

The Electronic Waste Registry: A Brief Guide for Waste Productive Entities

January 20, 2017

With the purpose of transposing Directive 99/2008 'on the protection of the environment through criminal law', Joint Ministerial Decision No. 43942/4026/2016 was issued. The Decision defines key concepts such as waste, recovery and disposal and places the essential requirements for waste management. Notably, this aims to serve as an obligation for establishments which carry out waste management operations to be the recipients of a permit or to be officially registered. Another major principle of this Decision is the obligation of handling waste in such a way as it does not have a negative impact on the environment, nor does such handling interrupt the health of all inhabitants, while at the same time encourages the application of 'waste hierarchy'. This is defined in the 'polluter-pays principle', a requirement which states that the costs of disposing of waste must be borne by the holder of waste, by previous holders or by the producers of the product from which the waste was derived from.

General

In January of 2017, the long-awaited "Electronic Waste Registry" was launched and set in operation by Joint Ministerial Decision 43942/4026/2016 (Official Gazette B 2992 / 09.19.2016) entitled "*Organization and Electronic Waste Records function (EWR)*".

The Electronic Waste Registry (EWR) is an online service operated by the Ministry of Environment and Energy in order to implement electronic registration of legal entities (Businesses and Organizations). In addition, the "EWR" includes the activities of bodies (Facilities and Collection-Transmission activities) as well as their declaration of waste management supported with all relative licenses. It covers the requirement for submission of the

Waste Report according to the new tables drawn up by the Ministry of Environment and Energy Working Group which enables EWR administrators, to produce reports by processing of data entered into the information system by its users.

Purpose of the Provision

In this online electronic database, the recorded (by businesses, municipalities and organizations) information on the type and quantity of waste generated, along with the management method applied, aims to create a complete list of the production and transfer of waste in Greece and to support a better and easier supervision of waste management by all relevant departments and authorities.

Submission



The Electronic Waste Registry (EWR) can be accessed through: <http://wrm.ypeka.gr/>. There one may find all relevant instruction material ("Support"). However, before their submission, businesses must verify that they are, in fact, among the entities obligated to register.

Registration's deadline

The Electronic Waste Registry is fully operational as of January 2, 2017. The deadline for mandatory online registration of enterprises and organizations expires on February 28,

2017. At the same time, the deadline for the electronic submission of waste report (for the companies obliged to file such report) in relation to 2015 and 2016 expires on May 31, 2017. It should be duly noted that according to article 7 of the Joint Ministerial Decision 43942/4026/2016, strict fines and other administrative sanctions (those of article 30 of L.1650/1986) shall be imposed in case an entity obligated (by the respective Law) to submit in the Registry, has not done so in the respective time period, mentioned above..

Contact

For any further comment or query, please contact the KG lawyer you are in contact with or the Administrative Law practice team.

Dr. John Koimtzoglou (Partner)

E-mail: i.koimtzoglou@kglawfirm.gr (Athens office)

Andreas Abatis

Email: a.abatis@kglawfirm.gr

Oraiozili-Maria Koutsoupia

Email: o.koutsoupia@kglawfirm.gr

Main (Athens) Offices
28, Dimitriou Soutsou str.,
115 21, Athens
Greece
Tel: +30 210 8171500
Fax: +30 210 68 56 657/8

Thessaloniki Branch
17, Ethnikis Antistaseos
551 34 Thessaloniki
Greece
Tel: +30 2310 441552

www.kglawfirm.gr

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