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ENFORCEMENT OF TERMITE PRE-CONSTRUCTION TREATMENT STANDARDS

On September 28, 2012, Director Jim Barbee of the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) sent a letter to the pest control industry to heighten awareness of state inspection standards for termite pre-treatment applications. The letter has been posted on the NDA web site since it was published. The posted letter was a follow up to a previous termite pre-construction treatment meeting in Las Vegas during which the Department reviewed the details of termite label application requirements and rigorous enforcement standards. Requirements discussed included the necessity of applying termiticides into trenches in the "final grade" around the outside of structures as well as increased application volumes to "critical areas" (e.g. plumbing and utility penetrations, bath-traps, cold joints, etc.). Additionally, label requirements for pre-treatment of cement slabs covered by a roof and adjoining main slabs were reviewed with respect to treatment procedures and inspection standards. A complete description of the termite pre-construction treatment standards can be found in Nevada Administrative Code chapters 555.427 and 555.428.

The NDA was aware that, for companies not closely adhering to label directions, inspection standards may lead to the decision to increase the time to perform treatments, the number of trips to treatment sites, and the amount of termiticide applied. The Department was also aware that company procedural changes may lead to increased treatment costs and any consequent change in fees for service. To accommodate these procedural adjustments, the Department agreed to an adjustment period until January 01, 2013, after which adherence to the standards would be expected. During this adjustment period, the NDA expected the pest control companies would inform builders and concrete companies of these expected standards and resolve any necessary changes in procedures or fees.

This letter is to reinforce that the Department expects adherence to the termite pre-construction treatment standards. NDA inspectors are checking to ensure that applications are being made according to standards, that forms and tags are being filled out correctly, and taking soil samples for chemical analysis to confirm that treatments are being made correctly. One of NDA's missions is to protect the welfare of consumers from the destructive effects of termites as well as protect the integrity of the pest control industry and those involved in home construction.

In order to continue communication between the Department and termite pre-construction termite industry, and to expand communication to businesses that may be considering incorporating C3 applications, you are cordially invited to a Pest Control Applicator Structural (C3) Training and Discussion. There will be session in both southern and northern Nevada. For times and places, see enclosed flyer. The Department would like to make this training and discussion an annual event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Leavitt", with a stylized, flowing script.

Robert Leavitt