

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

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Welcome to the 39th issue of *Waste Information Today*.

In this issue, we provide an update on the proposed Amendments to the National Waste Information regulations, the background to the Basel Convention which regulates trans-boundary movement of hazardous and other wastes as well as the procedure and the structures that have been put in place for the implementation of the Convention. There is also an article that explains the purpose of the Recycling Enterprise Support Programme (RESP) which entails, the progress on its implementation as well as the names of the grant beneficiaries.

Please feel free to forward any comments to SAWIC.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Waste Information Team



Amendments to the National Waste Information Regulations (2012)

- On 12 December 2016, the Minister of the Department of Environmental Affairs Ms Edna Molewa gazetted two Notices for public comments. The two Notices were issued respectively under sections 25 (1) and section 69 (1)(y)(t)(aa) and (ee) read with section 72 and 73 of the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) for a thirty days commenting period.
- The purpose of the Section 25 Notice was to require any person or category of persons who transport waste for gain to register with the Department. The Notice further stipulated the level of detail to be furnished by the identified person or category of persons.
- The second notice related to the proposed amendments to the National Waste Information Regulations, 2012 which in the main entailed amongst others, the inclusion of Waste Transportation activities under Annexure 1 of the Regulations, the insertion and deletion of certain definitions or provisions, the reduction of thresholds for certain waste streams as well as the reduction of the overall reporting period. Furthermore additions and deletions have been made in Annexure 3, 4 and 5 of the Regulations.
- The amendments further provided clarity on certain provisions to ensure seamless implementation of these Regulations.
- Comments were received from a wide range of stakeholders for consideration by the Minister. Based on the nature of inputs received, the draft Regulations may be published for a second round of public consultation.

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF WASTE- BASEL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THEIR DISPOSAL

The Basel Convention, which came into force on 5 May 1992 in pursuance of Article 25(1) of the Convention, was established to protect human health and the environment against adverse effects resulting from generation, management, trans-boundary movement and disposal of hazardous and **other** wastes. South Africa acceded to the Basel Convention on the Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal on 5 May 1994. By being party to the Convention, South Africa is bound by all obligations under the Basel Convention. South Africa is expected to prevent or minimize the generation of waste in terms of quantity and hazardousness, to treat and dispose of wastes as close to the source of generation as possible and to reduce the movement of waste across the borders. In South Africa, the Department of Environmental Affairs is responsible for the management of import and export of waste.

The Convention regulates the trans-boundary movement (import and export) of hazardous and other wastes through applying the "Prior Informed Consent" procedure. Shipments made without the consent are deemed illegal. The Convention also promotes the harmonization of appropriate policies, strategies and measures for minimizing harm to human health and the environment by hazardous and other wastes.

The International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC) is a schedule 3A Public Entity established in terms of the International Trade Administration Act, No 71 of 2002, and came into force on 1 June 2003. ITAC replaced its predecessor, the Board of Tariffs and Trade (BTT) that was established in 1986. The predecessor of the BTT is the Board on Trade and Industries (BTI) that dated back to 1924. The aim of ITAC, as stated in the Act, is to foster economic growth and development in order to raise incomes and promote investment and employment in South Africa and within the Common Customs Union Area by establishing an efficient and effective system for the administration of international trade subject to this Act and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Agreement.

The International Trade Administration Commission regulates all trade (imports and exports of goods) in South Africa. The ITAC and DEA signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2010 that all importers and exporters of waste must first obtain consent from DEA before the ITAC could issue an import or export permit for waste.

Requirements for the import and export of waste

(A) Import of Hazardous Waste

The following documents are required when importing waste:

- Consent from the country of export.
- Notification document completed in full.
- Safety data sheet.
- Liability insurance (indicating the validity period).
- Sales contract/agreement.
- Waste management license of the receiving facility.

The application must be lodged with the Competent Authority of the exporting country, the contacts can be found on the following link: <http://www.basel.int/Countries/CountryContacts/tabid/1342/Default.aspx>

(B) Export of Hazardous Waste

The following documents are required when exporting waste:

- Cover letter in the company's letter head indicating the type of waste, quantity, country of origin, reason for the export.
- Notification document completed in full.
- Safety data sheet.
- Liability insurance (indicating the validity period).
- Sales contract/agreement.
- Any supporting documentation for the company receiving waste indicating that they are authorized to handle waste either for disposal or recovery, i.e. ISO14000, Recycling certificate,
- Waste Disposal permit/license etc.

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(C) Import or Export of Non-Hazardous Waste to and from South Africa

The following documents are required when importing waste:

- Cover letter indicating the type of waste, quantity, country of origin, reason for the import.
- Sales contract/agreement. Waste management license/operating certificate of the receiving facility.

The application must be lodged with the Department of Environmental Affairs

The Basel Convention does NOT allow trade of waste between parties and non-parties (those countries that did not ratify the convention).

