

# THE ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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## Abstract

In modern political and economic circumstances, the general public, and economic entities in particular, are in need of more detailed information on the concept of energy use from renewable sources and its advantages, despite the obvious pressure on the budgets of these environmental policy entities. In achieving this goal, the state and its national and international environmental policy play a key role. It can be accomplished by the adoption and efficient implementation of regulations in the field of energy, especially energy management. The Republic of Serbia has largely incorporated the *acquis communautaire* in the field of energy, energy efficiency and energy management into the national legislative framework. What should be especially insisted on is consistent compliance with the adopted regulations and efficient control of their implementation.

**Keywords:** energy management, energy efficiency, regulations, the Republic of Serbia

## Introduction

Some of the burning issues in today's world are global warming and climate change. These phenomena are a direct consequence of greenhouse gas emissions, because the mass construction of power plants has led to the emission of pollutants in concentrations above the prescribed limit values. For this reason, scientists and professionals are fully aware of the need to use renewable energy sources and improve various technologies in order to make energy use as accessible, economical and environmentally friendly as possible. Despite the obvious pressure on the budget, there is an evident need to bring these issues closer to the general public and economic entities, in addition to scientists and professionals.

In achieving this goal, the state plays a key role, as well as its national and international environmental policy. It can be accomplished by the adoption and efficient implementation of regulations in the field of energy, especially energy management.

The goal is to reduce energy consumption, while the level of comfort, quality of life and standard of living remain unchanged. Legal regulation of energy efficiency and energy management is important in order to establish a system in which its subjects, their rights and obligations, as well as sanctions in case of non-compliance, are clearly defined. The fact that Serbia has accepted the obligation to harmonize its regulations with the EU regulations, which are highly dedicated to the environment and, consequently, energy policy, speaks in favor of the idea of a complete and comprehensive legal regulation in this area.

## Energy management in the legal framework of the Republic of Serbia

The basic document that regulates the energy management system in Serbia is the Law on Efficient Use of Energy. This law regulates the conditions and manner of efficient use of energy and energy sources in the sector of production, transmission, distribution and consumption of energy, energy efficiency policy, energy management system, level of energy efficiency of products that affect energy consumption, minimum energy efficiency requirements in production, transmission and distribution of electricity and heat and delivery of natural gas, financing, incentives and other measures in this area, etc.

Table 1. Regulations in the field of energy management

Law on Efficient Use of Energy
<b>Decrees</b>
Decree on determining the limit values of annual energy consumption on the basis of which it is determined which companies are liable for the energy management system, annual energy saving targets and the form of the report on the realized consumption
<b>Rulebooks</b>
Rulebook on the form of the annual report on the achievement of energy saving goals
Rulebook on the conditions for the appointment of energy managers in the bodies of local self-government units
Rulebook on the conditions for the appointment of energy managers in companies whose predominant activity is in the manufacturing sector and companies as public services
Rulebook on the conditions for the appointment of energy managers in companies whose predominant activity is in the trade and services sector, state administration bodies, other bodies of the Republic of Serbia, bodies of the Autonomous Province and institutions
Rulebook on the manner of implementation and content of the training program for energy managers, costs of attending the training, as well as detailed conditions, program and manner of taking the exam for energy managers
Rulebook on conditions regarding personnel, equipment and space of the organization conducting training for energy managers and authorized energy advisors

Source: Ministry of Mining and Energy of the Republic of Serbia

## Conclusion

Based on the analysis of legal regulations in the field of energy management in Serbia, it can be concluded that this field, as well as the fields of energy and energy efficiency, are thoroughly regulated by clearly structured documents of different legal force. Their application is still questionable due to certain problems such as lack of financial resources, complex administrative procedures, insufficient number of inspectors, etc. The state faces the same problems in terms of the implementation of other regulations as well. Addressing these challenges will contribute to more efficient implementation of regulations in the field of energy management and, ultimately, the improvement of energy efficiency

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