

Feedback: Departmental Bargaining Chamber meeting – 3 March 2023

A meeting was held on 3 March 2023 where the following issues were discussed:

DFFE structure: Matching and placing

The employer reported that it is continuing to workshop branches on the micro structure. Thus far, both Branch: Environmental Programs and Branch: Forestry are being engaged and change management processes are continuing. The PSA noted the report.

Policies

The employer tabled and presented the review of the Sexual Harassment Policy and the Information Technology Security Policy for labour's consideration. It was agreed that both policies will be distributed to labour for members to give inputs.

PSCBC Resolution 1/2019 implementation: Report and feedback from National Macro Organisation of Governmental Departmental Task Team (NMOG DTT) on progress

The employer had no feedback since the facilitation process as advised by the Secretary of GPSSBC. The PSA enquired about posts that were returned to the DALRRD owing to not being funded. The employer will request Organisational Design Section to identify those posts and report back.

Officials transfer: Mpumalanga and Limpopo plantations

The employer reported that a consultation process is still under way as "Branch: Forestry Management" has a project plan and a project team. The project team has several parties involved and labour was requested to nominate one representative to be included. The PSA requested that its one representative will be a Departmental Bargaining Chamber member and when the project team conducts engagements at local level, local Chairpersons should be invited to be part of the process. The employer acceded to the request. The PSA will be represented by its Chief Negotiator. The PSA Branch Chairperson will be his alternate as Departmental Bargaining Chamber members. The proposed dates for plantation visits to engage members are:

- 6 – 9 March 2023 visits to Mpumalanga

- 13 – 17 March 2023 visits to KwaZulu-Natal

The employer pronounced that it was still on track to realise the finalisation by 31 March 2023, however, the PSA was very clear that there should be no rushing to complete this process and that PSA will be an active participant in the interest of its members.

Injaka Dam and other workplaces: Water shortage and dilapidated stand-by houses

The employer reminded parties that Occupational health and safety unit made a verbal presentation in the past and that there was more purified water at Injaka Dam. It further disclosed that as the process of transferring these plantations was at an advance stage, it would not make business sense to invest a huge amount of money only to let go of the plantations. The PSA requested that the employer to make the written report available and parties agreed, and the PSA will check the content of the report thereafter give feedback.

Members will be informed of developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website (www.psa.co.za), send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

GENERAL MANAGER