Dear Sir/Madam,

Task Team to Assess the Fiscal Regime applicable to Windfall Profits in the Liquid Fuel Sector (Windfall Task Team) – Planned Process and Timetable

Our communication of 16 May 2006 refers, I am writing to thank those who have already submitted preliminary comments on the Terms of Reference and other matters. I further wish to advise you as to the process that the Windfall Tax Task Team intends to follow over the next three months in order to fulfill our mandate.

We are currently preparing a discussion document which we intend to circulate to all interested parties as a public document by latest end-June 2006. This document will broadly follow the outline that is contained in the guiding Terms of Reference, which has previously been circulated and which is also copied for your reference. It will also take account of the various matters that have been brought to our attention in communications received by us thus far.

A variety of questions and issues will be raised in the discussion document, of which we will seek your comment, views, facts and evidence initially in writing by no later than 14 July 2006.

Mindful of the fact that a number of firms in the industry are listed, we will embargo public release of the discussion document for a period of two days, allowing you to consult relevant stakeholders to ensure no adverse interpretation of the discussion document’s content.

We then intend to convene open hearings, currently planned for the week of 17 July 2006, either in Cape Town or Pretoria. At the hearings the issues raised will be discussed and probed so as to further empower the Task Team to complete its report by 15 September 2006.
With regard to commercially sensitive information, the Task Team is of the view that there is probably a sufficient degree of information and data that is already in the public domain to allow us to make clear recommendations to the Minister of Finance. Should this not be the case, we would obviously enter into the necessary agreements with you to protect such confidentiality.

Yours Sincerely,

Zavareh Rustomjee
Chair: Task Team