

**MINUTES**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**  
March 25<sup>th</sup> 2003  
Vancouver, British Columbia

ATTENDANCE:

N. Banks	D. Alexander	C. Baker	B. Burmeister
S. Côté	C. Dupuis	M.-A. Dalkowski	P. Dandy
K. Davies	D. Fitzgerald	C. Frolich	T. Gardner
M. Gauvin	P. Gravel	P. Hattin	M. Hollick
R. Knechtel	G. Labelle	P. Mason	
M. McCollough	B. McManus	J. Mogan	T. Moryto
R. Pastway	L. Prendiville	M. Richards	T. SeamanG.
Stein	M. Straatsma-Rennie	C. Wilson	

STAFF:

H. Walthert  
P. McKeogh

1. CALL TO ORDER

H. Walthert the acting Chairman called the meeting to order at 13:09.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by K. Davies and seconded by J. Mogan to adopt the agenda as presented.  
CARRIED

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of last meeting were not available.

4. MEDIA ISSUES/CITW STRATEGY

H. Walthert reported on the unprecedented media attention the industry has been faced with in recent months. The focus being on CCA products, attacks by environmentalists have come on many fronts including on a municipal level e.g. city of Ottawa. He expressed the opinion that much of the hype had been generated by lobbyists for the steel pole industry.

He stated that he would be implementing in consultation with RP Public Relations a new and updated media strategy, he urged the members to actively pursue their lobby with their MPs and regional and local politicians, that CITW would continue to maintain a summary of media coverage.

NOTED

#### 5. ENVIRONMENT CANADA STRATEGIC OPTION PROCESS

H. Walthert reported that the results of the SOP would continue to impact directly on all aspects of the treated wood lifecycle from manufacturing to disposal. Final implementation of the SOP recommendations is now underway. Individual treating plant Implementation Plans were received from 65 of 66 treating plants. Only one plant did not submit and they are now going through a CEPA process. He stressed that it would be necessary to continue with these implementation plans for the new preservatives, amended as required.

P. Dandy raised the question whether it was necessary now to proceed with the labeling programme for the new preservatives as they are classified as toxins, particularly, when other competing products such as plastics do not have any tags. It would seem to place our product at a disadvantage. There was apparently no intent in the USA to tag the new products.

After some discussion it was agreed that it would be prudent to assume that the labeling of the new products would be maintained as they are pesticides and that it could protect from litigations.

NOTED

#### 6. TREE CANADA/WOOD PROMOTION NETWORK

H. Walthert summarized the work of both entities and reported that CITW is contributing to both of those activities. It was agreed that this work should be highlighted on our website.

NOTED

#### 7. NORTH AMERICAN WOOD POLE COALITION

H. Walthert reminded the members that CITW had joined forces with AWPI, SPTA, WRCA and WWPI to form a North American Wood Pole Coalition. CITW's financial contribution to the budget is 10%, thereby gaining large value at a reasonable cost. In 2002, the coalition was embroiled in a law suit with IUSI in the state of Colorado over a memorandum which was produced and distributed by the NAWPC. The suit was settled out of court. The 2002 program has been reduced to allow the various associations to recover from the financial burden of this action.

NOTED

#### 8. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Nil.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Hollick and seconded by C. Wilson to adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED