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Dear Paul

J-Frame treatment

Thank you for providing MBIE with the long-run time series of boron retention tests undertaken by AsureQuality and with the interim results from Scion's testing for decay resistance of new samples of J-Frame. The Ministry has reviewed this information and considers that it supports the view that the samples used in the original durability testing undertaken by Scion are representative of the J-Frame being supplied to the market. In other words, there is no evidence to support the concerns raised with MBIE that the original durability test samples may have received special treatment.

As you are aware, MBIE commissioned Dr L J Cookson to review whether J-Frame's CodeMark certification was justifiable and whether J-Frame meets the performance requirements of the B2 Durability provisions of the New Zealand Building Code. Dr Cookson's report concluded that "the granting of the Codemark for J-Frame ... was justified" and "the test results suggest that J-Frame is a durable product". Accordingly, J-Frame remains certified for use where the H1.2 hazard class or less applies, to meet the requirements for B2 Durability for timber framing in the New Zealand Building Code.

Finally, I note general agreement that the New Zealand and Australasian Standards for the preservative treatment of timber and engineered wood products are not as clear as they could be. The Ministry is working with the relevant Standards committees to update and clarify these documents. I understand that JNL is making submissions on some of these standards reviews.

Yours sincerely

General Manager

Building System Performance Branch