



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU
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OCT 05 2021

DIR. NEIL P. CATAJAY

Director

Bureau of Philippine Standards

Department of Trade and Industry

3F Trade and Industry Building,

361 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., 1200 Makati City

Dear Director Catajay:

This has reference to your letter dated 30 July 2021 requesting for information on the availability and supply of lumbers, particularly Benguet Pine (*Pinus kesiya*), Mindoro Pine (*Pinus merkusii*) and kiln-dried spruce or fir, to be used in the adoption of UL 711:2018, Rating and Fire Testing of Fire Extinguishers as Philippine National Standard.

Please be informed that this Office currently does not have data on the information requested. Nevertheless, we have referred your letter-request to the DENR Regional Offices in Cordillera Administrative Region and MIMAROPA Region as the information may be best provided by them since Benguet pine and Mindoro pine, respectively, are endemic in these areas.

Moreover, considering that kiln-dried spruce or fir lumber are not locally grown in the country and usually being imported, your letter-request was also referred to DENR National Capital Region as they may provide information on the importers/dealers of lumbers with the said species.

Should you have any clarifications on the matter, you may also directly coordinate with our Regional Offices through their websites which could be taken from www.denr.gov.ph.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR., CESO III

Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and Foreign-Assisted
and Special Projects, and Director, in concurrent capacity

cc: The RED, DENR CAR
The RED, DENR MIMAROPA Region
The RED, DENR NCR

30 July 2021

ASSISTANT SECRETARY MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR., CESO III

Policy, Planning, and Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects
Director, Forest Management Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
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Email: fmb@denr.gov.ph

Dear Assistant Secretary Amaro:

We wish to inform you that the BPS Technical Committee on Fire Protection and Fire Fighting Equipment (BPS/TC 2) is adopting UL 711:2018 Rating and Fire Testing of Fire Extinguishers as Philippine National Standard.

The standard specifically uses kiln-dried spruce or fir lumber in the preparation of the wood crib that will be used for fire rating test to determine the fire rating of a particular fire extinguisher. Said test is being conducted on a regular basis for the certification of fire extinguishers, hence we need to confirm the availability of the wood so that the conduct of fire rating test will not be held in abeyance due to unavailability of the wood.

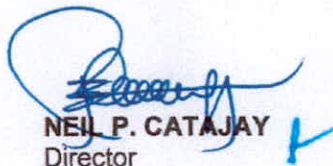
According to the Department of Science and Technology - Forest Products Research and Development Institute (DOST-FPRDI) spruce and fir are not locally grown and are usually imported from North America/Canada. Mindoro pine (*Pinus merkusii*) and Benguet pine (*Pinus kesiya*) are possible alternatives to kiln-dried spruce or fir lumber since they belong to the same family Pinaceae. However, DOST-FPRDI has no information about the availability and supply of these species.

In this regard, may we know if Mindoro pine (*Pinus merkusii*) and Benguet pine (*Pinus kesiya*) are available locally. Otherwise, we would like to seek your assistance and recommendation in identifying what specie of wood can qualify as an alternative.

Moreover, may we invite your representative to the virtual BPS/TC 02 - Fire Protection and Fire Fighting Equipment meeting on 12 August 2021; 9:30 am through Zoom (Meeting ID: 935 8582 5734 and Passcode: 732 250) to discuss the available species of wood that may be used for fire rating test.

Thank you for your usual support in our standardization activities.

Sincerely,



NEIL P. CATAJAY
Director

Cc: Undersecretary Ruth B. Castelo
Assistant Secretary Ann Claire C. Cabochan
Assistant Secretary Ronnel O. Abrenica

Ref: SDD-YMRD-07-2021

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Membership:

- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
- World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)
 - National Enquiry Point (NEP)
 - National Notification Authority (NNA)