

# WPSC

Wood Preservative Science Council

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**  
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## **CPSC STAFF RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF CCA BAN**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – After more than two years of scientific assessment, the professional staff of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recommended today that no further action be taken to regulate wood treated with Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA).

In reaching its conclusions to deny the petition brought forth by several environmental groups, the CPSC professional staff concluded: **“Over a lifetime, arsenic exposures from food, especially certain foods such as rice, other grains and meats; drinking water; and other sources could be much larger than exposures from playground equipment during childhood.”**

CPSC staff also emphasized the importance of the voluntary action taken by CCA manufacturers in February 2002, to limit CCA’s uses for certain residential applications as of December 31, 2003.

**“We are responding to consumers by moving forward with a new generation of wood preservatives and we are pleased that the CPSC professionals recognize that,”** said Jim Hale, executive director of the Wood Preservative Science Council (WPSC).

The CPSC staff recommendation will be acted on by the three CPSC commissioners who are responsible for policy making decisions.

**“American consumers should be greatly reassured by this news,”** said Hale. **“This recommendation comes from the professional staff of the federal agency charged with protecting the public. It is a major setback to some environmental groups who have questioned the safety of this very reliable and useful product.”**

**To schedule and interview with Mr. Hale or WPSC scientific consultant Barbara Beck, please contact Katie Wright (ext. 132) or Keith Appell (ext. 112) at (703) 683-5004.**

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*The WPSC was formed by the major manufacturers of CCA to continue supporting and participating in the sound scientific analysis of treated wood. More than 70 years of safe use and the body of scientific and medical evidence demonstrates that CCA-treated wood is safe when used as recommended.*

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