

Newsletter 206

18 October 2016



Dear Members,

AMENDMENTS TO THE NRCS LEVIES

The annual amendments to the NRCS fees were published in GoN 1200 on 30 September 2016 and are effective from the date of publication. This in effect means that the previous levies and tariffs published in July 2015 are valid for the period up until 30 September 2016, whereafter the new levies and tariffs become effective on 1 October 2016.

For volume-levied plants (local) this means that production volumes up until the end of the third quarter of 2016 reside under the old levies and the last quarter under the new levies. Please keep this in mind when the January 2017 declaration and payments are submitted.

| Commodity description | Unit | Old tariff per unit | Old product certification type 5 tariff per unit | New tariff per unit | New product certification type 5 tariff per unit |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| | | R | R | R | R |
| | | 1 July 2015 to 30 Sept 2016 | | 1 Oct 2016 to next annual increase | |
| Preservative treated timber (VC 9092) | 1 m ³ | 1.18 | 1.06 | 1.25 | 1.12 |
| Application fee for the approval of a manufacturing facility (LOA) for the preservative treatment of timber – Non-refundable | Per facility | 1 202 | – | 1 275 | – |
| Application for a sales permit – Non-refundable ¹⁾ | Per application | 2 640.00 | – | 2 800 | – |

1) Typically sales permits will be required for processing plants that are situated outside South Africa and that supply treated timber to entities in South Africa through a registered associated or partnering business in South Africa.

NRCS LEVY DECLARATION AND PAYMENT PROCESS

All treatment plants should receive declaration forms from the NRCS at the intervals 1 January to 31 March, 1 April to 30 June, 1 July to 30 September and 1 October to 31 December. Payment must be made by the end of July for the first six months of a year and by end of January for the last six months of a year.

According to the NRCS, poor postal services and incorrect email information result in some declaration forms not being delivered to the intended destinations. To solve the problem and to prevent any potential liability for non-declaration and non-payment of levies, as required by NRCS legislation, treaters who do not receive the quarterly levy forms are advised to verify their email addresses with the NRCS. Alternatively they may also use the following two options:

- 1) NRCS's online services (requires registration) under the "Quick links" area on the left-hand side toward the bottom part of the home page www.nrccs.org.za where declarations can be made online and tracked; or
- 2) the relevant period's levy return forms can be downloaded from the "Levy Administration" link at the top right-hand corner on the NRCS website, completed, saved and returned to the NRCS.

If the latter is used, ensure that the unique HEF or JDE number is included on the form, and proof of the submission is kept.

NBCWPS — LATEST SUBSTANTIVE WAGE AGREEMENT — EFFECTIVE 1 JULY 2016 to 30 JUNE 2017

The latest substantive agreement on wages and conditions of employment for the Sawmilling Chamber (including timber treatment plants, sawn or poles) within the National Bargaining Council for the Wood and Paper Sector, was agreed to and signed by the parties on the 2 August 2016.

Wage increase: The parties agreed to a wage increase of not less than 7.5% on the current actual basic wage effective from 1 July 2016 for all employees in the bargaining unit.

Minimum wage: The industry minimum wage will increase to R3 100 p.m. with effect from 1 July 2016..

The agreement will be valid until 30 June 2017.

A copy of the full agreement containing information on all other conditions of employment is available from SAWPA or can be downloaded from our website at <http://sawpa.co.za/topical-issues> under the first link titled “*Substantive Agreement on Wages and other Conditions of Employment for the Sawmilling Chamber*”.

NEWSLETTER OFF-CUTS

- Theo Venter, a political analyst, was the speaker at the recent SAWPA AGM held on 28 September. Members who would like to receive a copy of his presentation are welcome to contact us at sawpa@global.co.za.
- SAWPA has received a new consignment of product safety warning labels and members are urged to make use of these labels supplied free of charge to members. Orders can be placed with Sue at sawpa@global.co.za.
- We would like to welcome the new class 1 treater members whose applications were formally approved at the recent SAWPA Executive Committee meeting. They are
 - Timber Jane Boupale – Hazyview,
 - Bosco – Somerset West, and
 - G&K Mouldings – George.

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