



South African Wood Preservers Association

DEA FOREWARNING TO INDUSTRY

Members who are directly involved in the preservative treatment of timber should by now be aware of the letter from the Department of Environmental Affairs, in which they issued a forewarning to industry of imminent inspections by the Green Scorpions.

The letter was also addressed to SAWPA, and after consultation with an environmental legal expert, we responded to the DEA. The SAWPA response was communicated to all industry members, and in principle it confirmed receipt of the DEA letter, noted the concerns raised therein, requested certain clarifications, and tendered our support should they require any further information from us. The DEA has indicated that they will review our letter and revert to us.

As stated in previous emails to treater members, we would like to echo the importance of the DEA forewarning. We urge members to be proactive and carry out a risk assessment on all areas in their plants that have a risk potential to the environment with regard to contamination and pollution. The current versions of SANS 10005:2016 and SANS 10255:2009 contain helpful checklists and supporting text.

It would also be sensible for members to review their status with regard to environmental authorisation and licensing that may be required, and have the applicable documentation and proof on hand. Environmental authorisation will be applicable to all plants that were commissioned and/or extended after the first EIA regulations had been published in 1997/98. As regards licensing, any plant that engages in a listed activity as specified in air quality legislation, such as the drying of timber (kilns), and heating of creosote, is required to have a valid Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL), and more recently, to be registered and report on the National Atmospheric Emissions

Inventory System (NAEIS). Although the department did not specifically refer to it in their letter, one further area that also falls under NEMA legislation, and which would be wise to look at, is compliance with waste legislation, i.e. the obligations of waste generators, and the collection, storage, and disposal of waste.

NRCS LEVIES DUE FOR PERIOD 16B (1 July to 31 December 2016)

The 31st of December marked the end of the second period of 2016 for NRCS levies due. All plants are required to submit the type 5 declaration form 16B, and pay the declared levies by the end of January, or as soon as possible thereafter. According to the NRCS, the levy declaration form 16B has been sent to manufacturers. Should any treater not have received the form it could mean that their email details on the NRCS data base need to be corrected. The generic form 16B can be obtained from the SAWPA website at <http://www.sawpa.co.za/nrcs>. Please remember that if you make use of the generic form on our website, the plant details and specific JDE or HEF number issued by the NRCS need to be completed on the form. If the unique client reference numbers are unknown, contact Magda Spies from the NRCS at magda.spies@nrcs.org.za or 012 482 8890.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Members are notified that the first round of SAWPA regional meetings for 2017 is planned for the dates given below. Final confirmation of the dates and venue details will be given closer to the time. Members are welcome to submit proposals for discussions at the meetings. Please specify whether it is intended for discussion in your specific region or if you would like to add it as a discussion point at all the regional meetings. In cases where preparation might be required by SAWPA, the

required background details need to be submitted together with the agenda item.

Regional Meeting Schedule

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| Gauteng | 16 March 2017 |
| Southern/Eastern Cape | 17 March 2017 |
| Western Cape | 24 March 2017 |
| Mpumalanga | 27 March 2017 |
| Limpopo | 29 March 2017 |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 31 March 2017 |

All the meetings will start at 10:00. Refreshments will be served before the meetings, upon conclusion of which lunch will be served. For seating and catering purposes please notify Sue at 011 974 1061 or sawpa@global.co.za if you will attend.

SANS 5997:2016 (ED. 1.2) PUBLISHED

SANS 5997, *Zinc detection in timber*, was published in December 2016. This standard method, used in the past for the detection of zinc-based preservatives that are no longer used in South Africa, has been amended to cater for non-metallic containing preservatives such as the azole permethrin (ZP) type known as Vacsol Azure™. In the case of the ZP, preservative zinc has been added as a non-active tracer element so that the presence of the preservative can be detected during penetration tests.

7th WOOD CONFERENCE



The 7th Wood Conference hosted by HWZ International will take place on 28 February at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. Bruce Breedt was requested to present a paper at the conference. The topic of the talk will be on the preservative treatment

BRUCE BREEDT

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requirements for locally grown structural timbers versus imported structural timber. The presentation will focus mainly on what the South African regulations require, how it relates to the treatment requirements, differences between species, durability and susceptibility to insects, and treatability. For more information on the conference visit www.woodconference.co.za/home/.

KZN CONSTRUCTION EXPO



22 - 23 February 2017
Durban Exhibition Centre, South Africa



The Expo will take place on 22 and 23 February at the Durban Exhibition Centre. SAWPA has booked a stand and as with all previous exhibitions we have partaken in the past, our aim is to create better awareness and to serve as a centre for information on timber preservation to the trade representatives and general public who attend.

Those interested in attending the exhibition can make use of the attached visitor ticket that allows free entrance.