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## M E M O R A N D U M

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**DATE:** 15 April 2002  
**TO:** Each Board Member  
**FROM:** Niamh O' Neill  
**RE:** Application for IPC licence from Glenfarne Wood Products Limited. Annagh, Glenfarne, County Leitrim (Reg. No. 625)

Application Details	
Class of activity:	8.3 The treatment or protection of wood, involving the use of preservatives, with a capacity exceeding 10 tonnes per day.
License application received:	7 November 2001
Notices under article 11(2)(b)(ii) issued:	17 December 2001
Compliance with article 10	7 February 2002
Notice under article 17 issued:	14 March 2002
Compliance with article 17:	8 April 2002
Site visit:	10 December 2002

### Company

Glenfarne Wood Products Limited is located approximately one mile from the village of Glenfarne, Co. Leitrim on the main Manorhamilton to Enniskillen Road. The principal activity carried on by the company at the site is saw milling. A planning application for the timber treatment process has been lodged with the Planning Authority, but to date no decision has been made with regard to the application. There are 8 employees at the facility and the normal hours of operation are Monday to Friday (08.00 to 17.30).

### Proposed Timber Treatment Plant

The treatment process involves the use of a vacuum system to impregnate timber with "Celcure AO" (liquid wood preservative). The impregnation of the timber with the preservative is carried out under the following process:

- Timber is loaded into the treatment vessel
- A vacuum is created in the treatment vessel

- Treatment fluid is introduced to the chamber and contact maintained at c.11 bar pressure.
- Excess fluid is drained off and pumped out
- Door is opened and the treated product is removed.
- Cycle time can vary; around three hours would be typical.

Celcure AO (also known as a copper chromated arsenical) is a water-based preservative containing copper oxide, chromium trioxide and arsenic pentoxide. This preservative is carcinogenic (category 1) and is toxic to fish and other aquatic life forms. The estimated expected annual throughput of timber for treatment is 8,000 tonnes/year and it is anticipated that 36m<sup>3</sup> of Celcure AO concentrate will be used annually at the site with up to 17m<sup>3</sup> stored on site at any one time.

The treatment unit along with the liquid storage tank is to be located in a bunded area within a process building. The operational storage tank (steel tank with polymer lining set into a reinforced concrete pit) will form a sump below the pressure vessel. The pit will be sealed and tested as a liquid retaining structure. A granular drain with perforated pipe will be installed beneath the pit and run to a dry manhole. This will provide indication of the integrity of the pit seal.

The building will take the form of a reinforced concrete floor and sump all graded to prevent liquids leaving the building.

There are no process emissions to air or water from the treatment plant. Treated timber will be stored in a bunded and roofed area of the building to prevent emissions to the environment.

Initially the preservative will be delivered in intermediate bulk containers. Condition 8.4 of the PD provides for the protection of groundwater and surface water by requiring all tank and storage areas to be bunded to 110% of the capacity of the largest tank or drum within the bunded area or 25% of the total volume of substance which could be stored within the bunded area. Deliveries of Celcure AO will be carried out in a bunded and covered area.

## **Proposed Determination**

### ***Air:***

There are no significant air emissions from this facility. Dust/shavings are extracted by a cyclone system and internal bag filters are fitted to remove particulates. The PD sets a requirement for the weekly inspection and maintenance of the cyclone under *Schedule 1(i)*. Upon completion of the treatment process a small release to atmosphere occurs when the unit door is opened. This emission is not considered to be environmentally significant.

***Water:***

There are no process emissions to sewer or to water. *Schedule 2(i)* of the PD requires daily visual examination, monthly chemical oxygen demand and quarterly suspended solids analysis for surface water discharge.

***Waste:***

Waste arising on site consisting mainly of sawdust is collected and used for animal bedding. Packaging waste including plastic sheets and holding straps for delivered pre-treated timber will be disposed of to landfill. Sludge from the on site septic tank will be removed annually as per Condition 6.4.

No sludge has been accumulated or removed from the impregnation tank to date. This waste will be treated as hazardous waste and disposed of by an agreed hazardous waste disposal contractor as set out in *Schedule 3(i)* of the proposed licence. Condition 12 of the PD provides for residuals management planning in the event of termination or planned cessation of the licensed activity.

***Noise:***

As noise levels will not be significantly increased by the timber treatment process a noise survey was not deemed necessary. Glenfarne Products Ltd. does not presently operate at night-time however seasonal demand may require extended operating hours including occasional night-time operation. The nearest noise sensitive location (the applicant's residence) was visited and sawing activity from within the warehouse was inaudible. The inhabitant of the next nearest dwelling had no complaint with noise. The character of the noise is that of vehicle movements and the operation of the roof mounted cyclone. In any case Condition 7.1 specifies the noise levels at the nearest sensitive location not to exceed 45dB(A) night-time and 55 dB(A) day-time.

***Emissions to ground:***

There are no process emissions to ground.

***Firewater Retention Facilities:***

Condition 8.2 requires the applicant to carry out a risk assessment to determine if the activity should have a firewater retention facility.

***Submissions:***

No submissions were received.

***Recommendations:***

It is recommended that the Board of the Agency issue a Proposed Determination in the case of the application for an IPC licence made by Glenfarne Wood Products, Annagh, Glenfarne, Co. Leitrim. Reg. No. 625.

Signed

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Niamh O' Neill