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**INFORMATION OF
THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

**ON THE DECISION MADE ON PERMISSIBILITY OF PLANNED
ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

The planned economic activity – establishment of Vilnius County Municipal Waste Landfill.

Client – Public Institution *Vilnius County Waste Management Center*, Gedimino Ave. 37, Vilnius.

Location of the planned economic activity – Vilnius County.

Environmental impact assessment performed by – UAB *Baltic Consulting Group*, A. Goštauto 11, Vilnius.

Description of the planned economic activities. Municipal, construction and demolition waste and municipal wastewater treatment sludge is to be disposed in Vilnius County Municipal Waste Landfill. The planned Landfill operation time – 20 years. Average annual amount of waste to be disposed in the Landfill is 318,8 – 364,7 thous. tones, and 6,8 million tones per 20 years. The Landfill capacity, including the estimated waste layering with ground inter-layers, amounts to 8,7 million m³. Only disposal of waste, and no other waste management type (sorting, composing, etc.) is planned at the Regional Waste Landfill. For accounting of accepted waste the waste accounting system is planned including two truck scales and computer equipment. The disposed waste will be stacked in the ridge working zone of the minimum area and compacted by a compactor. Layers of dumped and compacted waste, max. thickness – 2 m, will be interlaid with inter-layers of ground or construction waste supplied to the waste and good for this purpose.

Two alternative locations to establish the Landfill are analyzed: 1) – in Kazokiškės (Elektrėnai Municipality), and 2) – Širvintos District, close to Lauryniškės village. Kazokiškės land plot is in the north-eastern part of Elektrėnai Municipality territory, in 3,5 km to the north of Vievis. The Landfill would be located in the place of almost fully exploited Kazokiškės gravel and sand quarry and the operating Elektrėnai Municipality landfill. According to approximate data the current amount of disposed waste in the landfill accounts for 110 000 m³. Waste is dumped into the hole of the quarry having no bottom insulation layer or filtrate collection system. The planned Landfill is to have the ridge of 6 sections. The total ridge area is 27,1 ha, the ridge depth – 14 m, the height above the ground level – 30 m. During the period of the new Landfill construction and the existing landfill management, a new modern landfill section together with the entire infrastructure required to operate it would be built. After that all the existing waste accumulated in the existing landfill would be moved to the new section, the territory of the existing landfill would be cleared and used for making a new section. ~~Vievis-Kazokiškės road will be the access to the Landfill.~~ Bypasses around the Landfill and Aliosnikai village are planned. There are no residents in the sanitary protection zone. There are no surface water bodies in the Landfill plot and its sanitary protection zone. The closest water bodies – Aliosia and

Celgis streams – are in 1,6 km. Ground water runs deep. Horizontal ground water migration probability is quite low. Mixed and fine grounds are prevailing in the major areas of the land plot: fine clayey soil, and less frequent – sandy and clay loam. With respect to geological – hydro-geological conditions of the land plot, an artificial insulation layer of the Landfill bottom is needed to establish the Landfill. Kazokiškės plot is not included into the network of protected areas of European importance (NATURA 2000). The land plot does not feature biodiversity, neither it is a recreational landscape. Changes in share of forest land vs. total land area will be insignificant. Infrastructure is well-developed: there are good conditions to supply water from Vievis City water supply systems; Vievis City bio-water treatment facilities, into which all kinds of sewage and filtrate will be discharged, are located in 1,2 km.

Another land plot proposed for establishment of the Regional Waste Landfill is in 30 km from Vilnius, in Širvintos District, to the right of the regional road Barskūnai-Šiauliai. Lauryniškės village is situated in 0,8 km to the west of the plot. The closest residential country house is located in 0,5 km to the west of the plot. The plot consists of the state-owned land and forest. The Landfill plans to have 7 sections. The total area of the Landfill ridge is 40 ha, the area of Section 1 – 10 ha, of other sections – 5 ha. The ridge height – 30 m. The closest surface water bodies: Uolia stream – in 200 meters, and Musė river – in 550 m. The plot is located between the rivers Neris, Žeimena, Šventoji and Dauguva, in one of the **basic feed areas** of the Baltic basin. In eco-hydro-geological terms the plot is ascribed to the category of sensitive territories due to very high ground water level – only 0,1-0,3 m down the ground level, though speeds of potential, both horizontal and vertical, pollutant migration are slow. The plot is mostly dominated by the average hardness grounds – clay loam. With respect to geological – hydro-geological conditions of the land plot, an artificial insulation layer of the Landfill bottom is needed to establish the Landfill, as well as technical measures to lower the groundwater level. Natural landscape with high biodiversity prevails in the land plot, it is covered with swampy deciduous forest, bird hatching and animal breeding places are abundant there. Infrastructure is not developed.

