

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**03 June 2020, Johannesburg** – The South African Petroleum Industry Association (SAPIA) can confirm that the two Durban refineries are back online, and production has normalized.

This follows a week of stock rationing to manage the demand for supply, which was implemented at the end of May due to inadequate levels of diesel.

The easing of lockdown restrictions and the opening of the economy resulted in a more rapid recovery than expected. There was a dramatic increase in demand for diesel as well as an opportunistic increase in demand for petrol. With the refineries back online, the country once again has adequate stock of both diesel and petrol.

However, Transnet Pipelines have reported that its 24-inch multi-product pipeline has been shut down for repairs, following two major theft incidents earlier this week. Unfortunately, these latest incidents have a direct impact on the transportation of petroleum products between Durban and Johannesburg. The 24-inch multi-product pipeline performs an essential service of transporting petroleum products from the coast to the inland market area. Delays can be expected which could lead to fuel shortages.

Transnet have confirmed that repairs are currently underway as they remain committed to the security of supply of petroleum products to the inland markets.

## **ENDS**

### **About SAPIA:**

SAPIA represents the collective interests of the South African petroleum industry and plays a strategic role in addressing a range of common issues relating to the refining, distribution and marketing of petroleum products, as well as promoting the industry's environmental and socio-economic progress. SAPIA fulfils this role by contributing to the development of regulation in certain areas of South African policy; proactively engaging with key

#### **Board of Governors:**

M. Kane-Garcia (Chairperson), H. Mtolo, J. Molapo, N. Chili, P. Mabelane, P. Naidoo, P. Vilakazi,  
W. Sanchez & Y. Hassan

stakeholders; sharing research information; providing expert advice; and communicating the industry's views.

**For more information, please contact:**

Cindy-Lee Maneveld

Head: Advocacy, Engagement and Communication

Mobile: 066 423 2319

Email: [heac@sapia.co.za](mailto:heac@sapia.co.za)