

Motorists might be able to use credit cards to pay for fuel

The Department of Minerals and Energy has published a draft regulation which, if approved, will see motorists using credit cards to purchase fuel to fill up their vehicle tanks.

Departmental spokesperson Bheki Khumalo told *BuaNews* the department hoped the Draft Regulation in terms of the Petroleum Products Act of 1977, would make it easier for visitors during the 2010 World Cup to pay for fuel.

Many foreign countries allow motorists to use credit cards to pay for fuel. In South Africa, motorists make use of cash and garage cards to purchase fuel.

“Public comment on the draft is open until month end,” said Khumalo, adding that the regulation was gazetted on 24 April 2009.

“It will help facilitate the 2010 World Cup as people from abroad will be able to use their credit cards. This takes South Africa and puts it in the next century. It puts us in line with what's happening abroad,” he added.

According to the draft document, retailers would have to accept payment in the form of cash, debit, credit and hybrid cards for the payment of petrol and diesel supplied into the tanks of vehicles.

Khumalo said the regulation would also improve the safety and security of filling stations while motorists will also not have to deal with the burden of carrying cash when filling up “at late hours of the night.”

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