

Impact of the Regulation

Since the main objective of the draft Act is to complement the Regulation with two new types of fertilisers, the amendment will have a minor impact on the workload of the officials of the Agricultural and Food Board (hereinafter *the AFB*) in the field of fertilisers, as well as on the workload of the Environmental Board, as all the producers of new fertilisers must be granted an environmental protection permit or the existing one must be amended. The workload will increase slightly at the AFB when registering new types of fertilisers and planning supervision of these types of fertilisers. However, the amendment does not directly affect the number of checks to be carried out in the context of supervision or have a significant impact on public expenditure and revenue.

The proposed amendments will have an impact on fertiliser operators who produce and market the agricultural lime, as well as on agricultural producers who use these fertilisers. The amendment can be expected to expand the list of agricultural lime operators and the list of marketable agricultural lime, which will have a positive impact on the availability and pricing of fertilisers. Implementation of Regulation No. 46 will increase administrative burden for operators who decide to market material as fertiliser, and compliance with the requirements also entails costs (e.g. registration of a fertiliser in the fertiliser register, compliance with the obligation to carry out self-checks). Nevertheless, the additional administrative burden and costs for the operator are proportionate to the need to ensure safety for human and animal life and health, property and the environment. One of the potential alternatives, marketing the material as waste does not exempt the operator from administrative burden and costs, since waste can only be sold to environmental protection permit holders, while the obligation to report and pay state fees extends to both parties.

The proposed amendments will increase the recycling of waste resulting from the processing of oil shale and implement the objective set out in clause 5.1.5 of the Government of the Republic Action Programme. The amendments also fulfil the task assigned to the Minister of Regional Affairs and Agriculture by the Government of the Republic Action Programme to analyse and make proposals on the options for using the waste resulting from the processing of oil shale as fertiliser. The use of waste as a resource (recycling) allows for maximising the benefits from natural resources and reducing the demand for new natural resources. This helps reduce the environmental impact associated with the introduction of new natural resources and decreases waste generation.

The Regulation has no significant social, including demographic, impact. There is also no significant impact on the economy, national security and foreign relations, regional development and the organisation of local government.