Measures to prevent, mitigate or compensate the negative environmental impact of the planned economic activity. A drainage collection system is planned to collect filtrate generated by the Landfill, and from the system filtrate will be pumped – by an automated filtrate pump-station – into the Landfill sewage pump-station, which will pump filtrate together with municipal and industrial sewage to treatment facilities. Unpolluted surface sewage will be separately collected and discharged into a drainage trench through a control shaft. To avoid filtrate leakage into the underground and prevent soil pollution, a bottom structure with a clay layer and polymer membrane is designed, which will ensure sufficient sealing of the bottom. Underwater, surface water, landfill gas and filtrate monitoring is to be performed at the landfill. To prevent the Landfill-generated gas air emissions, a landfill gas collection system will be installed. During the first Landfill operation year the collected Landfill gas is to be incinerated in a specially-built torch. Later, upon the increased volume of collected Landfill gas, it will be used to generate electricity.

Conclusions of environmental impact assessment subjects.

Širvintos District Municipality, by Letter No. 1.32-13-190 of May 22, 2002, has approved the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and proposed to establish the Landfill in Širvintos District.

Širvintos Fire and Rescue Service, by letter No. 01/06-11 of May 8, 2002, has approved conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Regional Development Department of Vilnius County Governor's Administration, by letter No. 10-21/82/2002/2-10, of May 13, 2002, has approved conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Mayor of Elektrėnai Municipality, by letter No. 07-281, of May 24, 2002, has approved the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and proposed to establish the landfill in Kazokiškės plot.

Vilnius Public Health Centre, by Design Documentation Hygienic Expertise Statement No. 12-751, of May 28, 2002, has approved the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and proposed to establish the Landfill in Kazokiškės plot.

The Fire and Rescue Service in charge of Elektrėnai and Lithuanian Power Plant Protection, by letter No. 71/03-09, of May 24, 2002, has approved conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Trakai Public Health Monitoring and Specialist Training Center, by letter No. 12-119, of May 13, 2002, has approved conclusions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Note: As far as conclusions of the environmental impact assessment subjects about the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and activity potential were contradictory, in line with Article 10.2 of the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of Planned Economic Activities, a meeting was held on June 6, 2002, during which the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and conclusions of the subjects were discussed. The subjects of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report had no objections to establishment of Vilnius County Municipal Waste Landfill in Kazokiškės (Elektrėnai Municipality).

Public information about the environmental impact assessment of the planned economic activity. Two public discussions of the report were arranged.

Advertisements inviting the wide public to get familiar with the planned activity and its Environmental Impact Assessment Report during the public discussion were placed on May 6, 2002, in Kazokiškės Neighborhood, and on May 11, 2002, in Elektrėnai News [Elektrėnų Žinios] – Elektrėnai Municipality Weekly. Upon taking into account motivated (justified) public proposals and comments voiced during the ~~May 21, 2002~~, public discussion of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, it is stated that the public is basically positive to the Landfill establishment in Kazokiškės.

Advertisements inviting the wide public to get familiar with the planned activity and its Environmental Impact Assessment Report during the public discussion were placed on May 6, 2002, in Jauniūnai Neighborhood, and on May 11, 2002, in Širvinta

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newspaper. Upon taking into account motivated (justified) public proposals and comments voiced during the May 21, 2002, public discussion of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, it is stated that partial public is against the Regional Landfill establishment in Lauryniškės, Širvintos District.

Decision of the responsible body and the decision date. The Ministry of Environment has approved the establishment of Vilnius County Municipal Landfill in Kazokiškės (Elektrėnai Municipality) on the basis of the submitted Environmental Impact Assessment Report subject to additional conditions:

1. When drafting the technical design, tackling possibilities of lowering the absolute Landfill ridge height is proposed.
2. When drafting the Landfill design, the Landfill Monitoring Program shall be drafted and coordinated with Vilnius Region Environment Protection Department.

The decision was made on June 12, 2002 (letter No.01-24-3257).

UNDERSECRETARY TO THE MINISTRY

EMILIS GUSTAINIS