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FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE (DPWI)

22-05-2024

Feedback: DPWI Special Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC) meeting – 21 May 2024

Non-compliance: Mpumalanga Regional Office

It was previously reported that the Mpumalanga Region Office building does not comply with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. In the previous meeting, the employer could not provide a report, citing that the Chief Director responsible for properties was not available. During the Special DBC, the employer reported that the landlord is currently in the process of fixing identified building defects. It reported that it is upgrading the building structure, sealing of the roof and ventilations, and installing overflow on gutters. It was reported that the landlord is busy installing the pressure pump, enlarging the water capacity on the roof, and upgrading all fire equipment as per municipal requirements. Lifts have already been upgraded.

The PSA expressed displeasure with the fact that the Department continued to extend the lease agreement for nine years with the landlord, even after the Regional Office Management team advised that the lease agreement be extended for only three years to monitor the progress with fixing the building. The PSA further demanded that the employer should arrange alternative accommodation or allow employees to work from home whilst the building is still under refurbishment. The employer responded that it would have to consult its principals on the proposal as it did not have a mandate. Feedback will be provided to labour by 21 June 2024. The PSA noted the response but emphasized the need to expedite the matter. The PSA will continue to monitor developments in matter.

Members will be informed of developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website (www.psa.co.za), send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER