

## **SOUTH AFRICAN LAW REFORM COMMISSION EXTENDS CLOSING DATE FOR COMMENT ON ITS DISCUSSION PAPER 116 ON ENERGY LEGISLATION TO 31 JANUARY 2011**

In 2004 the South African Law Reform Commission (SALRC) included in its law reform programme an investigation into statutory law revision (project 25). In this investigation the SALRC is mandated with the task of revising the South African statute book to identify and recommend for repeal or amendment legislation or provisions in legislation that are inconsistent with the equality clause in the Constitution, redundant or obsolete. The methodology adopted in this investigation is to review the statute book by Department – the SALRC identifies a Department, reviews the national legislation administered by that Department for constitutionality and redundancy, sets out the preliminary findings and proposals in a consultation paper and consults with that Department to verify the SALRC's preliminary findings and proposals. The next step that the SALRC undertakes is the development of a discussion paper in respect of the legislation of each Department, and upon its approval by the SALRC, it is published for general information and comment. Finally, the SALRC develops a report in respect of each Department that reflects the comment on the discussion paper and contains a draft Bill proposing amending legislation.

The SALRC has reviewed the 33 statutes which are administered by the Department of Energy as part of this investigation. In August 2010 the SALRC published its discussion paper 116 on the review of energy legislation. The SALRC provisionally proposed that the 13 statutes set out in Schedule 1 of the *Energy Laws Repeal and Related Matters Bill* be amended for the reasons set out in Chapter 2 of discussion paper 116 to the extent outlined in the Schedule, and that four statutes set out in Schedule 2 be repealed.

The closing date for comment on discussion paper 116 was 30 November 2010. The SALRC has decided to extend the closing date for comment to 31 January 2011 to grant stakeholders further opportunity to consider the provisional findings, proposals and the draft Bill proposed in discussion paper 116 and to submit comment to the SALRC on the discussion paper. Discussion paper 116 is available on the Internet at <http://www.salawreform.justice.gov.za/dpapers.htm>

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