

Perma Treat of Illinois, Inc. achieves DBE certification through the US Department of Transportation

Marion, IL – September 15, 2015 – Perma Treat of Illinois, Inc., has recently been certified as a **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)**

*“Perma Treat of Illinois, Inc. is the **only** wood preserver (lumber treating plant) in the United States that has the **DBE** designation.”* said Sara Bond, president and chief financial officer of Perma Treat of Illinois Inc.

“It was an intensive, 17-month process that involved over 700 pages of supporting documents including an on-site visit of plant operations to make the determination the plant is owned and operated by Ms. Bond. “I am confident that the DBE designation was worth all of the effort.” said Sara Bond.

A DBE is a for-profit small business that is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged. African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific and Subcontinent Asian Americans and women are presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged. Other individuals can also qualify as socially and economically disadvantaged on a case-by-case basis.

“The pressure treating business is a male-dominated business. I witness first-hand, each day how challenging it is for a woman to own and operate a wood treating plant and acquiring contracts to keep the plant going,” Bond said. “The DBE designation allows Perma Treat of Illinois to get a fair shot at competing for contracts for public works projects.”

The federally mandated DBE program provides contracting opportunities in the United States Department of Transportation's highways, mass transit, and airport financial assistance programs to small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. **Perma Treat of Illinois, Inc., will appear in the IL UCP DBE Directory in the following area of specialty: NAICS Code: 321114 Wood Preservation.** The directory can be accessed on the Internet at www.pacebus.com.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of the country's economy. By participating in DBE initiatives, state government ensure that federal funding stays within the local community to assist with social and economic growth. Small businesses and important demographics that would have otherwise been excluded in the marketplace are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field for state-sponsored contracts.

The wholesale business of Perma Treat of Illinois, Inc. provides treated lumber products throughout the U.S. but always with an eye toward new markets. “We recently upgraded the facility and currently participate in WQC (Wood Quality Control) program for utility poles. WQC is a field inspection program designed to ensure the consumers are receiving high-quality treated wood utility products through third party inspections on site at our plant and out in the field where the poles are being installed.” Bond said.

Bond is hoping with the DBE certification that Perma Treat of Illinois, Inc. can sustain existing jobs as well as increase employment opportunities to those in the area and take a more active role in the community once again.

Contact: Sara Bond

sara@permatreatlumber.com

www.permatreatlumber.com

1800 Perma Treat Drive

Marion, IL 62959

Cell: [618.694.2898](tel:618.694.2898)

Business: [618.997.5646](tel:618.997.5646)

