

3283. Ms B D Ferguson (Cope) to ask the Minister of Energy:

Whether the Government has suspended the importation of crude oil from Iran; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NW4173E

Reply

As you are aware, the importation of crude oil is done by the oil companies that own crude oil refineries. Due to the sanctions imposed by the European Union on the Islamic Republic of Iran it became almost impossible to continue importing crude oil from Iran. This is mainly due to the inability to obtain sufficient insurance cover for the crude oil cargoes. The oil companies have therefore opted to source crude oil from alternatives. Engagements by government with the EU have not yet been able to resolve the unforeseen negative impacts of the sanctions on South African Entities.