

Newsletter 166

21 June 2010



Dear Members,

AIR QUALITY ACT (Commencement Notice)

On the 26th of March 2010 Government Notice 220 to the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No, 39 of 2004) was gazetted. The Notice stated the commencement of sections 21, 22, 36 to 49, 51(1)(e), 51(1)(f), 51(3), 60 and 61 of the Act on the 1st of April 2010.

- Sections 21 deals with the listed activities (GN 248 of 31 March 2010) resulting in atmospheric emissions and these activities include activities that are used in most parts of our industry, i.e. Category 1.1 and 1.3, Combustion installations; Category 3.3, Creosote manufacturing and heating; and Category 9.6, Wood drying and production of manufactured wood products.
- Section 22 states that no person may without an atmospheric emission licence conduct a listed activity.
- Sections 36 to 49 deals with the licensing activities, e.g. application procedures, appointment of emission control officers, etc.
- Section 51 deals with offences, and Section 60 and 61 deals with the repeal of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (Act 45 of 1965) and the transitional arrangements with the Air Quality Act.

In addition to the listed activities, GN 248 of 31 March 2010 also contains provisions for emission measurement, compliance time frames, monitoring, reporting, minimum emission standards etc.

In certain regions the implementation and monitoring of emissions have already been started and in some cases well established and the plants to which the Act and regulations are applicable are already well aware of what is required of them to comply. In other regions very little if any has transpired as yet and SAWPA can also report that the environmental authorities have started conducting audits in the Tzaneen area with regards the implementation of the air quality act.

SAWPA has managed to arrange a meeting for the 9th of July with the Air Quality Management department at DEAT to discuss the implications of the Air Quality Act, the Commencement Notice and Listed activities on our industry and will give feedback following the meeting. Please contact SAWPA if you, for the interim, require copies of the Act, the applicable notices referenced above or any other information which we could assist with regarding the matter.

Feedback on 11 June Meeting with NRCS

Further to the meeting with the NRCS on the 17th of May 2010, a follow up meeting with the NRCS was held on Friday the 11th of June and it can be reported as a move in a positive direction. The meeting was attended by a SAWPA delegation consisting of myself, David Bergman, Willie Conradie and Daryl Ehrke, as well as Pierre Tullis from SAUPA.

We took the opportunity to brief the NRCS on our concerns with regards what transpired since the 26th of March, and also the history of regulations in South Africa and specifically the fact that the regulations taken up into the Unfair Business Practices Act (after the repealing of the Forest Act) was on request and motivation of Industry and not because of our industry being a problem industry as perceived by certain members of the NRCS Management. Our industry concerns, e.g. the extent of the NRCS involvement in future (duplication), the future of the SABS and SATAS, the technical competence of the NRCS, and the levy structure were discussed.

In brief the NRCS have already started with reviewing the Levy proposal and advised that a revised levy proposal will be submitted to industry soon. On the matters regarding the extent of the NRCS's involvement at manufacturer level, and the involvement of the SABS/SATAS as given in their initial impact assessment (which was declared no longer relevant at previous meetings), we requested that the NRCS supply the industry with a revised and detailed written proposal/impact study detailing what their function as regulator will entail in future, and assurance of the continued involvement of the certification bodies with their expert and technical knowledge etc.

The NRCS obliged and once this document has been received a follow up industry working group meeting will be held with the NRCS to discuss and iron out issues which still need some negotiation and clarity. It is envisaged that after this meeting (if mutual agreement has been reached and industry's concerns have been addressed) the new proposals will be circulated to the industry for approval and consideration at the next larger industry consultation meeting. Although the NRCS has indicated that they are willing to negotiate with industry, they reiterated that this will only be to the limits allowed by the legislation and procedures applicable to them.

