

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (DHA)

08-03-2023

Victory for PSA members

Update: Closure of Brits storage facility

The PSA received complaints from employees at the Brits storage facility that the building did not comply with occupational health and safety standards. It was reported that walls were on the verge of collapse, side walls are cracked, bricks are falling from the walls, the roof is leaking, and floor spaces are unstable.

The PSA visited the building on 2 March 2023 and conducted an inspection together with the management delegation. The PSA requested that employees must be vacated immediately owing to the high risk of an unsafe working environment. As management hesitated to vacate the employees, the PSA requested intervention of the Department of Employment and Labour. The Labour Inspectors visited the storage building on 6 March 2023 and decided to issue a prohibition notice (*attached*). The notice explicitly indicates that no visitors or employees should enter the storage facility until proper inspection is conducted by certified engineers. The employer was instructed to find an alternative safe workplace for affected employees.

The PSA urges members who are forced to work in the storage facility to report such incidents to peter.mngomezulu@psa.co.za so that the Chief Labour Inspector is informed to take appropriate actions. Members will be informed of developments.

The 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



labour

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Director General

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Brits

Ref. No. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR
P.O. BOX 2978, BRITS 0250

2023-03-06
Office stamp
PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR
BRITS LABOUR CENTRE

Date of inspection 06 March 2023 Accompanied by Gerrie Horn

DIRECTION NOTICE: PROHIBITION

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, ACT 85 OF 1993 AS AMENDED

I am of the opinion that the circumstances specified below threaten, or are likely to threaten, the health and/or safety of persons. In terms of section 30 of the aforesaid Act, I hereby prohibit you from continuing or commencing with the following, effective immediately:

Allowing the building to be occupied by employees or visitors until it is inspected by a structural engineer and a report has been issued.

I will consider revoking or amending this prohibition notice only after arrangements to my satisfaction have been made to dispose of or substantially reduce the threat which gave rise to the imposition of this prohibition.

Note: An Appeal i.t.o. section 35, will not suspend this notice

Received by: G. G. Horn
Date: 06/03/2023
De Signatuur: Acting S.F.P.E.
Signature: 13H00

Inspector: [Signature] Date: 06/03/2023 Employer Representative: [Signature]

REVOCATION OF A PROHIBITION NOTICE

In terms of section 30 (1) of the aforesaid Act, the prohibition notice served on you on..... is hereby revoked.

Inspector: Date:

O.E

[Signature]