For more information on the Basel Convention kindly visit www.basel.int

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Progress on the Implementation of the Recycling Enterprise Support Programme (RESP)

RESP is an initiative launched by the Honourable Minister of Environmental Affairs, B E E Molewa together with the Members of the Executive Council (MECs) for Environment in the nine (9) provinces. RESP is a grant programme emanating from the 2015 MinMEC Resolution in support of the establishment and upscaling of black-owned and managed recycling enterprises in South Africa with the maximum amount not exceeding R5 000 000 (Five Million Rand). RESP grant is for waste management-related machinery and equipment, infrastructure (with the exclusion of land purchase), commercial vehicles, overheads (including salaries) and business development services necessary to grow the enterprise within a period of 2 (two) years. The main aim of RESP is to support the emergence of new entrants in the waste economy. The idea behind RESP is the following key drivers:

- A substantial increase in recycling rates and waste diverted from landfills
- To drive entrepreneurship and job creation by ensuring that the economic benefits emanating from waste are fully exploited
- The enablement of significant participation of black business in waste beneficiation and the secondary resources economy
- Promote innovation through converting recyclables into marketable products; and;
- To encourage sustainability of the projects.

Since its launch, DEA has drafted the National RESP concept document and the problem statement was also developed. The scope and resource requirements were determined. National Consultation with the Provinces for support, coordination and inputs was conducted together with engagement with relevant business support and funding agencies.

Twelve (12) beneficiaries from fifty six (56) proposals received, qualified to receive financial support for the financial year 2017/18, and each beneficiary is entitled to receive an amount requested in their business plans and proposals but not exceeding an amount of R5 Million.

The 12 qualifying beneficiaries are:

1. PPNG Trading (Pty) Ltd
2. Gugulami Glass Recycling (Pty) Ltd
3. Climasol Waste and Environmental Cooperative Limited
4. Rethaka Trading (Pty) Ltd
5. Waste Response CC
6. Mandini Green (Pty) Ltd
7. Recycle Yourself (Pty) Ltd
8. Eco Care Holdings (Pty) Ltd
9. Phambili Services (Pty) Ltd
10. K1 Recycling CC
11. Nobomate (Pty) Ltd t/a New GX Enviro
12. Landfill Consult (Pty) Ltd

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These 12 beneficiaries received awarding letters and were published on Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) website. The unsuccessful applicants received communication through letters, however they were further encouraged to apply again with others on the 2018 advert that was published in the Tender Bulletin on the 08 December 2017.

The 12 qualifying beneficiaries have entered into a contract with the Department. Project engagement and planning meetings were conducted with each beneficiary for business plan and budget update as well as development of a disbursement schedule. Business plans and budgets were updated and disbursement schedules developed and agreed to.

DEA has further developed RESP implementation guidelines and Monitoring & Evaluation framework to provide guidance on the whole implementation and monitoring & evaluation processes of this programme. The 12 qualifying beneficiaries will be monitored to assess how their projects are contributing towards the strategic objectives of the programme and its intended outcomes. The Department is in a process of disbursing 50% of the total amount requested to each beneficiary.



PESTICIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

What is pesticide waste?

The term pesticide waste is defined as any material/item/substance/solution containing pesticide that is no longer in use i.e. have expired and includes all the empty containers. This includes obsolete pesticides which are pesticide products not in current use because they have been banned, have deteriorated or are damaged, have passed their expiration date, cannot be used for any other reason or are not wanted by the current owner.

What is the problem with pesticide waste?

Management of pesticide waste is a challenge due to factors such as lack of education or guidance in the proper management of small quantities of pesticide-related waste, discarding of empty pesticide waste containers near poor communities and the reuse of contaminated empty containers for domestic purposes. Some obsolete pesticide stocks are located and stored in open land in rural villages' pits where they are accessible to children, livestock, open rain and the community at large.

How much pesticide waste is generated?

There is currently no readily or recently available data on the actual amount of pesticide waste generated in South Africa. The recent data referenced is from the National Waste Information Baseline Report which was undertaken in the year 2012 which looked at the tonnages of waste recycled, treated, landfilled and exported. The Baseline Report mentions that data on this pesticide waste is limited. However South Africa generated 1,319,096 tonnes of hazardous waste in 2011 and of those Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) waste, where one can regard pesticide waste to be included, accounted for 486 tonnes generated, 80 tonnes treated and 406 landfilled. There was no data reflected on the volume of POPs recycled.

What legislation governs pesticide waste?

The legislation includes but is not limited to the:

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act No. 108 of 1996.
- National Environmental Management Act (Act 107

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- National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) (NEM: WA)
- National Norms and Standards for the Storage of Waste (Government Notice 926 of 2013)
- Waste Classification and Management Regulations (GN No. R. 634 of 23 August 2013) (WC&MR)
- Norms and Standards for Assessment of Waste for Landfill Disposal (GN No. R. 635 of 23 August 2013)
- Norms and Standards for Disposal of Waste to Landfill (GN No. R. 636 of 23 August 2013)
- National Waste Information Regulations (NG No. R625 of 13 August 2012)

What happens to pesticide waste?

On the 23 August 2017 the disposal restriction of waste emanating from persistent organic pollutants (POPs) pesticides as listed under the Stockholm Convention took effect. Hence such POPs pesticide waste must be treated prior to disposal. Details of the appropriately licensed treatment processes may be obtained from <http://sawic.environment.gov.za>.

What must I do with empty containers that once contained pesticides?

Any empty container that once contained pesticide is considered to be pesticide waste and hence must be managed appropriately. Details of the appropriately licensed treatment facilities may be obtained from <http://sawic.environment.gov.za>.



Get to know us...



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