Feedback from the Registrar of Act 36 of 1947's office

1. **Class 1 review on CCA** – The registrar is currently reviewing those class 1 red label pesticides for which there has been no submissions of motivations and/or requests for the continued use by the specific industry's using those chemicals. Once these reviews have been done the Registrar's office will start reviewing class 1 pesticide submissions for which they have received motivations and requests for continued use. Consultation with industry will take place before any final recommendations are made. It was however mentioned that industry show pro-activeness and prepare for alternative measures.
2. **Draft Regulations for the registration of Pest Control Operators** – The submission made by SAWPA on the 30th of January with regards the definitions for "wood preservation" and the registration criteria for P registration of Primary wood preservative treatment plants are still on the table and all indications from the Registrar is that they are seriously considering its inclusion, which would be a positive outcome for industry. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

TALKING ROT

World's tallest wooden building coming to Norway

Big timber projects are still fairly rare in the commercial sector, however we're beginning to hear more and more about them. A recent example is the 17 story cultural centre in the Arctic border town of Kirkenes, Norway. It's being touted by the Norwegian Barents Secretariat as the world's tallest wooden building. The roughly 108,000-sf timber tower was designed by Oslo-based architect firm Reiulf Ramstad Architects. Combining environment, design, education and the arts into one neat cultural center, the new building will serve as home to Secretariat offices and will include a library, theatre and creative environment for artists, researchers and students. The green building will incorporate recycled and biodegradable materials and energy-efficient offices, and the design will be influenced by traditional architecture from Russia, Sweden, Finland and Norway. Once built, it will serve as a stunning example of eco-construction and will provide a reminder of the historical importance of the Secretariat.



(Article Courtesy – Peter Jones)

Recently SAWPA has received numerous requests for information regarding TBTN -P (Tributyltin Naphtenate -Permethrin)



Photo courtesy of D&A Timbers – Pine Town

TBTN-P is a medium duty light organic solvent preservative. The active ingredients used in TBTN-P are internationally acceptable ingredients that have superior health, safety and environmental properties compared to lindane (now banned) which were used in TBTOL.

TBTN-P has proven its effectiveness as an insecticide and fungicide in a light organic solvent carrier, such as white spirits, allowing the active ingredients to penetrate the wood without causing dimensional distortion, i.e. a change in the size or shape of the wood. It is most suitable for use internally (under cover) in e.g. roof trusses, timber frame building, skirting, flooring and ceiling boards, laminated beams, doors and windows.

Timber treated with TBTN-P **could** be used in H3 (exterior above ground) conditions, **provided** that it is continuously protected with a suitable **well maintained exterior sealer/coating**, e.g. fascia boards, weather boards, exterior joinery, laminated beams and decking.

The preservative is non-staining (wood is not discolored) and non corrosive. Initial odour is possible until the solvent has fully evaporated. When applied internally provision should be made for sufficient ventilation until solvent has evaporated. The wood can then also be glued or painted. The preservative does not cause any raising of the grain or swelling of the timber and can therefore be used on machined timber without causing movement, distortion or dimensional changes. Application is by industrial low pressure vacuum plant impregnation.

SAWPA had 19717 hits on its website during May 2010

USE OF GALVANIZED STEEL GUARDRAIL POSTS - EMAIL

A concern has been raised by some of our members on the instalment of Galvanized Steel Guardrail posts on the Gauteng Road improvement projects, with specific reference to the R21 route between Pretoria and Kempton Park. SAWPA sent this email to the Consulting Engineers on the project but as yet has not had a reply:

Dear Sirs

As the Consulting Engineers on the R 21 projects, I hope that you would be able to assist me in my query. We found your contact details on the internet when searching for information on companies involved in the R 21 improvement project.

SAWPA represent the greater number of wood preservers in South Africa, many of whom also manufacture and supply treated timber guard-rail posts used along our roads. Naturally when travelling on the R 21 one cannot help but notice the instalment of kilometres and kilometres of galvanized guardrail posts instead of the traditional treated timber posts.

Our concern is whether this decision was made because of poor performance of treated timber, or was it taken because of cost, or other reasons, e.g. practicality, more fit for purpose, longevity etc.

With a world very much focused on environmental concerns and minimizing the carbon footprint, timber is probably the only true green structural material through it's sustainability and negative carbon footprint, and when treated and applied correctly will give a much longer lifespan than others.

