



**GHANA COALITION
AGAINST GALAMSEY**

PROMOTERS

Media, Organised Labour, Religious Bodies,
Youth Groups, Research and Academia,
Pressure Groups, Civil Society, Professional
Bodies, Traditional Leaders, Business Groups.

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Ref: GCAG/NPA/26/027

18th April 2026

**The Chief Executive Officer
National Petroleum Authority
Accra**

Attn: Mr. Edudzi Tamakloe Esq

Dear Sir,

PETITION: URGENT CALL TO EXERCISE REGULATORY MANDATE TO HALT THE SUPPLY OF FUEL TO ILLEGAL MINING OPERATIONS AND PREVENT ECOCIDE

Introduction and Context The Coalition Against Galamsey, Ghana, representing concerned citizens of Ghana, hereby petitions your high office to take immediate and decisive regulatory action to support the President's fight against illegal mining (Galamsey). While the government has correctly focused on restricting the importation of new excavators, the "*war machine*" of illegal mining continues to march on diesel. There are an estimated **7,000 untracked excavators** already within the country that are being kept operational by a continuous, unchecked supply of fuel. If we are to save our water bodies, forests, and the health of our people from this ecocide, we must **cut the supply lines**.

The Evidence of Complicity In galamsey hotspots, there is a staggering and anomalous density of fuel stations. These remote areas often have a higher concentration of fuel stations per capita than urban centers like Accra and Tema, despite having far fewer registered vehicles. It is evident that these stations exist primarily to service illegal mining. We have witnessed large trucks loading massive containers of fuel for "gala people," while Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) fail to adhere to proper "**Know Your Customer**" (KYC) protocols. The NPA and OMCs hold the data that could expose these suspicious sales volumes.

Legal Framework and Compelling Obligations The argument that fuel stations are "innocent sellers" is legally indefensible. We draw your attention to the following laws which mandate your intervention:

- **Minerals and Mining Act, 2006 (Act 703) as Amended by Act 995:** Section 99(2)(b) explicitly addresses those who "**facilitate**" illegal mining. Providing the fuel necessary for these operations falls squarely within this definition. Under Act 995, those facilitating such crimes face up to 25 years in prison.



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- **Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29):**
 - **Section 20 (Abetment):** Defines abetment as any person who "directly or indirectly... in any manner purposely aids, facilitates, encourages, or promotes" a crime. Fuel suppliers are thus deemed guilty of the crime they facilitate.
 - **Section 22 (Duty to Prevent Felony):** Imposes a legal obligation on every person who knows a felony is being committed to use all reasonable means to prevent it. Failing to act is a misdemeanour.
- **Public Health Act, 2012 (Act 851):** Section 54 makes it an offence to carry on a business that impairs public health or pollutes water used for consumption. Fuel sellers knowingly powering operations that poison our water are complicit in these violations.
- **Environmental Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1124):** This new legislation strengthens the mandate to prosecute environmental offences, placing fuel suppliers under even stricter scrutiny.
- **Land Act, 2020 (Act 1036):** Section 281 holds that landowners who permit illegal mining activities— including fuel trucks operating on their land— can be charged with abetment.
- **NPA Act, 2005 (Act 691):** This grants the NPA the specific mandate to regulate the downstream petroleum industry.

Mandatory Regulatory Actions The NPA has already demonstrated its capacity to act against fuel smuggling by confiscating trucks and revoking licenses. We demand that the same vigor be applied to the galamsey crisis. Under **Act 691**, the NPA has the authority to:

1. **Revoke the licenses** of OMCs found to be facilitating illegal mining activities.
2. **Ban directors** of offending companies from the downstream petroleum industry.
3. **Analyze sales data** to identify stations selling anomalous volumes in mining hotspots.
4. **Collaborate with security agencies** to intercept suspicious fuel consignments headed for illegal sites.

Our Demands:

We demand that the **National Petroleum Authority (NPA)** exercises its regulatory power to cut off the "lifeline" of illegal mining operations by implementing the following immediate actions:

1. **Conduct Data-Driven Audits to Identify Anomalies:** We demand the NPA use its data systems to **track fuel sales** and identify stations in mining hotspots with **anomalously high volumes** relative to registered vehicles in the area. These reports should be published.
2. **Revoke Licenses of Non-Compliant OMCs** found to be facilitating illegal mining through the sale of massive fuel consignments to illegal miners.
3. **Ban and Prosecute Complicit Directors:** We demand that the NPA **permanently ban directors** of offending OMCs from participating in the downstream petroleum industry and report them to the AG for prosecution.



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4. **Enforce Strict "Know Your Customer" (KYC) Protocols:** We demand that the NPA mandate OMCs to verify the mining licenses or legitimate commercial fleet status of any individual attempting to purchase **thousands of litres of diesel in oversized containers**.
5. **Collaborate with Security Agencies for Interception:** The NPA must immediately **collaborate with security forces** to intercept suspicious fuel trucks headed for galamsey hotspots.
6. **Stricter Scrutiny under New Environmental Laws:** We demand that the NPA align its enforcement with the updated environmental legal framework to prosecute those powering the ecocide.

Conclusion We cannot allow the environment to be murdered for profit. While we support legal, registered small-scale mining, we must **starve illegal miners** of the one resource they cannot do without: fuel.

If we cut the fuel, we cut the lifeline. If we cut the lifeline, we save Ghana.

Respectfully,

Respectfully submitted, We remain.

Kenneth Ashigbey

Daryl Bosu

cc: H.E President John Mahama
Hon. Minister of Energy & Green Transition
Hon. Minister of Lands & Natural Resources
The Media

- Media Coalition Against Galamsey
- OneGhana Movement
- Ghana CSOs Platform On SDGs
- BRACE
- Kasa Initiative Ghana Stakeholder Engagement Forum
- A Rocha Ghana
- EcoConscious Citizens



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- Nature and Development Foundation
- Jema Anti Galamsey Advocacy (JACA)
- Gen. Transport, Petroleum & Chemical Workers Union
- Peasant Farmers Associations
- Ghana Institution of Engineering - GhIE
- Institution of Engineering and Technology, Ghana
- Graduate Students Association of Ghana
- New Media Association of Ghana
- Ghana Institute of Architects
- Institute of Public Relations
- Ghana Institute of Foresters
- Africa Centre for Energy Policy
- Chamber of Agribusiness Ghana
- Research Scientists Association – GAEC
- University Teachers Association of Ghana - UTAG
- Other Ghanaian Citizens of Repute
- Ghana Environmental Advocacy Group