



ECOLOGY INDUSTRY AND LEGAL UPDATE

KALIKOVA &
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Information for effective business solutions

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Industry Update

June 8, 2015

Kyrgyz Parliament supports EBRD loan for recultivation of landfill in Bishkek

Parliamentary Committee on Agrarian Policy and Water Resources supported the ratification of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development loan and grant agreement.

As Mayor Kubanychbeck Kulmatov noted, the EBRD had allocated EUR 22 million, including EUR 11 million as loan, and EUR 3 million and 8million as grants.

The Project will include the recultivation of the existing municipal disposal site in parallel with the construction of a new sanitary landfill on the adjacent area. The entrance area of the landfill will comprise a combined front-end facility with material recovery (MRF) and mechanical-biological treatment (MBT) functions. It is anticipated to purchase 30 waste collection trucks and 5,000 containers and to build 1.5 thousand collection points.

The significant component of these reforms is the 50% rise in the waste collection fee. At the moment, Bishkek has the lowest waste collection fee rates: KGS 15 per person, KGS 4 per pensioner.

<http://www.knews.kg/>

Legal Update

May 14, 2015

Kyrgyz Government Resolution Approving KR bill proposing amendments to KR Water Code dated №293

The purpose of the bill is to ensure continuous mining operations at high-mountain mines and to prevent negative geotechnical, ecological, socio-economical, and legal impacts of stoppage of mining operations at strategically important deposits.

The enactment of the proposed bill will enable the companies making a significant input in the economy of the country and in the development of the region, but whose operations cannot help influencing glaciers, to continue its prospecting, exploration and mining operations subject to subsequent relocation of the affected glacier to another place.

May 4, 2015

KR bill proposing amendments to KR Law on Ecological Expertise No. 92

The purpose of the bill is to remove a number of inconsistencies between the Law on Ecological Expertise and the Law on Environmental

May 8, 2015

Kyrgyzstan calls on global community to help address uranium tailings problem

The uranium tailings issue needs international cooperative effort to address it. The delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic in New York at the review conference of the member states of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons circulated the document requesting assistance in addressing environmental problems.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Kyrgyz delegation, on behalf of all Central Asian countries, mentioned the importance of addressing the problem of environmental impacts of uranium mining and nuclear fuel cycle related activities arising from the production and testing of nuclear weapons.

It was noted that there are uranium tailings in Central Asia that pose not just the environmental and health threat to the surrounding population, but also represent a security threat that could jeopardize the stability and sustainable development in the region.

Despite the efforts taken on a national and regional level to prevent the deterioration of the uranium tailings, the problem remains unsolved and requires international cooperation. The UN General Assembly issued a resolution on the role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia dated December 20, 2013 at Kyrgyzstan's request. The Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty encompasses an environmental component which addresses concerns related to remediation environmental damage resulting from the production and testing of Soviet nuclear weapons.

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May 7, 2015

OSCE-supported Aarhus Centre opens in Bishkek

The official opening of the OSCE-supported Aarhus Centre took place in Bishkek on 7 May 2015. The aim of the Aarhus Centre will be to address disputable environmental issues in conformity with

Protection. Under the current Law on Ecological Expertise, the state ecological expertise is subject to prior fee payment. But under the Law on Environmental Protection, state ecological expertise is not a service, but a binding environmental requirement, which is needed to prevent any possible negative environmental impact. The ecological expertise is based on the principle stating that the state ecological expertise must be conducted before making a decision to sell the object of expertise.

Under the regulation on procedure for maintaining the uniform systematized registry (list) of the public services provided to individuals and legal entities by the Government and public sector, the public service means the result of the activity of the competent public authorities involving the fulfillment of request from individuals and legal entities to secure statutory rights or legal interests or obligations of individuals and legal entities.

The initiators of the bill claim that the offering of paid services by the public authorities will lead to confusion of controlling and monitoring functions of the State Agency for Environmental Protection. Therefore, it was decided to remove these inconsistent provisions from the text of the Law on Ecological Expertise.