I would really appreciate it if either of you can give me some feedback on the reasons, or refer me to someone with whom I can talk on the matter.

*Thank you
Bruce Breedt*

We are attaching for your information an article from the Edmonton Journal, on 'Playground arsenic no health risk for kids' – it makes for interesting reading.

Playground arsenic no health risk for kids More may end up on their hands, but not in their bodies: U of A BY ANDREA SANDS, EDMONTON JOURNAL MAY 25, 2010



The treated wood in the playground structures has long been a sore point for parents who worry about arsenic. Photograph by: Larry Wong, file photo, edmontonjournal.com

EDMONTON - Kids playing on pressure-treated wooden playgrounds get more arsenic on their hands than youngsters playing on arsenic-free structures, but the poisonous substance does not show up in higher levels in their bodies, a new study has found. A team of researchers at the University of Alberta tested saliva and urine from 66 children who played at 16 Edmonton playgrounds in August and September of 2006. Eight of the playgrounds contained wood treated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA) and the other eight did not. Testing showed no significant difference between arsenic levels in the children's bodies, explained researcher Chris Le. That's good news for parents, said Le, whose own children took part in the study playing on CCA treated equipment in their neighbourhood. "We don't want to discourage children from playing because of a small amount of arsenic," Le said. "We do want to encourage children to be physically active rather than being too scared to play." CCA-treated wood has not been sold for residential use in Canada since 2004, after worries long-term exposure to low levels of arsenic could be dangerous. CCA is a wood preservative that guards against decay from fungi and insects. Studies at the time examined arsenic levels in the wood and in playground sand.

Part of the U of A study released in 2004 found children who played on treated wood ended up with four or five times more arsenic on their hands than kids who played on arsenic-free equipment. "We said, if that's the case, how much is ending up in their bodies?" Le said. "Children frequently put their hands in their mouths and we worried that if they kept putting their hands in their mouths, how much arsenic would they lick off their hands and fingers? "The results show there wasn't a significant difference, which might seem to be surprising." The levels of arsenic in children from both test groups was also the same as levels in the general population, he said.

Arsenic exposure comes from a variety of sources, Le said. Canadians get about 10 to 15 micrograms of arsenic per day from food and water. The amount that ended up on kids' hands after playing on CCA-treated wood was about 0.5 micrograms, Le said. "The amount from the playground is not significant compared to other sources." The U of A study noted: "If this entire amount were ingested, it would still be lower than the average daily intake of arsenic from dietary sources." Still, the more people can reduce their intake of arsenic, the better, said Le. Repeated exposure to high levels of arsenic -- several hundred to 1,000 micrograms per day -- is known to cause various cancers, such as skin, bladder and lung cancer, he said. "It's not known what is the minimum level to cause that effect," Le noted. "There's arsenic in playgrounds and arsenic can get on children's hands, so washing the hands is the most effective way of removing it. It's important for children to wash their hands after play to reduce their levels of exposure." The city's parks department maintains about 370 playgrounds across Edmonton and has been removing all CCA-treated wood since 2003, said Edmonton's director of parks operations for the south side. "So now you'll find most of our playgrounds -- probably 75 or 85 per cent of them -- do not have treated wood on them," said Doug Kirchner. "Most of them are metal or plastic because we have been making every effort at removing that type of material." The executive director for the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues said the study results should help ease parents' worries. "It may also ease the pressure to replace these facilities, which are very expensive," said Allan Bolstad. "Leagues can easily spend \$500,000 or more on a new playground, particularly if a water feature is included, so it's good to know that the lifespan of some of our existing facilities has been extended."

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Nominations for Chairperson of SAWPA

Our long standing Chairman, Mr. John Mortimer, has indicated that he will not be available for re-election as Chairman of SAWPA this September.

We would like to accept nominations from our members for a new Chairperson for SAWPA, and have attached a form for your completion should you wish to nominate someone for chairmanship. All nominations should reach SAWPA before the AGM scheduled for the 22nd of September 2010.

