

GENERAL NOTICES ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

NOTICE 542 OF 2013

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (DAFF)

DRAFT NATIONAL FORESTS AMENDMENT BILL, 2013

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

I, Tina Joemat-Pettersson, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries hereby invite all interested institutions, organizations and individuals to submit written comments on the draft National Forests Amendment Bill.

Some of the Key amendments of the National Forests Amendment Bill include:

- Clear definition of Natural forests and Woodlands
- Increased promotion and enforcement of Sustainable Forest Management
- Reduce cost for compliance promotion in terms of section 15 (for example currently the Act requires the National list of Protected trees to be published annually, with the proposed amendment the list will be the published at least every 5 years or when the need arises before the 5 year period end)
- Increase in measures to control and remedy deforestation
- Clear procedures for making regulations.

Copies of the Legislation amendment may be obtainable from the Directorate Forestry Regulation, email: Shumanid@daff.gov.za and LukeR@daff.gov.za from the DAFF website (www.daff.gov.za).

Please follow the steps below to view the draft Amendment Bill from the website:

- Step one: Open the DAFF website, www.daff.gov.za
- Step two: Click on Legislation
- Step three: Click on Bills
- Step four : Open the Forestry Amendment Bill

Interested stakeholders wishing to comment are kindly requested to forward their written comments to the Directorate: Forestry Regulation and Oversight within 30 days of the date of the publication of this notice.

Post to: Private Bag X 93, Pretoria, 0001; or

Deliver To: 110 Hamilton building, Pretoria; or

Fax to: 012 309 5840; or

Email to: shumanid@daff.gov.za or LukeR@daff.gov.za

Please note that comments received after the closing date may be disregarded. The Directorate Forestry Regulation may be reached at Tel. (012) 309 5765 or 309 5756 for any enquires.