

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
– MPUMALANGA

26-08-2019

Meeting between Management and PSA: Non-conducive working environment - Hebron Plantation – 19 August 2019

The following issues were discussed with management and the implementation date will be 30 August 2019:

Non-issuing: Proper personal protective equipment (PPE)

The following was submitted to the employer:

- PPEs issued to employees not of good quality
- For three years, gloves and safety goggles were not issued
- All standby officials must be issued with combat jackets
- Colour must be uniform

The employer responded that it was not aware of these challenges, however, these will be addressed with the service provider to first bring samples before delivering the PPE. The rain suit, leather gloves and safety goggles have been requisitioned and delivery is expected soon.

Road maintenance

The PSA submitted that the road has potholes and is slippery when it rains, making travelling unsafe. The employer mentioned that there is no budget for a tar road. It will request Limpopo to assist with grading equipment.

Acting allowance

The Foreman, Store-man and Driver are not paid acting allowances for tasks they perform owing to the ongoing moratorium on filling of posts. The employer promised to source from personnel from other plantations and transferred officials.

Security

The plantation is unsafe as there are no security guards to protect officials and assets. The employer responded that a submission for private security was waiting for approval from the DG.

Water crisis

The PSA brought a sample of unclean water drawn from the streams and drank by officials and handed this to management to check if they can drink it. The employer submitted that there is a plan for boreholes in all plantations, but for now tanks will be arranged, water will be tested and chemicals procured to clean it.

Camping and standby allowance

Will be paid as the employer managed to shift funds.

No computer/internet access

The employer mentioned that approval has been submitted to the DG to use personal 3Gs and be reimbursed.

Ivan Fredericks
GENERAL MANAGER