Any members who have asked to be listed on our website under 'Links to treaters' please could you verify that your information is still correct. If members would like to have their companies listed FREE of charge, please contact SAWPA and we will gladly assist. SAWPA is currently looking at revamping our website, so as to make this more attractive.

BRUCE BREEDT

SAWPA accepts no responsibility for any claim made in this newsletter.



Geagte lede,

LUGKWALITEIT WET (Aanvangskennisgewing)

Die aanvang van dele 21, 22, 36 to 49, 51(1)(e), 51(1)(f), 51(3), 60 en 61 van die Lugkwaliteitwet (Wet 39 van 2004), met effek 1 April 2010, is in kennisgewing Nr 220 van die Staatskoerant van 26 Maart 2010 aangekondig.

- Deel 21 handel oor die gelyste aktiwiteite (RK 248 van 31 Maart 2010) wat aanleiding gee tot atmosferiese vrylatings en hierdie aktiwiteite sluit aktiwiteite in wat op die groter deel van die bedryf van toepassing is, b.v. Kategorie 1.1 and 1.3, Verbrandingsinstallasies; Kategorie 3.3, Kreosootvervaardiging of verhitting; en Kategorie 9.6, Houtdroging en produksie van vervaardigde houtprodukte.
- Deel 22 sê dat geen persoon enige gelyste aktiwiteit mag uitvoer sonder 'n atmosferiese vrylatingslisensie nie.
- Dele 36 tot 49 handel hoofsaaklik oor die lisensieringsaktiwiteite, b.v. die aansoekprosedures, aanstelling van 'n vrylatingskontrolebeampte, ens.
- Deel 51 handel oor oortredings, en dele 60 en 61 handel oor die herroeping van die Atmosferiese Besoedelingsvoorkomingswet (Wet 45 van 1965) en die oorgangsreëlings met die Lugkwaliteitwet van 2004.

Buiten die gelyste aktiwiteite sluit kennisgewing 248 van 31 Maart 2010 ook bepalings in t.o.v. bepalings van vrylatings, voldoeningstydperke, monitering, verslaggewing, minimum vrylatingsstandaarde, ens.

In sekere areas is die implementering en monitering van vrylatings reeds begin, en in sekere gevalle goed gevestig, en die aanlegte waarop die Wet van toepassing, is bewus van wat van hulle verwag word om te voldoen. In ander streke is bitter min, indien enigsins iets, gedoen ter voldoening aan die Wet. SAWPA kan ook rapporteer dat die Department van Omgewingssake in die Tzaneen omgewing begin het met oudite ten opsigte van die implementering van die Lugkwaliteitwet.

SAWPA het intussen 'n vergadering vir die 9^{de} Julie geskeduleer met die Lugkwaliteitsbestuur-department van DEAT om die implikasies van die Wet, die Aanvangskennisgewing en die gelyste aktiwiteite op ons bedryf te bespreek. Na afloop van die vergadering sal ons terugvoer gee. Kontak asseblief vir SAWPA indien u vir die interim kopieëvan die Wet of toepaslike regulasies of enige verdere inligting rakende die aangeleentheid wil bekom.

Terugvoer oor 11 Junie vergadering met NRVS

Na die vergadering van die 17de Mei het 'n opvolg vergadering op die 11de Junie met die NRVS plaasgevind en kan daar gerapporteer word dat hierdie vergadering 'n positiewe rigting ingeneem het. Die vergadering is bygewoon deur 'n SAWPA afvaardiging bestaande uit myself, David Bergman, Willie Conradie en Daryl Ehrke asook Pierre Tullis van SAUPA.

