

Life Cycle Management of Treated Wood - The Canadian Approach

Production and Use of treated wood in Canada falls under two main Acts:

- Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA 1999)** administered by Environment Canada and Health Canada
 - Risk management for "Toxics" contained in wood preservatives
 - Goal – minimizing releases and exposure to toxic substances
- Pest Control Products Act (PCPA)** administered by Health Canada- Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA)
 - Controls which pesticides are used and how they are to be used
 - Re-evaluation of heavy duty wood preservatives ongoing

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CEPA Process - Wood Preservation Sector Strategic Options Process

- Full life-cycle management of CEPA toxics in wood preservative.
- Stakeholder report titled "Strategic Options for the Management of Toxic Substances – Wood Preservation Sector" (SOR 1999) forms the basis for activities.
- SOR 1999 contains 52 recommendations to minimize risk associated with CEPA toxics in wood preservatives.
- See: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/toxics/wood-bois/>

The Production of Treated Wood

- BMPs titled "Recommendations for the Design and Operation of Wood Preservation Facilities" (1999) "TRDs".
- National voluntary TRD implementation program currently underway. Instruments within CEPA 1999 applied to facilities that don't comply. Facilities compliant by 2005.
- Measures to minimize worker exposure, releases to the environment and ensuring quality control.
- Changes to equipment required during the switch to new preservatives (ACQ and CA-B) has facilitated implementation of TRDs.

Commercial Use

- Labeling and information program to improve residential consumer knowledge and awareness.
- Provides information on treated wood:
 - Acceptable use
 - Safe handling
 - Installation and maintenance
 - Reuse and disposal.

Industrial Use

- "Industrial Users Guidance Document" to be released shortly contains:
 - Basic information on the properties of the preservatives
 - Purchasing recommendations
 - Storage Guidelines
 - Basic installation guidelines
 - Guidance on Life-cycle assessment of treated wood and alternative products
 - Recommendations on the management of post-use treated wood
 - Recommendations on audits, records and awareness training.



Treated Wood Waste

- The main issue yet to be resolved in the Strategic Options Process.
- Have developed two discussion documents on the subject:
 - Industrial waste – "Discussion Paper Towards the Development of a National Industrial Users Waste Management Strategy"
 - Consumer waste – "Analysis Of Consumer Lumber Waste Management Options"
- Strategy based on hierarchy:
 1. Abatement or elimination
 2. Reduction
 3. Reuse
 4. Recycling
 5. Treatment
 6. Disposal

The Future?