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March 2, 2015

Regulations on protection of groundwater in Kyrgyzstan No. 92

The regulation on protection of groundwater in Kyrgyzstan was approved by Government Resolution of March 2, 2015 №92. This regulation defines the procedure for use and protection of groundwater in the Kyrgyz Republic.

It should be noted that the Regulation applies to all individuals and legal entities of the Kyrgyz Republic, and to foreign individuals and legal entities, including stateless persons, who use groundwater supplying facilities for personal needs and applies to organizations engaged in construction and drillings of wells, regardless of their organizational and business form and type of property.

Under the Regulation, groundwater protection

the Aarhus Convention.

The new organization is located in the building of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry at 143 Gorky Street, Bishkek and so far has 3 employees on the staff: director, information assistant and finance assistant. The Aarhus Centre in Bishkek will have a library accessible for everyone willing to obtain environmental law information.

“Our organization will assist in establishing a dialogue, leading to the prevention and mitigation of conflicts related to use of resources. It will distribute information and raise awareness on environmental matters”, said Ambassador Sergey Kapinos, Head of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek.

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April 27, 2015

Meeting on reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining

On April 27, 2015, Kadamjai Sanitary Station started trainings for specialists of testing laboratories able to analyze human and environmental samples. Equipment used for trainings is mercury analyzer RA-915M, a specialized laboratory equipment, manufactured in Russia. Trainer invited for training is the employee of the equipment manufacturer.

This analyzer is part of the analytical complex able to make fast selective measurements of mercury concentration in the atmosphere, gas flows, liquid and solid samples.

The equipment was bought in the framework of the project on reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan, implemented by the UN Environment Programme and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The joint meeting of the Interdepartmental Commission on the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Coordinating Committee of the project on reducing global and local environmental risks from primary mercury mining in Khaidarkan was held on April 22, 2015 in the conference room of Plaza Hotel.

includes:

- Ensuring compliance with water legislation and other legal acts concerning the use and protection of water;
- Taking measures to prevent and fix any contamination of groundwater by wastewater and pollutants spills;
- Increasing the level of wastewater purification and preventing untreated wastewater spills into streams, reservoirs, and groundwater;
- Ensuring strict compliance with the requirements for groundwater exploration, design, construction and operation of water intake facilities;
- Ensuring systematic control over condition of groundwater and the environment, including the areas with water intakes and major industrial and agricultural hydro-engineering facilities;
- Conducting other water-protecting activities for groundwater protection.

Under the Regulation, protection is granted to: sources of fresh and mineral and thermal groundwater, exploited water, and water intake facilities used for household or other purposes.

The responsibility for protection of groundwater from exhaustion and contamination by industrial, agricultural, and domestic waste, for compliance with the established procedure for operation of groundwater and sanitary protection zones of water intake facilities is borne by the water users operating the sources of groundwater and causing their contamination.

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March 26, 2015

Stockholm Convention project

On March 23, 2015, UNEP-GEF project conducted a starting seminar on review and update of the National Action Plan for meeting Kyrgyzstan's obligations under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, implemented by the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry. The purpose of updating the National Action Plan is to protect human health and the environment from the risks arising from inefficient use and management of organic pollutants resulting in unintentional release of persistent organic pollutants.

The meeting was attended by the representatives from ministries, departments, international organizations and civil sector.

The topics covered in the seminar were:

- Information campaign to raise awareness of the proper handling of pesticides in Kyrgyzstan
- Protection of human health and the environment from unintentional releases of persistent organic pollutants and mercury as a result of the improper handling of medical waste in Kyrgyzstan
- PCB management and disposal in Kyrgyzstan
- Obsolete pesticides in Kyrgyzstan
- Introduction of GHS in Kyrgyzstan
- Strategic approach to international chemicals management (SAICM)

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