Ons het van die geleentheid gebruik gemaak om die NRVS in te lig oor ons bekommernisse na aanleiding van die groter bedryfsvergadering op die 26ste Maart, asook om hulle kortliks in te lig oor die geskiedenis van regulasies t.o.v verduursaming in Suid-Afrika, in besonder dat die opneem van regulasies in die Onbillike Besigheidspraktyke Wet (na die herroeping van die Boswet), op versoek en a.g.v. motivering van die bedryf was en nie omdat ons bedryf as 'n probleem bedryf geïdentifiseer was nie. Verdere bespreking het gehandel oor ons bekommernisse t.o.v. die mate van betrokkenheid van die NRVS in die toekoms (duplisering), die toekoms van SATAS en die SABS, die tegniese bevoegdheid van die NRVS en die heffings wat betaal moet word.

In kort het die NRVS reeds begin met die hersiening van die voorgestelde heffing en sal die nuwe voorstel spoedig aan die bedryf gestuur word. Met betrekking die NRVS se betrokkenheid op behandelaarsvlak en die voortgesette betrokkenheid van SATAS en die SABS soos in die aanvanklike impakstudie (wat deur die NRVS afgemaak is as nie meer relevant) deurgegee, het ons die NRVS versoek om 'n hersiene en gedetailleerde voorstel/impakstudie aan die bedryf te voorsien wat a) die funksie van die reguleerder in die toekoms sal uitspel, en b) die betrokkenheid van die sertifiseringsliggame met hul kundigheid in die toekoms sal verseker.

Die NRVS het daartoe ingestem en sodra die dokument deur ons ontvang word, sal 'n verdere vergadering met hulle gehou word om die dokument en enige onduidelikhede uit te stryk en te bespreek. Die voorneme is om na afloop van die vergadering (indien 'n wedersydse ooreenkoms bereik is en die bedryf se bekommernisse aangespreek is), die nuwe voorstel aan die die bedryf te stuur vir oorweging en goedkeuring by die volgende groter bedryfskonsultasie vergadering met die NRVS. Alhoewel die NRVS aangedui het dat hulle bereid is om met die bedryf te beraadslag, kan hulle slegs instem tot by die limiete wat toegelaat word deur die wetgewing en prosedures waaraan hulle onderhewig is.

Terugvoer van die Registrateur van Wet 36 van of 1947

1. **Klas 1 hersiening van CCA** – Die Registrateur is tans besig met die hersiening van alle klas 1-rooietiketplaagdoders waarvoor daar geen motivering of versoeke vir die voortdurende gebruik daarvoor ingedien is deur die betrokke bedrywe waarin die middele gebruik word nie. Sodra hierdie hersienings afgehandel is, sal die Registrateur begin met die klas 1-produkte waarvoor hulle wel motivering en versoek ontvang het. Verdere konsultasie sal met die betrokke bedrywe aangegaan word alvorens enige finale aanbevelings gemaak word. Daar was egter gemeld dat die bedryf pogings moet aanwend en proaktief optree en voorbereidings tref vir alternatiewe maatreëls.
2. **Konsep Regulasies vir die registrasie van Plaagbeheerbeamptes** – Die voorleging wat SAWPA op die 30^{ste} Januarie ingedien het waarin ons voorstelle vir die definisies van “houtverduursaming” en registrasiekriteria vir P-registrasie van primêre-behandelingsaanlegte uiteensit het, is nog op die tafel en alle aanduidings dui daarop dat die Registrateur dit ernstig oorweeg. Dit sal ‘n positiewe uitslag vir ons bedryf wees en ons hou duim vas dat dit wel ingesluit word in die nuwe regulasies.

NUUS BROKKIES

World's tallest wooden building coming to Norway

Big timber projects are still fairly rare in the commercial sector, however we're beginning to hear more and more about them. A recent example is the 17 story cultural centre in the Arctic border town of Kirkenes, Norway. It's being touted by the Norwegian Barents Secretariat as the world's tallest wooden building. The roughly 108,000-sf timber tower was designed by Oslo-based architect firm Reiulf Ramstad Architects. Combining environment, design, education and the arts into one neat cultural center, the new building will serve as home to Secretariat offices and will include a library, theatre and creative environment for artists, researchers and students. The green building will incorporate recycled and biodegradable materials and energy-efficient offices, and the design will be influenced by traditional architecture from Russia, Sweden, Finland and Norway. Once built, it will serve as a stunning example of eco-construction and will provide a reminder of the historical importance of the Secretariat.



