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OUR REF: update_july26

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ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND FOODSTUFFS LEGAL UPDATE REPORT
(SOUTH AFRICA)
JULY 2026

Dear Clients,

Below please find a summary of selected relevant environmental, health and safety and foodstuffs legal developments that took place during July 2026.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

1) Biodiversity Act

- ***Consultation on Draft Guidelines for the Management of Damage-causing Animals in South Africa***

The Minister released draft guidelines for public comment.

2) National Environmental Management Act

General Notice of Condonation for the Late Submission of Dust Management Plans by Identified Stakeholders as required in terms of the National Dust Control Regulations. The latter came into force on 31 March 2026, but a six-month condonation period from 31 July 2026 within which to submit Dust Management Plans for approval and/or finalise the approval process in terms of the Regulations, was now published.

Persons identified by the Regulations are:

- a) any holder of a right or permit related to a prospecting, exploration, mining, or production operation, as defined in section 1 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002;
- b) any person conducting reclamation;
- c) any person conducting a listed activity and who is required in terms of the provisional or atmospheric emission licence to develop a dust management plan;
- d) any person conducting a controlled emitter that has the potential to generate dust; and
- e) any person conducting an activity that an air quality officer reasonably suspects is causing or has the potential to cause nuisance by dust.

HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION

3) *Railway Safety Act*

The following draft Regulations were released for comment:

- Draft Railway Safety Standards Development Regulations
- Draft National Railway Safety Permit Regulations
- Draft Regulations Regarding Railway Occurrences to be Reported to the Railway Safety Regulator
- Draft Penalty Fee Regulations.

Besides this, a confirmation was released that all regulations and notices issued under the previous railway safety legislative framework remain in force. The confirmation is in terms of section 69(2) of the Act and provides continuity of the existing regulatory regime pending any future amendment, replacement, or repeal of such regulations and notices. The continued legal operation and enforceability of all regulations and notices contemplated in section 69(3) is also confirmed thereby ensuring uninterrupted administration and oversight of railway safety.

4) *National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act*

An amendment Bill was published for comment.

FOODSTUFFS AND AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION

No legislation dealing with this topic was passed this month.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

5) *Employment Equity Act*

The Department released the Draft Reviewed Code of Good Practice on the Preparation and Implementation of the Employment Equity Plan.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION

6) *Western Cape Land Use Amendment Act*

This amends the Western Cape Land Use Planning Act, 3 of 2014.

No relevant provincial legislation was passed this month by the other provinces.

MUNICIPAL LEGISLATION

7) *Msunduzi Local Municipality*

The following changes were made by the municipality:

- New Municipal Health Services By-laws were published and the 2015 Public Health By-laws were repealed
- Stormwater Management By-laws were published.

8) *Madibeng Local Municipality*

Fire Services By-laws were published.

9) *Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality*

The municipality published the following:

- Draft Review Waste Management By-law for public comment.
- Fire By-laws for implementation.

10) *Lekwa Local Municipality*

The municipality introduced the:

- Integrated Waste Management By-law
- By-law Relating to Streets, Public Places and the Prevention of Noise Disturbance and Noise Nuisance.

11) *City of Cape Town*

The Traffic By-law was amended.

12) Witzenberg Local Municipality

The 2004 Electricity Supply By-law was repealed and replaced by a new one.

13) Capricorn District Municipality

A new Water Services By-law was published thereby replacing the 2008 by-law.

14) George Local Municipality

The municipality amended the Integrated Zoning Scheme By-law.

15) Newcastle Local Municipality

Electricity Supply By-laws were passed.

16) Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality

Among others, the following were published:

- Solid Waste Disposal By-law and previous by-laws repealed
- Prevention of Public Nuisances and Keeping of Animals By-law and previous by-laws repealed
- Draft Stormwater Management By-laws
- Electricity Supply By-law and PN 537 of 1988 repealed.

SANS AND OTHER STANDARDS

The following draft standards were published for comment:

- *SANS 61400-21-1:20xx Ed 1 Wind energy generation systems - Part 21-1 - Measurement and assessment of electrical characteristics - Wind turbines.*

Includes definition and specification of the quantities to be determined for characterizing the electrical characteristics of a grid-connected wind turbine, measurement procedures for quantifying the electrical characteristics, procedures for assessing compliance with electrical connection requirements, including estimation of the power quality expected from the wind turbine type when deployed at a specific site.

- *SANS 61400-21-2:20xx Ed 1 Wind energy generation systems - Part 21-2 - Measurement and assessment of electrical characteristics - Wind power plants.*

Defines and specifies the quantities that are determined to characterize the electrical characteristics of grid-connected power plants (PPs).

- *SANS 61400-23:20xx Ed 1 Wind turbines - Part 23 - Full-scale structural testing of rotor blades.*

Defines the requirements for full-scale structural testing of wind turbine blades and for the interpretation and evaluation of achieved test results. 2026-09-16 SANS 61400-25-3:XXXX Ed 2 Wind turbines - Part 25-3: Communications for monitoring and control of wind power plants - Information exchange models. Specifies an abstract communication service interface describing the information exchange between a client and a server for data access and retrieval, device control, event reporting and logging, self-description of devices (device data dictionary), data typing and discovery of data types.

- *Safety of machinery - Electrical equipment of machines Part 32: Requirements for hoisting machines.*

Applies to the application of electrical and electronic equipment and systems to hoisting machines and related equipment.

The following proposed amendments to existing standards were published:

- *SANS 10086-1: XXXX Ed 4.3 - The installation, inspection and maintenance of equipment used in explosive atmospheres Part 1: Installations including surface installations on mines.*
- *SANS 10086-2: XXXX Ed 2.1 - The installation, inspection and maintenance of equipment used in explosive atmospheres Part 2: Electrical equipment installed underground in mines.*
- *SANS 10086-3: XXXX Ed 2.3 - The installation, inspection and maintenance of equipment used in explosive atmospheres Part 3: Repair and overhaul of equipment.*
- *SANS 10108:20XX Ed 7.1 - The classification of hazardous locations and the selection of equipment for use in such locations.*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Kind regards

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