



SINAZONGWE TOWN COUNCIL COMPLETES RIA

The Sinazongwe Town Council has submitted its Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) report and Stakeholder consultation report on the introduction of a Coal Levy by-law to the Business Regulatory Review Agency for consideration.

The completion of the RIA follows the Council's notification to BRRRA of its intention to introduce a coal levy aimed at helping the Local Authority collect revenue to address some adverse effects of coal mining in Sinazongwe District.

Sinazongwe Town Council Secretary Choolwe Maunga said the RIA and proposed By-Law were subjected to consultations with the public and various stakeholders in three (03) communities namely Maamba, Sinazeze and Sinazongwe through physical public meetings, phone-in radio programmes and focus group meetings with mining companies.

Ms. Maunga said the proposal to introduce the Coal Levy at K49.00 per ton on all coal mining ventures in the District was welcomed by all stakeholders as it was considered as one option of alleviating the environmental, infrastructural and social matters affecting the district as a result of coal mining.

The Council Secretary has thanked the BRRRA for the invariable technical support which enabled the council to successfully perform the RIA and Stakeholder Consultations. She has also thanked the people of Sinazongwe for attending the stakeholder engagement meetings in numbers and making their submissions which



BRRRA Executive Director Sharon Sichilongo receiving the RIA report from Sinazongwe Town Council Secretary Choolwe Maunga and Director of Finance MCGIVEN HAKETA.

helped to shape the RIA.

In receiving the Regulatory Impact Assessment and Stakeholder Consultation reports, BRRRA Executive

Director Sharon Sichilongo commended Sinazongwe Council for subjecting the proposed Coal Levy to the RIA process and stakeholder consultations.

BRRA COMPLIES WITH PFMA ACT ON RISK MANAGEMENT



BRRA staff during the Risk Management training

In compliance with the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act No. 1 of 2018, Management and staff at the Business Regulatory Review Agency (BRRA) have been trained in Risk Management, Frameworks and Risk Registers.

The training conducted by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning follows the BRRA's desire to comply with Government's directive for the public sector to implement and integrate risk management systems in their key business processes.

During the training, BRRA Executive Director Sharon Sichilongo said the training

Ministry of Finance and National Planning Director of Risk Management Barabina Mporokoso emphasized the broader benefits of establishing risk management frameworks.

will foster a deeper understanding of risk management among Management and Staff and demonstrates the Agency's commitment to enhancing organizational effectiveness and resilience in the face of potential risks

“This understanding is essential for the agency's growth and sustainability, as it enables the implementation of robust risk mitigation measures to safeguard against potential threats,” she said. Ministry of Finance and National Planning Director of Risk Management Barabina Mporokoso emphasized the broader benefits of establishing risk management frameworks.

“These frameworks not only facilitate effective resource utilization but also improve compliance with regulations and enable proactive identification and management of unforeseen risks,” Ms Mporokoso said.



BARRA Executive Director Sharon Sichilongo and Mazabuka Town Clerk Judith Maambo engaging with Mazabuka Municipal Council Staff

MAZABUKA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENGAGES BARRA ON REVISION OF LEVY

In compliance with the requirements of the Business Regulatory Act No. 3 of 2014, Mazabuka Municipal Council has officially notified the Business Regulatory Review Agency (BARRA) of its intention to revise the cane levy.

According to Section 6 of the Business Regulatory Act, a public body that intends to introduce any policy or proposed law for regulating business activity shall among other requirements give notice, in writing, of that intention to the Business Regulatory Review Agency.

In a communique to the Agency, Mazabuka Town Clerk Judith Maambo said the Municipality intended to revise the cane levy fees from the current 0.40 kwacha per ton for Zambia Sugar Company and 0.30 per ton for other cane producers per ton to thirty kwacha per ton for all categories of farmers.

Mrs. Maambo said the cane levy rates had not been reviewed for more than Ten (10) years from the time the fees were introduced via a by-law. She said the decision to revise

the fees was approved in an ordinary Council Meeting. The Town Clerk added that collecting levies enabled the Council to provide various services to the public in general, including sanitation facilities, good roads, and garbage collection.

During the engagement with Mazabuka Municipal Council, BARRA Executive Director Sharon Sichilongo commended the Municipality for mobilizing officers from all departments of the Council to be sensitised on the importance of the RIA process.

Mrs. Sichilongo emphasized the need for the Council to adhere to the principles in the Business Regulatory Act and to the RIA Standards and Guidelines. She further called on all local authorities to comply with Section 26 of the Local Government Act No. 2 of 2019 which stipulates that a proposed by-law or council resolution introducing a licence, permit or certificate shall be subject to the licensing procedure and criteria under the Business Regulatory Act of 2014.



Mazabuka Municipal Council staff during engagement with BARRA

BRRA WILL NOT RELENT IN ENFORCING MANDATE

The Business Regulatory Review Agency (BRRA) has taken a firm stance on enforcing the guidelines outlined in the Business Regulatory Act No. 3 of 2014.

BRRA Executive Director Sharon Sichilongo has emphasized that Regulatory Agencies and Public Bodies must comply with the requirements of the Act, including undertaking Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) and engaging in stakeholder consultations before introducing new regulations or fees.

“The Agency will demand suspension of regulations, including levies or fees, that are introduced by regulatory agencies and public bodies without undertaking a RIA and consultations with stakeholders,” Mrs. Sichilongo said.

The Executive Director said Regulatory Agencies and Public Bodies should be aware that the BR Act is



BRRA Executive Director, Sharon Sichilongo

complimentary to any law that they operate under and the Agency will continue to actively enforce the guidelines.

She emphasised that all regulators must

prioritize transparency through stakeholder consultations and adhere to regulatory standards prescribed in the BR Act when introducing and implementing regulations.

“The Agency will demand suspension of regulations, including levies or fees, that are introduced by regulatory agencies and public bodies without undertaking a RIA and consultations with stakeholders,” Mrs. Sichilongo said.

DID YOU KNOW CORNER

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Guidelines outlined under Section 6 of the Business Regulatory Act, No 3 of 2014 require all regulatory agencies and public bodies to undertake a Regulatory Impact Assessment and public consultations with stakeholders and submit a Regulatory Impact Assessment report and consultation report to the BRRA for consideration.

Contributors

Masiye Mwanza Mulenga – Public Relations Officer

Choolwe Maunga - Council Secretary, Sinazongwe Town Council



Business Regulatory Review Agency, Plot No. 2251

Corner of Fairley and Jacaranda Roads

Ridgeway - Lusaka

Telephone: +260 211 259 165 Email: info@brra.org.zm

<http://www.brرا.org.zm/>
