol covering all sales volumes related to "Crop and entimal production, familing and related earnings solidities", and may not be discerninated at a more disaggregated toyel, e.g. to SIC "Group of the (Growing of Non-Persinal) Grops) or nerrower ethic to SIC "Sub-Class Of 10" (Growing of cereals (except doe), jogurations stops and officeeds).

Tribunal for a modification of this paragraph 13.6 in order to address any information exchange concerns arising from such amendment.

- For the avoidance of doubt, the undertakings under paragraph 13 shall not operate to prevent any individual Respondent oil company from obtaining information relating to one or more of the other Respondent oil companies or Commercial Diesel market participant where that information is required for legitimate commercial purposes arising in the ordinary course of business.
- The Commission is also aware of the fact that Regulatory Stakeholders require the authorisation of detailed information on an ad hos or ongoing basis to fulfil their regulatory roles and may make available such information from time to time. As such, nothing in this Seitlement Agreement shall preclude the Respondents from providing any information to any Regulatory Stakeholder in the format required by it, or from performing such calculations as may be required by any Regulatory Stakeholder (for example, the calculations performed by SAPIA in respect of the Cumulative State balances for the DoE) or from receiving any information from such Regulatory Stakeholder.

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## MONITORING

The Commission must request, on an annual basis, that SAPIA, or any third party appointed by SAPIA in addordance with paragraph 13.1 above, submit a report to the Commission confirming compliance with paragraph 13 of this Settlement Agreement during the preceding calondar year. SAPIA shall procure preparation and delivery to the Commission of any such reports. Following receipt of such a report, the Commission may request copies of, or access to, any information collated and disseminated for the purposes of paragraph 13 by SAPIA or the appointed third party during the period covered by the relevant roport.

#### GENERAL

- 17 Nothing in this Settlement Agreement precludes any Respondent from applying for an exemption in terms of section 10 of the Competition Act; not does it decagate from any exemption granted by the Commission.
- The undertakings in this Settlement Agreement shall apply for a parted of five years from the date that it is made an order of the Tribunal.
- Any Respondent shall be entitled to apply to the Tribunal for a watver, retaxation or modification of any of the terms of this Settlement Agreement.
- This Settlement Agreement is in full and final solllement of all complaints against the Respondents arising from the Complaint and the Complaint Referral under Commission case number 2009Jan4223,
- 21 This Settlement Agreement may be signed in counterparts.

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Dated and signed at CENTULY CITY on the 11th day of November 20	17
For Chevron	
Dated and algred at CAPE TOWN on the 16 day of November 2001	-
	r
For Engen	
Chief Executive Officer	
Dated and signed at SANDTON on the 10th day of November 2017	
For Shell	
Ohalling HLONIPHIZNE J. MTOLO	
Dated and aligned at Rosebank on the q day of Myeanber 2017	
For Total	
770/ CFC.	
Dated and signod at Birktown on the A day of Now errite 2017	
For BP	

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CHIERAMINO PINO MANDE PINO PINO PINO PINO PINO PINO PINO PINO
Object Executive Offset Acting Managing Grace TH  Daled and signed at SANDTON on the 18 day of NOVEMBEL 2017
For Sacol
John Ohler Exocultive Officers and
Dated and algred at Sanoton on the What day of Newtones 2017
Other Executive Officer DIRECTOR
Dated and signed at _ RETORIA _ on the 24 day of _NOVEMBER_2017.
For the competition Commission
Control Countries out

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Lowest SIC Code Level at Which volume data may be exchanged for does chreent trade categories (Reference 13.6)

Proble administration, and defence: compulsory social security	p
Air gansport	2 0
Land transport and transport via pipelines	2
Wholesale of solid, Sound and gaseous files and maked conducts	400.0
Retail of automotive fuel in specialized stones	81
Construction	B
Manufacture of other transport entirement	8
Manufacture of machinery and equipment ne	228
Manufacture of haste metals	24
Manufacture of other non-metaling mineral products	23
Manufacture of characters and chemical product	20
Manufacture of coke and refined beauteur products	19
Manufacturing of paper and paper products	77
plains materials	16
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Manufacturing of English	6
Other inlining and quanting	88
Nining of metal cres	S
Mining of coal and Confide	83
Fishing aid agreening	æ
Forestry and logoring	B
Crop and entered production, funding and related service and the	20
DESCRIPTION	SICCODE

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## IN THE COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF SOUTH AFRICA (HELD IN PRETORIA)

GT Case No. GR098Oci12 GG Case No. 2009Jan4228

in the matter between

COMPETITION COMPRESION

Applicant

Ant

CHEVRON SOUTH AFRIGA (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED

First Respondent

ENGEN PETROLEUM LIMITED

Second Respondent

SHELL DOWNSTREAM SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Third Respondent

TOTAL BOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Fourth Respondent

BP SOUTHERN AFRICA (PTV) LIMITED

Fifth Respondent

CHIMIL LORAS

Bixth Respondent

BOUTH AFRICAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Seventh Respondent

ADDENDUM TO THE BETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMPETITION COMMISSION AND THE RESPONDENTS IN RESPECT OF AN ALLEGED CONTRAVENTION OF SECTION 4(4)(b)(!) AND (II) OF THE COMPETITION ACT 88 OF 1988, AS AMENDED

The Commission and the Respondents hereby agree that the Sattlement Agreement between them relating to the complaint under case number 2008 land 223 and the complaint referral under GT Case CR098Dot 2012 be amended as follows:

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## Paragraph 13.4 of the Selllement Agreement shall be replaced by the following:

The Respondents must provide date only to an independent third party, appointed by SAPIA after 10 business days' notice is given to the Commission, who will collect and aggregate the data provided by the Respondents; and

## Paragraph 18 of the Selflement Agreement shall be replaced by the following:

"SAPIA, or any third party appointed by SAPIA in accordance with paragraph 19.1 above, shall annually submit a report to the Commission contiming compliance with paragraph 19 of this Seltlement Agreement.

- 16.1 BAPIA shall procure the preparation and delivery to the Commission of such reports.
- 16.2 Each annual report shall be submitted to the Commission by no later than 1 March each year and shall rolate to compilance with paragraph 13 of the Settlement Agreement during the preceding calendar year.
- 16.3 For the salte of clarity, the tirst report will be due on 7 Merch 2019, and shall gover the period from confirmation of the Settlement Agreement by the Tribunal, until 31 December 2018. All subsequent reports will be due on 1 March, and will cover the period of the preceding calendar year (1 January to 31 December).
- 18.4 Following receipt of such a report, the Commission may request copies of, or access to, any information colleted and disseminated for the purposes of paragraph 19 by the appointed third party during the pariod covered by the relevant report.

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Dated and algred at CAPE TONIN on the 1896 day of FEBAUARY 2018
For Chevron Chief Executive Officer
Dated and eigned at CAPE TOUR on the 76th day of FERRUMPH 2018  For Engen  Chief Executive Officer
Daled and signed at Engarston on the 9 day of March 2018  For Shell Chairmen
Deled endeligned at Constitution on the 26 day of School 2018  For Total  Menzgling Director / Chilef Executive Officer

Dated and alghed et Per 15to on the deay of Merch 2018

For BP

Aoling Menseling Counsel

Deled and signed at SAFIA (SANOTON) on the 26th day of FERNARY 2018
For MARIA

Executive Ulfactor

Dated and signed at PVETORIA on the 26th day of MARCH 2018
For the Competition Commission

Dated and signed at 5-AND TU: \_\_\_ on the 8th day of \_\_\_ MARLY

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