



NEWSLETTER ENV-11-2023

1 November 2023 – 30 November 2023

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NOTICES:

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The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment gave notice of the intention to adopt the Norm for the Exclusion of the Development and Expansion of Solar Photovoltaic Facilities in areas of low or medium environmental sensitivity, in terms of section 24(10) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, and exclude activities identified in terms of section 24(2)(a) and (b) of the National Environmental Management Act for the development and expansion of solar photovoltaic facilities, including any associated activity or infrastructure, from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation, based on compliance with the Norm. Members of the public were invited to submit written comments or inputs within 15 days after the publication of the Notice in the Gazette, or of a newspaper notice calling for comments, whichever period occurs last, to the Director-General, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.

Published under Government Notice 4121, Government Gazette 49788 of 30 November 2023.

CONSULTATION ON THE INTENTION TO ADOPT THE BATTERY STORAGE EXCLUSION NORM AND EXCLUDE IDENTIFIED ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF BATTERY STORAGE FACILITIES FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment gave notice of the intention to adopt the Norm for the Exclusion of the Identified Activities Associated with the development and expansion of battery storage facilities in areas of low or medium environmental sensitivity, in terms of section 24(10) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, and exclude in terms of section 24(2)(d) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, certain activities identified in terms of section 24(2)(a) and (b) of the Act, associated with the development and expansion of battery storage facilities, from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorization, based on compliance with the Norm.

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SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR APPLICATION FOR TWO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS NAMELY: DECHLORANE PLUS AND UV-328 WHICH ARE LISTED IN ANNEX A OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION FOR ELIMINATION WITH SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as the Focal Point of the Stockholm Convention, informed the industry and other interested stakeholders about the specific exemptions available for application for two industrial chemicals namely: Dechlorane Plus and UV-328, which are listed in Annex A of the Stockholm Convention for elimination with specific exemptions for certain applications. Any other uses of Dechlorane Plus and UV-328 are banned under the Stockholm Convention except for those applications specified under specific exemptions. Only parties that have applied for specific exemptions will be allowed to use Dechlorane Plus and UV-328 for those exempted applications as indicated in the Notice. Any company which may be involved in the use of Dechlorane Plus and UV-328 under specified exempted applications prescribed in the Notice, and which still wishes to continue with these chemicals, were requested to apply for specific exemptions through the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, within 60 days of publication of the Notice in the Government Gazette. Written submissions of the requested information must be forwarded to the Director-General: Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment Attention.

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CONSULTATION ON THE INTENTION TO AMEND THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE FINANCIAL PROVISIONING REGULATIONS, 2015

The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment consulted on the intention to extend the date of compliance for holders of rights and permits obtained under the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 regime through an amendment of the transitional arrangements contained in the Financial Provisioning Regulations, 2015, as amended. Members of the public were invited to submit written comments or inputs, within 40 days after the publication of the Notice in the Government Gazette, to the Director-General, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT 10 OF 2004

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)

The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment published amendments to the CITES Appendices I and II as amended by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) at its 19th meeting, held from 14 to 25 November 2022, for information. These amendments entered into force on 23 February 2023. The requiem shark listing will come into effect after 12-month implementation delay on 25 May 2024.

Published under Government Notice 4116, Government Gazette 49774 of 28 November 2023.

NATIONAL WATER AMENDMENT BILL, 2023

The Minister of Water and Sanitation published for public consultations the National Water Amendment Bill. Members of the public were invited to submit within 60 days of publication of the Notice in the Government Gazette, written comments on the draft Amendment Bill, to the Director General: Department of Water and Sanitation. Published under Government Notice 4097, Government Gazette 49733 of 17 November 2023.

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SOURCES

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- SA Government Online Information Services
- IOL
- DMR
- DWEA
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