

## DECISION

### OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

No 675-N of 15 June 2017

#### ON DEFINING THE CONTENT OF MINING WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINING WASTE RE-PROCESSING PLANS, AS WELL AS MEASURES FOR MINING WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINING WASTE RE-PROCESSING

In accordance with part 2 of Article 60.3 of the Subsoil Code of the Republic of Armenia, the Government of the Republic of Armenia ***decides***:

1. To define the content of mining waste management and mining waste re-processing plans, as well as measures for mining waste management and mining waste re-processing, pursuant to the Annex.
2. This Decision shall enter into force on the tenth day following the day of its official promulgation.

**Prime Minister**  
**of the Republic of Armenia**

**K. Karapetyan**

21 June 2017

Yerevan

**Annex**  
**to Decision of the Government**  
**of the Republic of Armenia No 675-N**  
**of 15 June 2017**

**CONTENT OF MINING WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINING WASTE  
RE-PROCESSING PLANS, AS WELL AS MEASURES FOR MINING WASTE  
MANAGEMENT AND MINING WASTE RE-PROCESSING**

1. Mining waste (hereinafter refers to as “the waste”) management and re-processing shall be carried out in accordance with their management and re-processing plans.
2. The waste management plan must contain the following:
  - (1) characterisation of the waste;
  - (2) description of waste generation sources (technological processes);
  - (3) information on potential volumes of the generated waste;
  - (4) methods of re-processing or neutralisation of the generated waste;
  - (5) information on the waste facilities according to the hazard classification and management;
  - (6) data on the location of the waste facilities, forecasts regarding the frequency or periodicity of the increase of the their volumes;
  - (7) description of the method of transportation, placement of the waste and storage thereof;
  - (8) information on the place of final placement of the waste;

- (9) information on the possibility of occurrence of emergency situations, measures for localisation and elimination of their consequences;
  - (10) action plan in emergency situations;
  - (11) deployment of safety management systems;
  - (12) methodical instructions for waste handling and reduction of their generation volumes and hazard levels;
  - (13) possible negative impact of waste on the environment (atmospheric air, soil, water resources, biodiversity) and human health, as well as measures for their prevention and mitigation, including during or after the closure of waste facilities;
  - (14) procedures for observance, maintenance of and control over the environment of the waste facility and adjacent areas including the final closure of waste facilities and after their closure;
  - (15) information on the financial and technical capabilities and resources necessary for waste management.
3. The waste re-processing plan must contain the following:
- (1) description of the system of transporting waste to the re-processing facility thereof;
  - (2) data on the location of the re-processing facilities, forecasts regarding the frequency or periodicity of the increase in the volume thereof;
  - (3) characterisation of the waste stored in the waste re-processing facility according to their types, hazard class and volumes;
  - (4) methods of re-processing or neutralisation of the waste, the alternatives whereof shall be assessed by taking into consideration the best available technologies, in order to:

- a. avail of, to a maximum extent, of the opportunities of alternative use of the waste (for instance use as a filler, use during re-construction of other areas of ore mines, use during backfilling of wells);
  - b. ensure the required technical conditions during the mining waste re-processing with the aim of minimising any danger from the perspective of environmental safety (for instance depyritisation and addition of buffer material);
- (5) risk assessment — possible negative impact on the environment (atmospheric air, soil, water resources, biodiversity), adjacent and/or affected communities, historical, cultural and natural monuments;
  - (6) information on the financial and technical capabilities and resources necessary for waste re-processing;
  - (7) Description and implementation of the procedures for observance of and control over the waste re-processing facility and adjacent areas, including the final closure of waste facilities and after their closure, including sampling places, frequency, compliance indicators such as minimum dam capacity, pore pressure, groundwater level, operation of drainage and circulating water systems, surface water removal, dam displacement, slope stability;
  - (8) standards which define the end of operation of the facility, the envisaged use of the soil after the end of the operation and ensuring of a long-term stability of physical, geotechnical and biological parameters, as well as, where necessary, restoration of the ecosystem;
  - (9) development of procedures for closure, re-cultivation and post-closure of the facility;
  - (10) action plan in emergency situations.
4. The measures for waste management and waste re-processing shall include:

- (1) brief description of the measure — requirements to works, time limit for the performance of works, objective, form and content of works, procedure for the performance thereof, submitting reports on the performance of works;
- (2) technical specifications, geographical position and ecological conditions of waste facilities and waste re-processing facilities;
- (3) carrying out monitoring of the main components of the environment (air, soil, water) in the waste facility and affected areas at the stages of its design, operation, closure, as well as after its closure;
- (4) secure storage and safe disposal of residual waste and production residues;
- (5) restoration of disturbed or occupied lands, as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia;
- (6) assessment of mining waste characteristics, including geological properties;
- (7) re-processing of ore of low economic significance in factory conditions in order to prevent the occurrence of acid rock drainage;
- (8) processing of oxide materials in factory conditions for creating a harmless layer or cover over more reactive waste;
- (9) placement of highly reactive sulphide materials in deep pits several meters underground in order to stop oxidation reactions in the waste;
- (10) introduction of effective waste preparation and disposal methods, which will ensure the removal of excess water in the tailings before transportation of the waste, and therefore will minimise the discharge of water and pollutants to the tailing dump.

**Chief of Staff of the Government  
of the Republic of Armenia**

**V. Stepanyan**