



DPR ISSUES CIRCULAR TO OIL AND GAS OPERATORS, CONTRACTORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19



April 2020

Overview

The Department of Petroleum Resources ("DPR") on 30 March 2020 issued a Circular directing all oil & gas operators, contractors and service providers to take steps to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus ("COVID-19") at project/construction sites by:

- Ensuring safety and welfare of all personnel;
- Ensuring strict compliance with relevant government directives on social distancing, curfew, lockdown, etc. As may be applicable;
- Limiting the number of personnel at project/construction sites and where required for compliance with applicable government directives, a demobilisation of personnel.

According to the DPR, *the current situation qualifies as "force majeure" and companies are expected to take all reasonable steps to contain the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the safety and welfare of all personnel.*

Prior to the Circular of 30 March 2020, the DPR had issued previous Circulars on the management of COVID-19. In one of such Circulars, the DPR directed that:

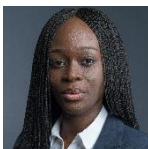
- All travels to and from offshore or remote locations shall strictly be in line with the Guidelines and Procedure for Travel to Offshore/Swamp Location and Obtainment of Offshore Safety Permit, 2019 (**the Guidelines can be found [here](#)**).
- Non-essential staff currently at offshore/remote locations should be withdrawn immediately.
- Staff rotation for less than 28 days should be suspended temporarily. Therefore, staff working offshore or at remote locations are required to stay on rotation for a minimum of 28 days.
- Representation by government agencies offshore or at remote locations shall be limited to a maximum of one person per rotation.

A copy of the DPR Circular of 30 March 2020 is available [here](#).

For further information on the earlier Circular, please see [here](#).



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