(Article Courtesy – Peter Jones)

SAWPA het die afgelope tyd verskeie navrae ontvang vir inligting aangeende TBTN-P (Tributiltiennaftanaat - Permetrien)



Foto van D&A Timbers – Pine Town

TBTN-P is ‘n medium-diens ligte organiese oplossingsbehandelingsmiddel. Die aktiewe bestandele wat in TBTN-P gebruik word is internasionaal aanvaarbare bestandele wat hoogstaande gesondheids-, veiligheids- en omgewingskenmerke het teenoor Lindaan(nou verban) wat in TBTOL gebruik was.

TBTN-P het sy effektiwiteit bewys as ‘n insek- en swamdoder in draer van ligte organiese oplosmiddel, b.v. wit spiritus, wat die aktiewe bestandele toelaat om diep in die hout te penetreer sonder dat dit beweging d.w.s. die verandering van vorm en groter van die hout voorkom. Dit is mees geskik vir interne (onderdak) gebruik soos, b.v. dakkappe, houtraamgeboue, vloere en vloerlyste, plafonplanke, lamelbalke en deure en vensters. Hout wat met TBTN-P behandel is, kan in H3 (buite bo-grond) toestand gebruik word, maar met die **voorbewoud**, dat die hout gereeld met ‘n **goedonderhoude** buitegebruik seëlaar geverf word., soos, b.v. fassieplanke, waterslagplanke, buitenshuise bekisting, lamelbalke en dekke.

Die behandelingsmiddel is nievekkend (hout verkleur nie) en niekorroderend nie. Aanvanklike reuk mag voorkom tot tyd en wyl die oplosmiddel ten volle verdamp het. Wanneer binne gebruik word moet daar aanvanklik voerseining gemaak word vir voldoende ventilasie. Die hout kan dan ook gelym en gevef word. Die behandelingsmiddel veroorsaak ook nie verhewe draad/grein of swelling nie en kan dus gebruik word vir gemasjineerde houtprodukte sonder dat beweging en kromtrekking voorkom. Aanwending word gedoen deur gebruik te maak van industriële laedrukvakuumimpregnering.

SAWPA het 19717 besoeke gedurende Mei 2010 aan ons webtuiste gehad.

Die gebruik van gegalvaniseerde skramrelingpale - epos

Bekommernis is deur lede geopper oor die gebruik van gegalvaniseerde skramrelingpale op die Gauteng Padverbeterings projekte, met spesifieke verwysing na die R21 roete tussen Pretoria and Kempton Park. SAWPA het die meegaande e-pos aan die Konsulerende Ingeneursfirma gestuur en het tot op hede nog geen terugvoer van hulle gehad nie.

Dear Sirs

As the Consulting Engineers on the R 21 project, I hope that you would be able to assist me in my query. We found your contact details on the internet when searching for information on companies involved in the R 21 improvement project.

SAWPA represent the greater number of wood preservers in South Africa, many of whom also manufacture and supply treated timber guard-rail posts used along our roads. Naturally when travelling on the R 21 one cannot help but notice the instalment of kilometres and kilometres of galvanized guardrail posts instead of the traditional treated timber posts.

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*Thank you
Bruce Breedt*

Ons heg die volgende uittreksel van 'n artikel uit die "Edmonton Journal" oor 'Playground arsenic no health risk for kids' – dit is interessante leesmateriaal.

