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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

FORESTRY AND CERTAIN FOREST PRODUCTS INCLUDED AS ESSENTIAL GOODS AND SERVICES

Please be advised that in terms of government Notice No. 318 of 18 March, as amended by Notice Nos. 398, 419 and 446 of 25 March, 26 March and 2 April respectively, all forestry operations and certain forest products, are deemed to be essential goods and services and as such, are allowed to continue to operate during the national lock down period.

The Minister of Environment Forestry and Fisheries, Ms Barbara Creecy MP, has re-affirmed this in the national live broadcasts, which took place on 24 March and 3 April 2020.

In terms of essential forestry operations, these include but are not limited to company and external suppliers engaged in:

- Nursery operations
- Establishment (planting) operations
- Silviculture (weeding, tending, thinning and pruning)
- Harvesting (felling and short-haul) operations
- Fire services including prevention, detection and control (spraying and burning of tracer belts and firebreaks, and ground and aerial combatting of wildfires)
- Delivery of timber and bark to markets (long-haul by road and rail)

In terms of essential forest product operations and where these are used in or are ancillary to, the production, packaging and distribution of food, medicinal and hygiene products, newspapers or energy generation, domestically or internationally, these include but are not limited to company and external suppliers, engaged in the production or provision of:

- Pulp (dissolving and kraft)
- Paper and packing (including recycled paper and newsprint)
- Sawn timber
- Plywood and other engineered wood products
- Board products
- Poles
- Woodchips
- Shavings and sawdust
- Wood pellets
- Bark derived products
- Essential oils and resins

Please note further that where such goods and services are in support of essential services in other countries (e.g. exported products), that in terms of amended regulation 11B(4A)(b), these are also allowed to continue to be produced and exported.

Enquiries in this regard, can be directed to the Executive Director of Forestry South Africa, at the email addresses provided above. Alternatively, he can be contacted via Whatsapp or Telegram, on 082 808 0425.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Peter', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Michael Peter
Executive Director

4 April 2020