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The Waste Information Today

Quarterly newsletter is aimed at communicating the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Branch: Chemicals and Waste Management projects.



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PROPOSED REGULATIONS TO EXCLUDE A WASTE STREAM OR A PORTION OF A WASTE STREAM FROM THE DEFINITION OF WASTE, PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The NEM: WA, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) came into effect on 01 July 2009 and was amended by Notice No. 37714 of 02 June 2014, the National Environmental Management Waste Amendment Act, 2014 (Act No. 26 of 2014). The amendments are intended to provide more clarity and certainty and also to deal with some of the implementation challenges experienced since 2009. The Waste Amendment Act provided a new definition of waste and made provision for the Minister in a prescribed manner, to exclude any waste stream or a portion of a waste stream from the definition of waste.

The Waste Amendment Act also provides a list of wastes in schedule 3 which outlines the sources and the description of waste. The Waste Act Amendment through the definition of waste empowers the Minister of Environmental Affairs in terms of Section 1(i) (b) (iv) to exclude certain waste streams from the definition of waste in a prescribed manner through a notice in the gazette. The proposed regulations have been developed to ensure that certain waste streams could be excluded from the definition of waste for beneficial use.

Minister of Environmental Affairs has published the proposed regulations on 14 November 2014 in Government Notice No. 38210 for public comment. Members of the public are invited to submit to the Minister, within 30 days of publication of a notice in the Gazette, written representations or objections for consideration.

A copy of the regulations can be accessed at <http://sawic.environment.gov.za> under "Draft Documents for Comment" or obtained at the Department's offices.

For more information please contact Mr Anben Pillay at apillay@environment.gov.za.



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PROPOSED REGULATIONS REGARDING THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUE STOCKPILES AND RESIDUE DEPOSITS FROM A PROSPECTING, MINING, EXPLORATION OR PRODUCTION OPERATION, PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, published the proposed regulations regarding the planning and management of residue stockpiles and residue deposits from a prospecting, mining, exploration or production operation, under section 69(1) (iA) read with sections 72 and 73 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (the Waste Act), for public comment on 14 November 2014. The proposed regulations were published in Gazette No. 38209.

Members of the public are invited to submit written representations or objections to the Minister, within thirty (30) days of publication of the Notice in the Government Gazette.

Residue stockpiles and residue deposits were regulated under the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002), and were previously excluded from the scope of the Waste Act. The National Environmental Management Laws Amendment Act (Act No. 25 of 2014) (NEMLA 3) published on 2 June 2014 amended the Waste Act to include the residue stockpiles and residue deposits within its scope.

NEMLA 3 forms part of a suite of Acts which will give rise to the “One Environmental System,” for the country relating to mining and related activities. The effective implementation of the One Environmental System is dependent upon the commencement of certain sections of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Amendment Act, 2014 (MPRDAA, 2014). It is also dependent on, amongst other related regulations, the residue stockpile and residue deposits regulations being in place.

A copy of the regulations can be accessed at <http://sawic.environment.gov.za> under “Documents for Comment” or obtained at the Department’s offices.

For more information please contact Mr Anben Pillay at apillay@environment.gov.za.

DEA-SMEs TRAINING PROGRAMME ON WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)'s Land Remediation Directorate has initiated a Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) training programme on Waste Management and Sustainable Development. The overall aim of the training programme is to capacitate SME representatives on the principles of Sustainable Development and on the Waste Management legislation brought about by the amendments to the Waste Act. Particular emphasis is being placed on the Pricing Strategy and the Waste Management Bureau and the potential impacts these may have on SMEs.

With respect to Sustainable Development, the programme exposes SME representatives on the role of the waste sector in the green economy and the associated opportunities, such as resource efficiency and funding for green economy related projects.

The programme held its first training workshop on the 27th of November 2014 where a total of 24 delegates were in attendance. The training manual for the first training workshop is accessible from <http://sawic.environment.gov.za/documents/3636.PDF>. The training workshop covered the following topics:

South African Waste Information System (SAWIS) Update

The South African Waste Information System established in terms of section 60 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act no 59 of 2008) is in full force. All existing and new waste management activities listed in Annexure 1 of the National Waste Information Regulations, 2012 are required to register and submit waste information to the SAWIS.

It should be noted that failure to comply with the registration and reporting requirements constitutes an offence and the Department will have no further option but to institute appropriate administrative actions against non-compliant facilities.

To avoid these costly administrative processes and actions, registered facilities encountering challenges with regard to registration and submission of data to the SAWIS are requested to contact the Department for assistance by email at sawic@environment.gov.za

TOPIC		PRESENTER
1. THE WASTE ACT		
1.1	Waste Amendment Act (Changes to the Waste Act)	Khashiwe Masinga(DEA)
1.2	Norms and Standards for the Storage of Waste	Zingisa Phohlo(DEA)
1.3	Waste Management Bureau & Pricing Strategy	Amanda Dana(DEA)
2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GREEN ECONOMY		
2.1	Sustainable Development and Green Economy	Gaylor Montmasson-Clair (TIPS)
2.2	Resource Efficiency & Gauteng Industrial Symbiosis Programme	Henry Nuwarinda (NCPC-SA)
2.3	Waste Recycling Opportunities	Iain Kerr (UKZN)
3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR GREEN PROJECTS		
3.1	The Green Fund	Michelle Layte (DBSA)
3.2	DTI Funding Schemes	David Molefe (the dti)

SME representatives wishing to attend future training workshops on Waste Management and Sustainable Development are welcome to contact the Programme Manager, Derrick Makhubele on (012) 399 9800 or Dmakhubele@environment.gov.za.

DEA'S RESPONSE TO THE NEW MTSF OUTCOME 9 TARGETS

The new Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) Outcome 9 targets for the 2014-2019 periods have been adopted by Cabinet on the 23rd July 2014. In the next five years it is the aim of Government to give effect to the National Development Plan targets and goals especially the Chapter that speaks to a Capable and Developmental State by 2030. As such, sector Departments are required to heed the call to action and assist municipalities in meeting the various goals and targets. The MTSF Outcome 9 requires Sector Departments to create an enabling environment and assist Municipalities to deliver on basic services. Specific to the Department of Environmental Affairs is the increase in the percentage of households with access to waste collection services from 72 to 80% by 2019. 27 District municipalities and their local municipalities have been prioritised in the MTSF.

MTSF 9 sub-outcome 1 targets for DEA:

Target: Members of society progressively have access to sustainable and reliable services (refuse removal).

Indicator: 80% of households have access to waste collection services by 2019.

DEA actions:

In light of the above target, DEA will provide a wide range of interventions including training in order to capacitate municipalities to deliver on this target. The work in this regard has already commenced in the 2014/15 financial year and will continue onwards. The 27 Municipalities in the list of 27 priority Districts Municipalities are therefore encouraged to submit their waste related training requests to DEA. The training is envisaged to assist Municipalities to deliver on the MTSF outcome 9 target of increasing the number of households with access to waste collection services. Amongst the training interventions, DEA will train Municipalities on the following:

- Waste Tariff Model,
- National Domestic Waste Collection Standards,
- IWMP web-portal including providing them assistance with the development of their IWMPs using the portal,
- Guidelines for on-site disposal of waste which are under development and which will be completed by the end of the financial year. The guidelines will provide guidance on on-site disposal of waste where applicable.

For more information please contact Mr Malcolm Mogotsi at mmogotsi@environment.gov.za.