Playground arsenic no health risk for kids More may end up on their hands, but not in their bodies: U of A

BY ANDREA SANDS, EDMONTON JOURNALMAY 25, 2010



The treated wood in the playground structures has long been a sore point for parents who worry about arsenic. Photograph by: Larry Wong, file photo, edmontonjournal.com

EDMONTON - Kids playing on pressure-treated wooden playgrounds get more arsenic on their hands than youngsters playing on arsenic-free structures, but the poisonous substance does not show up in higher levels in their bodies, a new study has found. A team of researchers at the University of Alberta tested saliva and urine from 66 children who played at 16 Edmonton playgrounds in August and September of 2006. Eight of the playgrounds contained wood treated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA) and the other eight did not. Testing showed no significant difference between arsenic levels in the children's bodies, explained researcher Chris Le. That's good news for parents, said Le, whose own children took part in the study playing on CCA treated equipment in their neighbourhood. "We don't want to discourage children from playing because of a small amount of arsenic," Le said. "We do want to encourage children to be physically active rather than being too scared to play." CCA-treated wood has not been sold for residential use in Canada since 2004, after worries long-term exposure to low levels of arsenic could be dangerous. CCA is a wood preservative that guards against decay from fungi and insects. Studies at the time examined arsenic levels in the wood and in playground sand.

Part of the U of A study released in 2004 found children who played on treated wood ended up with four or five times more arsenic on their hands than kids who played on arsenic-free equipment. "We said, if that's the case, how much is ending up in their bodies?" Le said. "Children frequently put their hands in their mouths and we worried that if they kept putting their hands in their mouths, how much arsenic would they lick off their hands and fingers?" "The results show there wasn't a significant difference, which might seem to be surprising." The levels of arsenic in children from both test groups was also the same as levels in the general population, he said.

Arsenic exposure comes from a variety of sources, Le said. Canadians get about 10 to 15 micrograms of arsenic per day from food and water. The amount that ended up on kids' hands after playing on CCA-treated wood was about 0.5 micrograms, Le said. "The amount from the playground is not significant compared to other sources." The U of A study noted: "If this entire amount were ingested, it would still be lower than the average daily intake of arsenic from dietary sources." Still, the more people can reduce their intake of arsenic, the better, said Le. Repeated exposure to high levels of arsenic -- several hundred to 1,000 micrograms per day -- is known to cause various cancers, such as skin, bladder and lung cancer, he said. "It's not known what is the minimum level to cause that effect," Le noted. "There's arsenic in playgrounds and arsenic can get on children's hands, so washing the hands is the most effective way of removing it. It's important for children to wash their hands after play to reduce their levels of exposure." The city's parks department maintains about 370 playgrounds across Edmonton and has been removing all CCA-treated wood since 2003, said Edmonton's director of parks operations for the south side. "So now you'll find most of our playgrounds -- probably 75 or 85 per cent of them -- do not have treated wood on them," said Doug Kirchner. "Most of them are metal or plastic because we have been making every effort at removing that type of material." The executive director for the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues said the study results should help ease parents' worries. "It may also ease the pressure to replace these facilities, which are very expensive," said Allan Bolstad. "Leagues can easily spend \$500,000 or more on a new playground, particularly if a water feature is included, so it's good to know that the lifespan of some of our existing facilities has been extended."

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Nominasies vir SAWPA Voorsitter

Mnr. John Mortimer, wat reeds vir 'n lang tydperk as Voorsitter van SAWPA dien het aangedui dat hy nie herverkiesbaar sal wees as voorsitter vir SAWPA nie.

Hiermee versoek ons graag nominasies vanaf ons lede vir 'n nuwe Voorsitter en heg die nodige vorm aan vir voltooiing indien u iemand wil nomineer. Alle nominasies moet SAWPA asseblief voor die volgende AJV, wat geskeduleer is vir 22 September 2010, bereik.

Lede wat ons gevra het om hulle inligting op ons webtuiste te plaas onder "Links to treaters" moet asseblief verifieër of hulle inligting nog korrek en relevant is. Lede wat nog nie gebruik maak van die diens nie en graag wil, kan SAWPA kontak en ons sal dit met graagte doen. Daar is geen koste daaraan verbonde nie. SAWPA is ook tans besig met die opknep van ons webtuiste om dit meer aantreklik en toepaslik te maak.

BRUCE BREEDT

SAWPA aanvaar geen verantwoordelikheid vir aanames wat in die nuusbriëf gemaak word nie.