

Ref: VC 9109 Phase 2 Requirements
Enquiries: T. Ntlhane
Tintswalo.Ntlhane@nrccs.org.za

Date: 15 May 2026

ATTENTION TO:
NRCS Stakeholders – The Lighting Industry

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: COMMUNIQUE TO THE LIGHTING INDUSTRY ON VC 9109 PHASE 2 IMPLEMENTATION

The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) wishes to provide clarity regarding the implementation of Phase 2 of VC 9109, compulsory specification for General Service Lamps (GSLs), which comes into effect on the 24th of May 2026.

Background

VC 9109 was implemented on the 24th of May 2024 and was structured as a two phase implementation process to support gradual transition towards more energy efficient lamps.

Phase 1 introduced a minimum lamp efficacy requirement of 90 lumens per watt, effective from the 24th of May 2024. Phase 2 sets a minimum lamp efficacy requirement of 105 lumens per watt, effective from the 24th of May 2026.

The NRCS issued Letters of Authority (LOAs) for new products (GSLs) to be sold in the market from the 24th of May 2024. These LOAs were issued with the validity period of 3 years.

Clarity on Phase 2 Requirements

To support the objectives of VC 9109 and to avoid delays in the market uptake of more energy efficient lamps, the NRCS has taken the following decisions:

1. Existing LOAs issued under Phase 1 requirements of 90 lumens per watt will remain valid until their expiry dates.
2. LOAs issued under Phase 1 requirements will not be renewable upon expiry. Only lamps (GSLs) complying with the Phase 2 requirement of 105 lumens per watt will be issued with LOAs or be eligible for LOA renewal.
3. In the instance where LOAs have expired and there is still any existing stock of GSLs complying with phase 1 requirements, the holder of the LOA may apply for the sales permit that will be reviewed as per section 14 (4) of the NRCS Act.

Head Office

SABS Campus 1 Dr Lategan Road Groenkloof Pretoria

✉ NRCS Private Bag X25, Brooklyn 0075

☎ Tel +27 12 428 5000 • Sharecall 0860 722 700 • Fax +27 12 428 5199

@ Web www.nrccs.org.za

NOTE: The referred sales permit shall apply only to Phase 1 products that could not be depleted during Phase 1 period. The applicants should be in a position to provide documents and verifiable records as evidence in supporting the Phase 1 sales permit application.

4. The NRCS will arrange a meeting with the industry to discuss compliance matters within the period May to June 2026.

The above decisions are intended to ensure a fair transition to Phase 2 requirements, promote the adoption of more efficient lamps and to prevent the unlimited continuation of lower efficiency lamps in the market.

The NRCS appreciates the industry's commitment to compliance and remains committed to working collaboratively with the stakeholders to ensure adherence to compulsory specifications.

Kind Regards,

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General Manager: Electrotechnical
Mrs. Tintswalo Ntlhane
(T) 012 482 8752
E-Mail: Tintswalo.Ntlhane@nrccs.org.za

Copied

NRCS ACEO
Mr. Duncan Mutengwe

NRCS COO
Mr. Thomas Madzivhe

NRCS Legal
Mr. Vongani Tivani

Head Office

SABS Campus 1 Dr Latagan Road Groenkloof Pretoria

✉ NRCS Private Bag X25, Brooklyn 0075

☎ Tel +27 12 428 5000 • Sharecall 0860 722 700 • Fax +27 12 428 5199

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