



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
INDEPENDENT AUTHORITY FOR PUBLIC REVENUE



OPERATIONAL COORDINATION CENTER

Athens, 29/10/2018

## PRESS RELEASE

**Two (2) illegal tanks detected at a gas station, namely i) a single tank of 7,000 liters capacity, and (ii) a twin tank of 14,000 liters capacity. Operation coordinated by the OCC.**

The OCC received a complaint from the Directorate of Technical Industrial Legislation of the Ministry of Economy and Development, stating that a gas station in the area of Elefsina had been subject to illegal activities

After investigating the complaint under the coordination of the OCC, on 25/10/2018, a control was carried out at the specific gas station by the **Operational Directorate of SDOE in Attica**, as an emergency service, and with the assistance of the Directorate for Transport and Communications and the Directorate for the Development of the Regional Unit of Western Attica, the Department of Technical Industrial Legislation of the Ministry of Economy and Development and the Directorate of Financial Police.

The control found that there were pipelines that did not correspond to the five (5) licensed underground fuel tanks. The mismatch of the exposed pipelines revealed the existence of unlicensed, illegal underground fuel tanks. Therefore, we immediately proceeded with excavation work in order to reveal the rear area of the station in which the pipelines ended. The work took place on 25/10/2018 and 26/10/2018 and revealed the existence of:

- One (1) twin unlicensed underground fuel tank, with a capacity of 14,000 liters, which contained a minimum amount of liquid fuel (residues), and was used in the past. The tank was connected to a pump of the gas station.
- One (1) single unlicensed underground fuel tank with a capacity of 7,000-liters, containing a minimum amount of liquid fuel (residues), and was used in the past. The tank was not connected to the pumps of the gas station and was used just for storage and disposal of illicit fuels.

At the gas station the following items were found and seized:

- One (1) twin fuel pump disconnected electronically from the inflows-outflows (I-O) system. In the shell of the pump the security tapes were breached. The pump was connected to the twin unlicensed underground fuel tank for supplying fuel.
- Two (2) electronic switches, used respectively for: (a) switching fuel supply between licensed tanks and the unlicensed twin tank, and (b) switching fuel supply between pumps connected electronically to the I-O system and the pump decoupled electronically from the I-O system.
- One (1) tank-truck of three compartments with a capacity of 4,000 liters. The nozzles of the truck were cut and the fuel gauges were removed.
- One (1) computer connected to the I-O system. Thorough examination of the computer will reveal evidence of any illegal interference towards bypassing the I-O system software as well as of the size of illicit fuel sales.
- Official and unofficial tax data. Cross-examination of the data together with the rest of the audit findings will lead to any additional customs and tax offenses.

Upon completion of the investigation, a Police Report will be submitted to the competent Prosecutor's Office on the prosecution of those responsible.